

Children, Youth, and Families

Activity Summary

August 2008 – August 2009

PUBLIC INTEREST

AN AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION DIRECTORATE

Advancing psychology as . . . a means of promoting health, education and human welfare.

Website: <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf>



PUBLIC INTEREST DIRECTORATE

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Activity Summary
August 2008 – August 2009

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PUBLIC INTEREST DIRECTORATE



Public Interest Directorate

Gwendolyn P. Keita, PhD
Executive Director

Public Interest Directorate Mission

Fulfill APA's commitment to apply the science and practice of psychology to the fundamental problems of human welfare and social justice and the promotion of equitable and just treatment of all segments of society through education, training and public policy.

Public Interest E-Newsletter

In the Public Interest – the quarterly e-newsletter from APA's Public Interest Directorate – keeps you updated on Public Interest related news, activities, resources, and opportunities for psychologists. To subscribe [http://www.apa.org/pi/mailling_list.html].



Public Interest Executive Office

<http://www.apa.org/pi>

- 8th Work, Stress, and Health Conference: San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 5-8, 2009
<http://www.apa.org/pi/work/wsh.html>
- Task Force on the Implementation of the Multicultural Guidelines
- Task Force on Diversity in Course Content, Publications, and Training



Office on Aging

<http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/homepage.html>

- Priming the Geropsychology Pipeline Project
- ABA/APA Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project Working Group
- Life Plan for the Life Span Brochure



Office on AIDS and End-of-Life Care Activities

<http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/homepage.html>

- The HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program
- Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program
- NIMH Funding for Internet-based Education Program on End-of-Life Issues



Office on Children, Youth, and Families

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/homepage.html>

- Task Force on Evidence-Based Practice With Children and Adolescents
- Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents
- Presidential Task Force on Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Trauma in Children and Adolescents



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

Office on Disability Issues in Psychology

<http://www.apa.org/pi/disability/homepage.html>

- Barriers to Students Project
- Task Force on Guidelines on Treatment and Assessment of Persons with Disabilities
- Disability Mentoring Program



Office on Ethnic Minority Affairs

<http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/homepage.html>

- Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology Task Force (CEMRRAT2): Strategies for Increasing Ethnic Diversity in Psychology
- Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAEMI)
- APA and the UN World Conference Against Racism



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office

<http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/homepage.html>

- Network for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns and Transgender Issues in Psychology
- "Just the Facts About Sexual Orientation and Youth: A Primer for Principals, Educators, and School Personnel"
- Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project



Minority Fellowship Program

<http://www.apa.org/mfp/>

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (predoctoral and postdoctoral support)
- Diversity Program in Neuroscience (predoctoral and postdoctoral support)
- Psychology Summer Institute (for advanced predoctoral students and early career psychologists)



Office on Socioeconomic Status

NEW APA Committee: Established 2007

<http://www.apa.org/pi/ses/homepage.html>

- OSES Visits Capitol Hill on World Poverty Day
- Interdisciplinary Discussion and Strategy Session on Socioeconomic Status
- SES Resource Database and Fact Sheets



Violence Prevention Office

<http://www.apa.org/pi/preventviolence/>

- ACT Against Violence /Parents Raising Safe Kids Program
- APA/AAP Collaboration on Violence Prevention Project
- Violence Prevention Survey and Listserv



Women's Programs Office

<http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/>

- Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls
- Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology
- Consumer Brochure: Postpartum Depression



Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO)

<http://www.apa.org/ppo/pi/>

- Advocacy Addressing * Aging * Children, Youth, and Families * Ethnic Minorities * Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Persons * HIV/AIDS * Immigration * Individuals with Disabilities * International Issues* Socioeconomic Status * Women *
- Cross-cutting Initiatives Addressing * State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) * Body Image/Eating Disorders/Obesity * Emergency/Disaster Preparedness and Response * Hate Crimes * Military Service Members/Veterans * SAMHSA Reauthorization *
- APA Congressional Fellowship Program
- Take Action! Get Involved! Go to <http://capwiz.com/apapolicy/home/>



PUBLIC INTEREST DIRECTORATE OVERVIEW

The Public Interest Directorate (PI) was established in 1987. PI supports and promotes APA members' efforts to apply the science and profession of psychology to the advancement of health, education and human welfare. The Directorate's issues are central to the science and profession of psychology and critical to consumers of psychological services and the general public.

The Directorate provides staff support for the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest; the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology; the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs; the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns; the Committee on Women in Psychology; the Committee on Psychology and the Public Interest Awards; the Board of Directors' ad hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS; the Committee on Aging; the Committee on Socioeconomic Status; and other groups as needed.

