Kangaroo Mother Care
A catalytic approach to achieve MDG4 in the LAC Region

Monday 23 September
12:00 – 1:30 p.m. EST
MCHIP Offices, Suite 300
1776 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC
Or join online at https://connect.johnshopkins.edu/kmc/

Moderated by Goldy Mazia - Technical Advisor for Newborn Health, MCHIP

Speakers include

Dr. Nathalie Charpak - Executive Director, Kangaroo Foundation (France/Colombia)
Leovigilda “Lucy” Reyes - Head Nurse, KMC Program (Dominican Republic)*
Dr. Miguel Hinojosa - KMC Program (Ecuador)
Dr. Carlos Meléndez - KMC Program (El Salvador)
* Nurse Reyes will present in Spanish with English slides

MCHIP's Dr. Goldy Mazia is a Pediatrician/Public health physician with ample global newborn health experience. Dr. Mazia successfully practiced pediatrics in Colombia and in Israel for many years, before opting for a career in public health, where she has been recognized as a leading global expert. She serves as a newborn health expert on panels and in trainings around the world, including: the LAC chapter of the World Health Organization's Commission on Information and Accountability for Women, Newborns, and Children; the International Kangaroo Mother Care Conference; and the Call to Action events focusing on child survival, among others.

Dr. Nathalie Charpak is an internationally respected pediatrician and director of the Kangaroo Foundation in Bogota, Colombia, a Colombian non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to the dissemination and transference of knowledge and technology associated with the KMC Method. The Foundation promotes research on the KMC Method and provides training and guidance to other KMC programs in Colombia and abroad. She has conducted large clinical trials on KMC and has been actively disseminating the method in Latin America, South and South East Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe.

Nurse Leovigilda (Lucy) Reyes is a Nurse born in the town of Esperanza, (“Hope”) Dominican Republic. Due to economic hardship she could not attend college after finishing high school but years later and already married with three children, she attended the University Center Northeast Regional (CURNE) in San Francisco de Macorís, graduating Magna Cum Laude as a Nurse. Currently working in the Regional University Hospital San Vicente de Paul, she is in charge of the perinatology nursing staff and leads the KMC Program, training health personnel from different regional hospitals in the country.

Dr. Miguel Hinojosa is a neonatologist at “Hospital Dr. Enrique Garcés in Quito - Ecuador” and serves as a consultant in charge of neonatal affairs for “Proyecto Red CONE Cotopaxi URC-CHS-MOH” and is also Coordinator at the Ecuadorian Ministry of Health for Essential Obstetric and Newborn Care (EONC) expansion that includes KMC.

Dr. Carlos Meléndez is a medical doctor, pediatrician and pediatric surgeon from El Salvador. With over 30 years of experience in child survival, Dr. Meléndez has ample experience in all levels of program design and implementation. He is currently the National Coordinator of El Salvador’s Neonatal Health Program at the Ministry of Health and also serves as the head of El Salvador’s Neonatal Alliance.

Four members of the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Neonatal Alliance will share their experiences implementing and scaling-up Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) programs.

KMC was started in 1978 in Bogotá (Colombia) by Dr. Rey Sanabria in response to overcrowding and insufficient resources in neonatal intensive care units associated with high morbidity and mortality among low-birth weight infants. The LAC Neonatal Alliance (chaired by MCHIP) promotes the dissemination of Colombia’s Kangaroo Foundation KMC model, facilitates sharing of KMC lessons learned among countries and participation in a KMC virtual community of practice.

It is our privilege to host Nurse Lucy Reyes in the MCHIP DC office. Nurse Reyes has been invited by USAID and DFID to present on KMC in the Dominican Republic at the Millennium Development Countdown event held in conjunction with the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. She will provide us with a preview of what she will be discussing. The remaining speakers will join virtually.

If you plan to join the meeting in person at the DC office, please RSVP to sbaker@mchip.net. Otherwise we look forward to having you join us online from wherever you are.