



NEWSROOM (//WWW.UNH.EDU/UNHTODAY/NEWS)



UNH Receives Federal Grant to Help Police Whose Work Requires Review of Child Sexual Abuse Images

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

(HTTPS://WWW.UNH.EDU/UNHTODAY/NEWS/2019/10/16/UNH-RECEIVES-FEDERAL-GRANT-TO-HELP-POLICE-WHOSE-WORK-REQUIRES-REVIEW-OF-CHILD-SEXUAL-ABUSE-IMAGES)
U=HTTPS://WWW.UNH.EDU/UNHTODAY/NEWS/2019/10/16/UNH-RECEIVES-FEDERAL-GRANT-TO-HELP-POLICE-WHOSE-WORK-REQUIRES-REVIEW-OF-CHILD-SEXUAL-ABUSE-IMAGES
RECEIVES RECEIVES RECEIVES
FEDERAL FEDERAL FEDERAL
GRANT GRANT GRANT
HELP- HELP- HELP-
POLICE POLICE POLICE-
WHOSE WHOSE WHOSE-
WORK- WORK- WORK-
REQUIRES REQUIRES REQUIRES
REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW-
CHILD) CHILD) CHILD)

DURHAM, N.H.—The Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire has been awarded a three-year grant from the National Institute of Justice to support the police and forensic examiners whose job it is to review child sexual abuse images as part of criminal investigations.

Because of an online surge in these images and new high-tech police techniques to intercept them, a growing number of investigators are being hired and assigned to review this criminal material in preparation for arrests and prosecutions. The continuous viewing of these images can have toxic effects on a person’s mental health and family relationships. The new research will help better understand who is impacted and what types of practices are most effective to mitigate harm and promote resilience among this workforce.

The study involves conducting interviews with police investigators and forensic examiners across the United States. It will identify best practices for workload, task shifting, education, counseling, and debriefing. It will also use study findings to develop a screening instrument to help agencies assess the suitability of candidates for this kind of work.

The National Institute of Justice is the research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice. Kimberly Mitchell, research associate professor of psychology, will head up the research team in partnership with the National Criminal Justice Training Center, the main training and technical assistance provider for the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces.

The Crimes Against Children Research Center conducts research to help policy makers, practitioners and the public improve the response to crimes against children from sexual abuse to kidnapping to bullying.



The University of New Hampshire inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top-ranked programs in business, engineering, law, health and human services, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. As one of the nation's highest-performing research universities, UNH partners with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, and receives more than \$110 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

Media Contact

Erika Mantz (/unhtoday/contributor/erika-mantz) | Communications and Public Affairs | erika.mantz@unh.edu (mailto:erika.mantz@unh.edu)

LATEST NEWS

University of New Hampshire Announces May 2021 Graduates (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/22/university-new-hampshire-announces-may-2021-graduates) May 22, 2021

UNH Works to Solve a Million Dollar Problem for Aquaculture Industry (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/20/unh-works-solve-million-dollar-problem-aquaculture-industry) May 20, 2021

UNH Finds Angel Investor Market on the Rise in 2020 (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/19/unh-finds-angel-investor-market-rise-2020) May 19, 2021

Media Advisory: University of New Hampshire 2020 and 2021 Commencements (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/18/media-advisory-university-new-hampshire-2020-and-2021-commencements) May 18, 2021

UNH Research Estimates 1.4 Million Children Have Yearly Violence-Related Medical Visits (/unhtoday/news/release/2021/05/12/unh-research-estimates-14-million-children-have-yearly-violence-related) May 12, 2021

VIEW ALL >

✉ SUBSCRIBE TO UNH TODAY (HTTPS://WWW.UNH.EDU/MAIN/UNH-TODAY-SUBSCRIPTION)



University of New Hampshire (https://www.unh.edu)

UNH Today is produced for the UNH community and for friends of UNH.

The stories are written by the staff of UNH Communications and Public Affairs. (https://www.unh.edu/cpa)

Email us: unhtoday.editor@unh.edu (mailto:unhtoday.editor@unh.edu). (mailto:unh.today@unh.edu)

MANAGE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION > CONTACT US >



(https://www.linkedin.com/edu/university-of-new-



hampshire-

(http://www.unh.edu/unhtoday/feeds)

UNH Today • UNH Main Directory: 603-862-1234

Copyright © 2021 • TTY Users: 7-1-1 or 800-735-2964 (Relay NH)

USNH Privacy Policies (http://www.usnh.edu/legal/privacy.shtml) • USNH Terms of Use (http://www.usnh.edu/legal/tou.shtml) • ADA Acknowledgement (http://www.unh.edu/about/ada.html)