The Directorate is home to the Children, Youth, and Families Office which provides support to the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families and the Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States.

In addition, the Directorate houses the ACT - Adults and Children Together Against Violence Project funded in large part by foundation and government sources, the HIV Office on Psychology Education (HOPE) Program, and the Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project, which are federally funded.

The following is a summary of child, youth, and family focused activities from the various Public Interest program areas.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES OFFICE

The Children, Youth, and Families Office coordinates APA's public interest, health, human welfare, and social responsibility activities in the areas of children, youth, and families. The office serves as an information and referral resource and it develops and disseminates reports and other written materials on professional and consumer issues to APA members, the public and federal agencies. The office monitors the welfare of these groups as consumers of psychological services and promotes the development and application of psychological knowledge to address public policy issues affecting them. For additional information, visit the Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf>.

The office provides staff support to the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families and the Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States.

The office liaises with the following child, youth, and family related APA divisions: Division of Developmental Psychology (7); Division of School Psychology (16); Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice (37); Section on Child Maltreatment (Division 37, Section 1); Division of Clinical Neuropsychology (40); American Psychology-Law Society (41); Division of Family Psychology (43); Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (53); and the Society of Pediatric Psychology (54). For information about these divisions and their child, youth, and family focused initiatives please visit the CYF website at: <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/divisions.html>.

The Children, Youth, and Families Office staff include: Efua Andoh, Manager, CYF Office Programs, Mary Campbell, Director and Amani Chatman, CYF Administrative Coordinator.

Interdirectorate Staff Working Group on Child and Adolescent Issues

This group meets periodically to share information on initiatives, to discuss issues of mutual concern, and to develop collaborative strategies for addressing those concerns. Representatives from the

Education, Practice, Public Interest, and Science Directorates and the Public Interest Government Relations Office participate in the meetings.

APA INITIATIVES

Presidential Task Force on Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Trauma in Children and Adolescents

As one of his Presidential initiative, 2008 President Alan E. Kazdin, PhD, established the APA Presidential Task Force on Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Trauma in Children and Adolescents. The broad goal was to identify the key contributions of psychological science's understanding of PTSD and trauma in youth, to identify "what we know" and "what we need to know" regarding the development and treatment of PTSD in youth following trauma, and to make recommendations that will help to guide future research, practice, and public policy and which may be useful for multiple constituencies, such as parents/caregivers, health-care providers, policy makers, and government agencies who are in a position to help children and their families.

President Kazdin appointed the following persons to the Task Force: Annette M. La Greca, PhD, Chair; Beth Boyd, PhD; Lisa H. Jaycox, PhD; Nancy Kassam-Adams, PhD; Anthony P. Mannarino, PhD; Wendy K. Silverman, PhD; Farris Tuma, PhD; and Marleen Wong, PhD.

The Task Force held two meetings in 2008 and worked via email and conference call to accomplish the following:

PRODUCTS

Children and Trauma: Update for Mental Health Professionals

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child-trauma/update.html>

This 16-page booklet provides a brief overview for mental health professionals on:

- What we know about PTSD and trauma in children and adolescents
- How you can help children, adolescents, and their families cope and recover from trauma
- What we still need to learn about the complexities of PTSD and trauma
- Additional resources for professionals

Children and Trauma: Tips for Mental Health Professionals

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/kids-trauma-tips.html>

This tip sheet serves as a practical guide for professionals on:

- Basic information every mental health professional should know about PTSD and trauma in children and adolescents
- How to identify PTSD and/or trauma and provide care to children, adolescents, and their families
- Pitfalls to avoid when you encounter trauma and PTSD in children and adolescents

Policy Briefing Sheet: Trauma and PTSD in Children and Adolescents

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child-trauma/fact-sheet.pdf>

This policy briefing sheet serves as a functional guide for policymakers on the following:

- Impact of exposure to trauma on children and adolescents
- Best approach to policymaking that will improve outcomes for youth exposed to trauma
- Recommendations in the areas of research, practice, education, and training.

Children and Trauma – PowerPoint presentation

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child-trauma/Children-Trauma-final.pps>

This presentation provides an overview of PTSD and trauma in children and adolescents along with tips for mental health professionals. Its intended use is as an educational tool for mental health professionals either on an individual or group basis. APA must be credited when this content is used.

Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States

The Board of Directors established the Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States in February 2008. The task force is charged with:

- Reviewing the research on the psychosocial effects of war on children and families;
- Identifying areas of needed culturally and developmentally appropriate research; and
- Developing recommendations for culturally and developmentally appropriate practice and programs.

