APF GRANTS 2012: YEAR IN REVIEW

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

60 YEARS
1953-2013
2012 Visionary Grants

This year, through the Visionary Grants program, APF donors invested $80,000 in psychologists who are solving some of today’s most urgent dilemmas.

Bullying.
E. Scott Geller, PhD, of Virginia Tech University, used a $19,800 Visionary Grant to implement the “Actively Caring for People” anti-bullying program in three middle schools in Montgomery County, VA. Multiplying the impact of his grant, Dr. Geller will also train undergraduate psychology students at Virginia Tech to continue the program and reach out to children in additional school districts.

Mass Violence.
Rezarta Bilali, PhD, of the University of Massachusetts—Boston, received $24,000 from both the Drs. Rosalee G. and Raymond A. Weiss Research and Program Innovation Grant and Visionary Grant to understand why some people who perpetrate mass violence justify their actions or even deny them.

Trauma.
Tamara L. Newton, PhD, an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Louisville, received a $19,550 Visionary Grant to develop a new approach to understanding the different reactions to traumatic stress in order to help with recovery.

Stigma of Mental Illness.
David Vogel, PhD, of Iowa State University, used his $19,000 Visionary Grant to develop internet-based interventions for members of the US military who suffer from mental health issues and worry about the stigma of seeking help.

“I give to APF because I share its priorities, especially reducing stigma and prejudice, preventing violence, and providing support for students who will become the psychologists of tomorrow. A little money can go a long way when it is used to help deserving students make progress toward their career goals. I also believe that APF has an important role to play in fostering real-world applications of psychological science.”

- Wayne Weiten, PhD
Supporting Students

In 2012, APF invested close to half of its total grantmaking in the graduate students who will become the next generation of psychologists. Their quest to improve society through psychology is inspiring.

Teaching Tolerance. Hannah Weisman, the recipient of APF’s Violet and Cyril Franks Scholarship, is working to prevent stigma associated with mental illness by introducing mental health awareness in a middle-school-based intervention program, “Mental Health Matters”.

Helping Couples. Christine Paprocki, a clinical psychology graduate student at the University of North Carolina, received the Randy Gerson Memorial Grant to fund her dissertation on understanding maladaptive communication patterns in couples.

Keeping Kids Safe. Elizabeth O’Neal, of the University of Iowa, received the Lizette Peterson-Homer Memorial Injury Research Grant to support her doctoral research project on unintentional childhood injuries in low-income families.

Understanding Psychological Aspects of Parkinson’s Disease. Jenna Dietz, of the University of Florida, is examining emotional changes associated with Parkinson’s disease with her Benton-Meier Scholarship.

Helping Children Reach their Potential. Carlton Fong, a doctoral candidate in educational psychology at the University of Texas at Austin, received a $25,000 Esther Katz Rosen Fellowship to improve achievement and resilience in adolescents in order to help underachieving gifted and talented youth perform to the best of their ability and realize their full potential.

Unlocking the Secrets of the Aging Brain. Tamar Gefen, a neuropsychology student at Northwestern University, also received a Benton-Meier Scholarship and is studying cognitive changes in aging to develop therapies for age-related degenerative illness.

“I can’t thank you enough for awarding me a scholarship to fund my research…Thank you so much for your support!”

- Hannah Weisman

“I am so grateful for your generosity that will help fund my education in clinical neuropsychology and the exciting and potentially fruitful research.”

- Tamar Gefen
APF’s *Elizabeth Munsterberg Koppitz Fellowship* program invested $150,000 in graduate students pursuing various aspects of child development:

**Kelly Lynn Mulvey**, of the University of Maryland, is examining how children respond to gender stereotypes within their peer groups.

**Nadia Samad**, of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, is studying the influence of interparental conflict and parenting on children’s social skills.

**Ha Yeon Kim**, of New York University, is writing her dissertation on improving immigrant children’s academic engagement in classrooms and identifying supportive classroom contexts for positive development.

**Matt Johnson**, of Princeton University, is conducting groundbreaking research on language development and generalization in children with autism.

**Natalie Brito**, of Georgetown University, is exploring the differences in cognitive performance between bilingual and monolingual infants.

**Taryn Allen**, of Duke University, is developing a computerized cognitive training program for children with sickle cell disease.

“The APA community has long played an important role in my life, for which I am grateful. By contributing to APF we can support new talent in developing novel solutions to public concerns.”

- Lorraine Eyde, PhD
Boosting Early Career Psychologists

Each year APF places a high priority on supporting Early Career Psychologists. These talented young minds turn small grants into big ideas, paving the way for continued innovation in the future.

Improving Access to Quality Mental Health Services for Children. Aaron R. Lyon, PhD, a senior fellow at the University of Washington School of Medicine is using his $12,000 Pearson Early Career Grant to improve the accessibility and quality of school-based mental health services for children and adolescents with emotional and behavioral problems.

Gaining Insight into How Gifted Students Solve Problems. Matthew McBee, PhD, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at East Tennessee State University, received the new $50,000 Rosen Early Career Grant to explore whether gifted students adopt attentional and emotional problem-solving strategies more frequently than others.

Reducing Health Disparities. David Amodio, PhD, an Associate Professor of Psychology and Neural Science at New York University, is using his F.J. McGuigan Early Career Investigator Prize to investigate the effects of discrimination on the biological stress response and immune function, as a way to understand and reduce racial disparities in health.

Building Stronger Families. With $20,000 in funding from the AAPA-APF Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation Fellowship, Cindy Liu, PhD, and Huijun Li, PhD, of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, will carry out collaborative psycho-educational training workshops in order to increase mental health knowledge and improve mental health attitudes among Chinese American parents with school-age children.

Assessing the Well-Being of Adopted Children. Rachel Farr, PhD, of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is continuing a study of lesbian, gay, and heterosexual parents and their adopted children with a $15,000 Wayne F. Placek Grant. The study began with preschool-age children and is now assessing these same children in middle childhood. Dr. Farr’s study represents the first longitudinal comparison of adoptive families with lesbian, gay, and heterosexual parents with school-age children.
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Honoring Career Achievement

In 2012, APF honored eminent psychologists who have made significant contributions to psychology.

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Application of Psychology: Marsha Linehan, PhD

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Science of Psychology: Philip G. Zimbardo, PhD

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in Psychology in the Public Interest: Salvatore R. Maddi, PhD

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Practice of Psychology: Carol D. Goodheart, EdD

Charles L. Brewer Distinguished Teaching of Psychology Award: Richard L. Miller, PhD
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continued on next page
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- Norman Abeles, PhD

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