Brain & Body: How the Immune System Makes a Smarter Brain

When
Thursday, March 18, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Where
The Urban Child Institute  600 Jefferson Ave.

This program for the general public will feature two presentations by internationally known scientists on the early development of the brain and how the body’s immune system continually “talks” to the brain. Dr. Kristin Hamre, a neuroscientist from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, will give an overview of brain development, with an emphasis on critical periods and growth spurts. Dr. Staci Bilbo, our keynote speaker and a neuroscientist from Duke University, will talk about how the immune system profoundly influences brain development, which has implications for cognitive functions as well as a number of neuropsychological conditions. She will discuss how the brain-immune conversation occurs normally, as well as during illness, injury, or infection, and thereby has a continual and powerful influence on mood, motivation, and learning in both health and disease. Dr. William E. Armstrong, Director of the University of Tennessee Neuroscience Institute, will moderate the program.

This program is directed toward parents, teachers, and health professionals. Professional training hours (CEUs) will be provided by the UT Neuroscience Institute. For more information, contact Dr. Paul Herron, UT Neuroscience Institute (901-448-5824). Space is limited. Please pre-register with Ms. Brenda Williams, The Urban Child Institute (901-385-4234); bwilliams@theurbanchildinstitute.org). Attendance is free.

Refreshments from 5:30-6:30 pm