The purpose of the Task Force is to assist psychologists in the U.S. to meet the challenges of working with children and families who are refugees from armed conflicts residing in the U.S. The following persons were appointed by 2008 APA President Alan E. Kazdin, PhD, to serve on the task force: Katherine Porterfield, PhD, Chair; Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith, PhD; Molly Benson, PhD; Theresa Betancourt, ScD; B. Heidi Ellis, PhD; Maryam Kia-Keating, PhD; and Kenneth Miller, PhD. On November 7-9, 2008, the Task Force held its 2008 meeting. The Task Force has completed the first draft of its report, which is currently under review by experts in the field and members of relevant APA divisions.

The Task Force will also present at a 2009 Convention symposium:

War-Affected Refugee Youth in America: Challenges and New Directions (1079)

Friday, August 7, 10:00–11:50 a.m. | Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Bldg, Room 810

This panel will provide an overview of the work of the APA Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families who are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States. Panelists will integrate clinical case material pertaining to families affected by war with research challenges that face psychologists conducting empirical research on war trauma and the needs of war-affected youth.

Chair:

Katherine Porterfield, PhD, Bellevue/ New York University Program for Survivors of Torture

Participants:

Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith, PhD, Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture;
Theresa S. Betancourt, ScD, Harvard University School of Public Health;
Maryam Kia-Keating, PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara

Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents (RSBCA)

The Board of Directors established RSBCA in February 2006. The task force was charged with the identification of factors that contribute to the healthy development of Black children and adolescents in four contexts: families, schools, peer groups, and communities. 2006 APA President Gerald P. Koocher, PhD, appointed the following persons to serve on the task force: Stephanie Coard, PhD, Chair; Anne Gregory, PhD; Yolanda Jackson, PhD; Robert Jagers, PhD; Le’Roy Reese, PhD; Caryn Rodgers, PhD; and Anita Thomas, PhD. There were also three Senior Advisors to the task force: Faye Belgrave, PhD; Robert Sellers, PhD; and Margaret Beale Spencer, PhD. The Council of Representatives received the report at their August 2008 meeting. This report is available at www.apa.org/pi/cyf/resilience.html.

On National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day (May 7, 2009), Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) introduced H.R. 419, which recognizes the importance of fostering resilience in African American youth. It highlights the importance of identifying and nurturing the factors that contribute to the healthy development of African American youth, and their ability to achieve equal levels of physical and mental development enjoyed by their peers. Please find the resolution attached.

This resolution grew out of the policy recommendations of the 2008 *Report of the APA Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents*. APA’s Public Interest–Government

Relations Office was instrumental in working with U.S. Representative Hastings and his cosponsors to get this resolution introduced. It lays important groundwork for future public policy aimed at African American youth and their families, schools, and communities.

Task Force on Evidence-Based Practice with Children and Adolescents (EBPCA)

The Board of Directors established EBPCA in April 2006. The task force was charged with reviewing the extant literature and preparing a comprehensive report on the current state of knowledge concerning evidence-based psychological practice with children and adolescents. 2006 APA President Gerald P. Koocher, PhD, appointed the following persons to serve on the Task Force: Anne Kazak, PhD, Chair; Gerard Banez, PhD; Kimberly Hoagwood, PhD; Korey Hood, PhD; Thomas Kratochwill, PhD; Luis Vargas, PhD; and John Weisz, PhD. The Council of Representatives received the report at their August 2008 meeting. The full report and executive summary are available at www.apa.org/pi/cyf/evidence.html.

Children, Youth, and Families Information Dissemination Project

In February 2009, the Child, Adolescent and Family Caucus, the Women's Caucus, and the Caucus of State, Provincial, and Territorial Representatives began an information dissemination collaboration with the Children, Youth, and Families Office. The goal was to repackage and disseminate already existing APA products to the Association's membership and to the public. This information dissemination strategy aligned with APA's overall mission and vision in that it provides psychologists with the resources to advance, communicate and apply psychological knowledge that will improve people's lives and benefit society as a whole.

Each piece contains information about the scope of the issue, describes what psychology has to say on the subject (using APA products) and provides links to the various relevant APA resources (e.g., task force reports; brochures/bookmarks/tip sheets; resolutions/policy statements, fact sheets, APA Help Center articles, Monitor articles, APA Books/Magination Press). Topics are selected based on current events, available APA products and/or congressionally designated national observances related to children, youth, and families. Thus far, content has been produced on coping with the economic downturn; promoting healthy behaviors in children and youth; protecting our children from child abuse and neglect; raising awareness about children's mental health; and the important roles of parents and caregivers in the healthy development of children and youth.

