

## In this issue

### The Center for Deliberative

**Democracy** at Stanford University is devoted to research about democracy and public opinion obtained through Deliberative Polling, a technique that combines small group discussions with scientific random sampling to provide public input on public policy and electoral issues. <http://cdd.stanford.edu>, 650-723-2260

### The Center for International

**Media Action** produces research, events, strategic plans, and publications that can advance the interests and role of people of color, women, low-income, and other marginalized constituencies in media policy and activism. [www.mediaactioncenter.org](http://www.mediaactioncenter.org), 646-249-3027

### The Center for Mental Health and

**Media** at Harvard Medical School is an outreach, production, and research center devoted to mental health, behavioral health, neuroscience, and healthy child development. [www.mentalhealthandmedia.org](http://www.mentalhealthandmedia.org), 617-726-8471

**The Gesundheit Institute** is a non-profit organization, founded and directed by Patch Adams, which advocates for more compassionate and holistic health care. In addition to its long-term goal of building a free hospital in West Virginia, it runs workshops, helps build health clinics, and leads “humanitarian clowning” trips around the world. [www.patchadams.org](http://www.patchadams.org)

**Mental Health America** promotes mental wellness through public education, encouraging reform, and promoting the use of effective local and regional prevention and recovery programs. [www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org), 703-684-7722

**Play for Peace** is a global organization that works locally through community leaders and youth facilitators to teach children, teens, and adults to trust and respect others, and to break down cultural barriers. [www.playforpeace.org](http://www.playforpeace.org), 773-275-0077

**Postpartum Support International** increases awareness among public and professional communities about the emotional changes that women experience during and after pregnancy. [www.postpartum.net](http://www.postpartum.net), 800-944-4773 (PPI Helpline)

### The Pew Internet & American

**Life Project** produces reports that explore the impact of the Internet on families, communities, work and home, daily life, education, health care, and civic and political life. [www.pewinternet.org](http://www.pewinternet.org), 202-419-4500

**The SETI Institute** seeks to explore, understand, and explain the origin, nature, and prevalence of life in the universe. Its **Interstellar Message Composition Project** seeks to create messages that would be understood on other worlds. [www.seti.org/seti/projects/imc](http://www.seti.org/seti/projects/imc), 650-961-6633

**Urban Recess** is a fitness company that runs classes for women based on old-school recess games like kickball and hopscotch. [www.urbanrecess.com](http://www.urbanrecess.com), 503-957-0022

## More play resources

### The Association for Play Therapy

promotes play therapy, the means by which licensed mental health professionals use play to communicate with and address the mental health needs of children and other clients. [www.a4pt.org](http://www.a4pt.org), 559-252-2278

**Hooked on Play** provides workshops to help adults inspire children to connect with the natural world, facilitates “Nature Circles” to give adults a place to explore their own personal relationship to nature, and collaborates with other organizations to create nature-accessible communities. [www.hookedon-nature.org](http://www.hookedon-nature.org), 866-340-4623

**KaBOOM!** rallies communities to achieve better public policy, funding, and public awareness for increased play opportunities nationwide; provides resources, including trainings, challenge grants, and publications for communities that wish to plan a new play space on their own; and brings together children, business, and community interests to build a select number of community play spaces each year. [www.kaboom.org](http://www.kaboom.org), 202-659-0215

### The National Institute for Play

is committed to bringing the knowledge, practices, and benefits of play into public life. It gathers research from diverse play scientists and practitioners, initiates projects to expand the clinical scientific knowledge of human play, and translates this emerging body of knowledge into programs and resources which deliver the transformative power of play to all segments of society. [www.nifplay.org](http://www.nifplay.org)

### The No Child Left Inside Coalition

was created in 2006 to find new ways to encourage kids to experience nature. It supports the No Child Left Inside Act, which would provide new federal funding for outdoor learning activities and high-quality environmental education. [www.cbf.org](http://www.cbf.org), 410-268-8816

**Peace Games** works with elementary schools, families, and young adult volunteers to help create safe classrooms and communities for students. [www.peacegames.org](http://www.peacegames.org), 617-261-3833

**PeacePlayers International** uses the game of basketball to unite and educate children and their communities. [www.peaceplayersintl.org](http://www.peaceplayersintl.org), 202-639-6685

**Playborhood.com** is building a community of parents in the United States committed to doing whatever they can to bring free, unstructured play back for all children. [www.playborhood.com](http://www.playborhood.com)

**Sports4Kids** aims to improve the health and well-being of children by increasing opportunities for physical activity and safe, meaningful play. [www.sports4kids.org](http://www.sports4kids.org), 510-893-4180

**Streetplay.com** documents and celebrates the history and experience of urban play. [www.streetplay.com](http://www.streetplay.com)

**Wild Zones** provides consulting services internationally to people and institutions concerned with fostering children’s free play in nature and creating intergenerational projects that build community. [www.wild-zone.net](http://www.wild-zone.net)