2009 Conferences

17th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

APA accepted the invitation of the Children's Bureau and its Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN) to serve as a member of the National Planning Committee for the 17th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. The Conference will be held March 30–April 4, 2009, in Atlanta, GA.

The Conference theme, *Focusing on the Future: Strengthening Families and Communities*, reflects OCAN's resolve to ensure that every child enjoys a healthy family life in a nurturing community. It emphasizes the need for prevention and comprehensive services to address co-occurring disorders and highlights evidence-based approaches to improving practice and systems. This conference was devoted to issues of child abuse and neglect and brought together more than 2,000 practitioners, policy-makers, community organizers and researchers for a week of plenary, workshop and skill-building sessions.

As a member of the National Planning Committee, the Association made recommendations for keynote speakers and participated in discussions regarding the Conference theme, sessions, and adjunct activities. The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect has been held biennially since 1976. The APA served as a National Cosponsor for the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th National Conferences.

Goals of the Conference

The goals of the 17th National Conference included:

- Disseminating state-of-the-art information on research, practice, policy, and system reform

- Facilitating the exchange of information across disciplines and among individuals, groups, and institutions
- Reaching out to strengthen and sustain collaboration
- Highlighting the positive contribution of research to practice

Children's Mental Health Summit

Healthy Development: A Summit on Children's Mental Health was held April 1, 2009 in Denver, CO. The summit was planned with the express aim of "undertaking the essential dialogue and problem-solving to form a coherent 'evidence-based' strategy for a strong action agenda to improve public awareness of the role and importance of mental health in healthy development." The meeting included approximately 40 diverse stakeholders in child and family mental health; these included experts in communication science and strategic framing, developmental scientists, child mental health experts of various disciplines, and knowledge purveyors. It is anticipated that a report based on the Summit's proceedings will be available at the end of this year.

NAS Planning Committee for Forum on Children's Mental Health Services

The National Academies of Sciences (NAS) has proposed a Forum on Children's Mental Health Services and invited APA to participate in a planning meeting on May 21, 2009 with another planning meeting anticipated for the fall. The proposed topic of the Forum on Children's Mental Health Services is improving delivery of mental health services to children and youth.

APA Policy Statements on Children, Youth, and Families

APA's Council of Representatives, the Association's highest policy-making body, has adopted resolutions on the following child, youth, and family issues:

- Resolution on Promoting Healthy Active Lifestyles and Prevention of Obesity and Unhealthy Weight Control Behaviors in Youth
- Task Force on Advertising and Children Recommendations
- Violence in Video Games and Interactive Media
- Resolution on Children's Mental Health
- Resolution on Bullying Among Children and Youth
- Resolution on the Maltreatment of Children with Disabilities
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Optional Protocols
- Resolution Opposing Child Sexual Abuse
- Resolution on Immigrant Children, Youth, and Families
- Policy Statement on Social Practices that Induce Violence
- Resolution on Sexuality Education
- Resolution on School Dropout Prevention
- Resolution on Cigarette Smoking*
- Resolution on the Psychological Needs of Children Exposed to Disasters
- Violence in Mass Media
- Policy Statement of the American Psychological Association on Psychology and Service Integration*
- Resolution on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youths in the Schools
- The Use of Anatomically Detailed Dolls in Forensic Evaluations
- Psychological Issues Related to Child Abuse and Neglect
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Resolution on Violence Against Children by Governments
- Prevention of Motor Vehicle Trauma and its Psychological and Physical Sequelae
- Committee on Children, Youth, and Families
- Child Custody
- Corporal Punishment

*These resolutions are available in hard copy only.

All other resolutions are available online at <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/resolution.html>. Printed copies are available by contacting, Amani Chatman (achatman@apa.org).

COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

The Committee on Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) was established by a vote of Council in August 1985 to ensure "...that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association in order that all human resources are actualized." The Committee consists of six members and reports to the Council of Representatives through the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI). The 2006 CYF Annual Report provides information on CYF's goals and a summary of activities as they relate to the Committee's goals. Committee members for 2007 are Lonnie Sherrod, PhD, Chair; Mario Hernandez, PhD; Karen Budd, PhD; Barbara Fiese, PhD; Scott Nolen, PhD; and John Hagen, PhD.

COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES 2008 Annual Report

COMPOSITION:

Barbara Fiese, PhD, Chair; Karen Budd, PhD; John Hagen, PhD (Chair-elect); Scott Nolen, JD, PhD (January 2007 – June 2008); Norweeta Milburn, PhD; Stephen Shirk, PhD (July 2008 – December 2009); Anita Thomas, PhD. Dr. Scott Nolen resigned to accept an APA Congressional Fellowship and Stephen Shirk, PhD, was appointed by BAPPI to fill the unexpired term..

MEETINGS:

The Committee held two formal meetings in Washington, DC on March 28-30, 2008 and September 19-21, 2008 and conducted business through conference calls and emails.

LIAISON FUNCTIONS

CYF maintains active monitor and liaison relationships with APA boards, committees, task forces, and divisions. Division liaisons to CYF participate actively in Committee discussions. They provide invaluable consultation and they keep the committee abreast of important work underway throughout APA. Liaisons who participated in one or more meetings include;

Kali Trzesniewski, PhD, Division 7; Jeffrey Haugaard, PhD, Division 37; Shelley Heaton, PhD, Division 40; Connie Morrow, PhD, Division 54; Jean L. Chin, EdD, BAPPI; Jennifer Gibson, PhD, CDIP; Carolyn Schroeder, PhD, Committee on Rural Health; Margaret Feerick, PhD, Division 37 Section 1; Scott Hunter, PhD, Division 40; Michael A. Southam-Gerow, PhD, Division 53; Douglas Kimmel, PhD, BAPPI

OTHER COMMITTEES

CYF strives to learn more about the activities of other APA committees so that its work may be more collaborative and synergistic. To that end, during 2008 CYF invited the Committee on Socioeconomic Status and the Committee on Women in Psychology to a working lunch during the Spring and Fall meetings to learn more about their ongoing and evolving activities. These gatherings facilitated joint convention planning efforts and laid the foundation for potential collaborative projects.

COMMITTEE MISSION AND GOALS

CYF's mission and goal is to further the central purpose of APA- to advance the psychology as a science and a profession and as a means of promoting health, education, and human welfare- by specifically ensuring that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association in order that all human resources are fully actualized. CYF's goals are to:

- identify and disseminate information concerning the psychological status of children, youth, and families for psychologists, other professionals, policy makers, and the public;
- offer consultation to relevant APA boards and committees that are responsible for the educational standards for psychologists who conduct research and provide services for children, youth, and families;
- encourage psychological research on the factors that promote or inhibit the development of individual and family competence;
- contribute to the formulation and support of policies that facilitate the optimal development of children and youth within families;
- designate priorities for APA involvement in the issues affecting children, youth, and families, including issues related to gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability.

DIVERSITY

CYF continues to address diversity in the appointment of diverse members to its committee and keeping the needs of diverse children, youth and families at the forefront. The composition of the committee during the spring meeting included 50% minority members (Milburn, Nolan and Thomas). Dr. Nolan resigned from the committee prior to the Fall 08 meeting to an APA Congressional Fellowship. The Committee was pleased to welcome Dr. Shirk who brought expertise in the area of child mental health—another priority of the Association and the topic of a recent APA task force (see Interdivisional Task Force on Child and Adolescent Mental Health).

CYF was also pleased to have one of its members participate on the Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents. In its review of priorities, the committee expanded its focus to include culturally as well as linguistically diverse children, youth, and families.

A continuing concern of CYF is child, youth, and family representation on the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI), the board through whom CYF reports to the Council of Representatives. The mission of CYF is to bring to the attention of APA concerns of children, youth, and families who would not otherwise have a voice in APA policy concerns. We dutifully respect the role that other representatives play on BAPPI and urge BAPPI to consider a permanent CYF position at the table so that its mission may be fulfilled to ensure "...that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association in order that all human resources are fully actualized."

I. IDENTIFY AND DISSIMINATE INFORMATION

CYF NEWSLETTER

The summer issue of CYF NEWS highlighted two key issues important to youth and families: emerging adulthood and resilience and strength in African American children and youth. Dr. John Hagen presented innovative research findings about the developmental period between approximately 18 and 25 years of age. Developmental scientists recognize this period as distinct from adolescence and adulthood for consolidating identity, making important life and career decisions, and that these processes are important for protecting against risk taking behaviors (e.g., substance abuse) into adulthood.

Dr. Thomas, a member of the Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents, provided a summary of the task force's work. The task force determined that optimally functioning African American youth should be multi-cultural, actively engaged in their community, and promote the well-being of themselves and others. The task force report titled Resilience in African American Children and Adolescents: A Vision for Optimal Development available on the web <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/resilience.html>

2008 Annual Convention

CYF was very active during the 2008 convention with participation in and promotion of Presidential panels, coordination of BAPPI panels, and co-sponsorship of a social hour with divisions and other committees. Committee activities included:

Presidential Symposium on Treating PTSD in Youth: Lessons from Diverse Areas of Trauma;

Invited Address: The Cold Hard Facts: Trauma and Related Disorders in Youth;

Invited Address: Trauma in a Social Context: Discrimination and Refugee Adolescent Mental Health;

Symposium: Addressing Mental Health Needs of Young Children in Child Welfare;

Social Hour: Networking to Advance Children's Mental Health; CYF; Division 27, 37, Institute for Juvenile Research

Symposium: Psychological Implications of Immigration and Customs Enforcement Raids: Strategies to Address Mental Health Issues of Immigrant Children, Youth, and Families

Symposium: Childhood in the Age of Electronic Media and Online Communications

Immediately following the APA Opening Session, Drs. Fiese and Hagen presented a citation to Edward Zigler, PhD (a former CYF member) in recognition of his contributions to the welfare of children, particularly in the area of Head Start and universal preschool education.

II. PROVIDE CONSULTATION

The Committee consulted with a variety of APA boards, committees, task forces, directorates, and divisions through its liaison and monitor relationships to these groups and on items placed on the Spring and Fall 2008 cross-cutting agendas. These groups included: BAPPI; Commission for Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology; Committee for Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training; Committee on Socioeconomic Status; Committee on Women in Psychology; Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology; Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs; Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns; Committee on Professional Practice and Standards; and the Policy and Planning Board.

The Committee also provided comment and recommendations on the draft reports of the APA Strategic Plan; Task Force on the Evidence-Based Practice with Children and Adolescents; Survey on Early Career Psychologists; Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents; APA Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who are Refugees from Armed Conflicts Residing in the United States; Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion; SES status fact sheet.

The Committee also met with SES during its Spring 2008 meeting and identified the following areas of mutual interest: homelessness, families experiencing economic crises, health and behavior change to enhance optimal development, Head Start, harnessing psychology to help schools and communities, and creating support networks for children and youth, and parenting.

Possible avenues for collaboration included advocacy training, convention symposium, information dissemination, and informal interaction at the APA convention and consolidated meetings

III. ENCOURAGE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND IV. FORMULATE POLICY

CYF's initiatives listed below describe the important work carried out by CYF in these areas during 2008.

Unhealthy Eating and Childhood Obesity

CYF member, Barbara Fiese, PhD, consulted with the Public Interest – Government Relations Office (PI-GRO) staff to develop three legislative briefing sheets for policy makers on:

the prevention of youth obesity and disordered eating

(http://www.apa.org/ppo/pi/Recommendation_prevent_youth_obesity.pdf),

the shared risk factors for youth obesity and disordered eating

(http://www.apa.org/ppo/pi/shared_risk_factors_youth_obesity.pdf); and

an Eating Disorders Fact Sheet (http://www.apa.org/ppo/pi/eating_disorders_fact_sheet.pdf).

Dr. Fiese and PI-GRO staff developed an APA Resolution on Promotion of Healthy Active Lifestyles and Prevention of Obesity and Unhealthy Weight Control Behaviors in Children and Youth. APA boards and committees reviewed the draft resolution and it was revised to reflect comments received. During their December 2008 meeting, the Board of Directors recommended that the Council of Representatives approve the resolution at their February 2009 meeting. In 2008 Dr. Fiese and PI-GRO staff began coordinating efforts with the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) to hold a 2009 Congressional Briefing on Healthy Eating and Active Lifestyles for Children, Youth and Families.

Mental Health Needs of Children in the Welfare System

Dr. Budd began collaborating with PI-GRO staff to develop policy fact sheet on the mental health needs of children in the welfare system. This will consolidate the information presented at the 2008 APA Symposium that Dr. Budd coordinated.

Head Start

Dr. Hagen brought to CYF's attention a schematic titled *Challenges and Strategies in Using Research to Improve Outcomes for Young Children* proposed at the 2008 Head Start Research Conference. CYF discussed the schematic and provided comments to the originators. Under Dr. Hagen's leadership, CYF's long-standing interest in early childhood education and Head Start is integrated in the CYF Advocacy Priorities and in CYF's work with the PI-GRO staff.

V. DESIGNATE APA PRIORITIES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

This goal permeates every aspect of CYF's work and is evident in its consultation efforts with various groups. CYF is particularly effective in ensuring that its members have expertise to respond to present-day events affecting children, youth, and families. The 2009 nominations statement explicitly encourages applications from candidates who have particular expertise in addressing research and policy relevant to contemporary issues facing children, youth, and families in the context of their socioemotional and cognitive development and mental health. Candidates who have particular interest in culturally and linguistically diverse, understudied, underserved, and diverse populations (e.g., ethnic minorities, sexual minorities, and those with disabilities) and who have expertise in topics relevant to these populations are also particularly encouraged to apply. The Committee paid particular attention to cultural diversity and competency in putting forth its 2009 slate.

Revised Legislative Priorities

After consultation with the PI-GRO staff, the Committee revised and reorganized the CYF legislative priorities with additions in the areas of primary health care; comprehensive health care for all; faith-based organizations; culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention, intervention, and response to crises; and concerns of immigrant children and their families.

Conclusion

CYF focuses APA's organizational efforts and capabilities on issues of critical social importance. During times of economic stress, children, youth and families are often vulnerable to household disruptions that portend for poor outcomes. CYF will be well poised to address these issues for the Association, the scientific community, and to advocate for support of children, youth, and families to be resilient under stressful periods. During the past year, CYF efforts have foreshadowed the impact that strong science and strategic policy efforts can enhance the wellbeing of children, youth and their families in the domains of health, social justice, education, and child welfare. The continued work of the committee on homelessness, resilience and spirituality, early education, and child mental health continues to advance this important work. These contributions clearly enhance the reputation of the Association while at the same time delivering important public service. CYF members are proud of this service and confident that it has had a meaningful positive impact on the lives of many young people and families.

Respectfully submitted



Barbara H. Fiese, PhD
2008 Chair
Committee on Children, Youth, and Families

**Committee on Children, Youth, and Families
Call for Nominations for Terms Beginning in 2010**

The Committee on Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) is anticipating two vacancies in 2010. CYF welcomes nominations from individuals interested in linking research and policy for children and families within APA and the profession. The Committee is particularly interested in candidates with substantial expertise and demonstrated experience in applying psychological knowledge to the well being and optimal development of children, youth, and families; and in issues advancing psychology as a science and profession in the area of promoting health and human welfare. Candidates are sought who have particular expertise in contemporary issues facing children, youth, and families in the context of their socioemotional and cognitive development and mental health. Candidates who have particular interest in culturally and linguistically diverse, understudied, underserved and diverse populations are particularly encouraged to apply.

Members are expected to participate in a targeted project directly related to CYF's work and mission and to APA as a whole. The project is to be completed during their three-year term on the Committee. Some examples of projects previously implemented by the Committee include immigrant children, youth, and families; school drop-out prevention; sexuality education; social practices that induce violence; psychological implications of disasters; early mental health interventions; violence against children in the family and community; training psychologists to work in the public sector; cultural competence; day care; testing; the mental health needs of children and adolescents in the juvenile justice system; bullying and violence in videogames and interactive media. Areas of interest to the Committee at present include rural children's mental health, mental health disparities, and cultural diversity. Potential candidates are encouraged to visit the CYF website (www.apa.org/pi/cyf/ccyf) to learn more about CYF's mission and prior initiatives.

The Committee places a priority on maintaining representation within the Committee's membership that reflects the diversity of psychology and society (e.g., ethnicity, culture, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, geographic location, and those who are employed less than full time). The candidates selected to serve on the Committee will serve for three years and will be required to attend two Committee meetings a year in Washington, DC, with expenses reimbursed by APA, and to participate in conference calls. The successful candidate is expected to attend, if possible, the informal CYF meeting held during the APA convention at the member's own expense. In addition, members are expected to work on projects and Committee business between meetings.

Each candidate is asked to submit:

- (1) a letter indicating his/her willingness to serve;
- (2) a brief statement describing the applicants expertise and interest in one or two contemporary issues facing children, adolescents and families that they would bring to the Committee; and
- (3) a current curriculum vita.

Nomination material including a letter from the candidate indicating a willingness to serve, issues statement, and a current CV must be received by **Monday, August 24, 2009**. Nomination material received after August 24 will be held for consideration the following year. Although it is not required, candidates are encouraged to have letters (not more than three) supporting their nomination submitted to the Committee. Material may be sent to CYF Nominations, c/o Amani Chatman, CYF Administrative Coordinator, Public Interest Directorate, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20002-4242, by email achatman@apa.org or fax (202) 336-6040.

APF Annette Urso Rickel Dissertation Award for Public Policy

The Committee on Children, Youth, and Families works with the American Psychological Foundation (APF) to administer the *Annette Urso Rickel Dissertation Award for Public Policy*.

The American Psychological Foundation (APF) provides financial support for innovative research and programs that enhance the power of psychology to elevate the human condition and advance human potential both now and in generations to come.

The APF Annette Urso Rickel Foundation Dissertation Award for Public Policy supports dissertation research on public policy, which has the potential to improve services for children and families facing psychosocial issues. Examples of eligible topics include but are not limited to issues with at-risk populations, prevention of child abuse, services for youth in the criminal justice system, effectiveness of school programs for children with psychological issues, using psychology in public policy to improve math and science education, and promoting healthy parenting.

Amount:

The scholarship amount is \$1,000.

Goals of the Program:

Encourage talented psychology students to focus on public policy issues
Encourage work that has the potential to improve children and family services

Eligibility: Applicants must be graduate students in psychology enrolled full time and in good standing in a graduate program in psychology at a regionally-accredited university or college located in the United States or Canada. Applicants must also have:

Approval of dissertation proposal by the dissertation committee prior to application;
No record of having received either an APA or APF dissertation award

APF encourages applications from individuals who represent diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

To Apply:

Submit a Dissertation summary, including a brief description of the research design and budget (three-page limit, font size no smaller than 11); letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor and current CV online at <http://forms.apa.org/apf/grants/> by **November 1, 2009**. For more information, visit www.apa.org/apf.

Questions about this program should be directed to Emily Leary, Program Officer, at eleary@apa.org.

Children, Youth, and Families Office Publications

Children, Youth, and Families Activity Summary. Provides a summary of Public Interest activities focusing on children, youth, and families. Updated annually.

Annual Report of the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families. Provides a summary of the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families' yearly activities and accomplishments. Updated annually.

APA Policy Statements on Children, Youth, and Families. Provides text and references for APA public policy statements on children, youth, and families. Updated online as new statements are adopted. Copies of the resolutions are available at this web address
<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/resolution.html>

APA Talking Points on Children's Mental Health. These materials were developed to address policy concerns identified by the APA Task Force on Psychology's Agenda for Child and Adolescent Mental Health. They address policy implications of a broad range of children's mental health needs and issues. 5 pages. 2005. <http://www.apa.org/ppo/issues/tftalkingpoints.html>

APA Task Force on Psychology's Agenda for Child and Adolescent Mental Health. This report presents the implementation plan to organize and focus APA's resources to further policies, research, training, and practice as identified in the report of the APA Working Group on Children's Mental Health: APA's Response to the Surgeon General's Action Agenda for Children's Mental Health. 21 pages. 2004. http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child_adoles_mentalhealth_report.pdf

APA Working Group on Children's Mental Health: APA's Response to the Surgeon General's Action Agenda for Children's Mental Health. This report puts forward findings and recommendations important in efforts to address the crisis in children's mental health as identified in the Report of the Surgeon General's Conference on Children's Mental Health: A National Action Agenda. References are included. 39 pages. 2001. <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/dpnacmh.pdf>

Addressing Missed Opportunities for Early Childhood Mental Health Interventions: Current Knowledge and Policy Implications. This report focuses on the current knowledge and gaps in understanding that must guide the needed policy directions to improve mental health service delivery in early childhood. 48 pages. 2004 <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/emhireport.pdf>

Developing Adolescents: A Reference for Professionals. This booklet provides information on normative adolescent physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and behavioral development. References are included. 41 pages. 2002. <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/develop.pdf>

Tips for Talking with Adolescents. This bookmark, excerpted from Developing Adolescents: A Reference for Professionals, provides tips for talking with adolescents. 2004. Available in English http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/tips_for_talking_with_adolescents.pdf

and Spanish (**Como Hablar con los Adolescentes.**)
http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/tips_for_talking_with_adolescents_spanish.pdf

Yes...It's Normal for Adolescents to... This bookmark, excerpted from Developing Adolescents: A Reference for Professionals, provides a quick reference on normal adolescent development. 2004. Available in English http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/yes_its_normal_for_adolescents_to.pdf

and Spanish (**Si...Es normal que los Adolescentes...**)
http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/yes_its_normal_for_adolescents_to_spanish.pdf

Love Doesn't Have to Hurt Teens. This poster-style brochure on teen dating violence provides information and resources for victims, aggressors, and friends. It includes discussion of issues particular to disabled youth, same-sex relationships, and cultural beliefs. 1997 <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/teen.pdf>

Report of the APA Task Force on Advertising and Children. This report provides information on the psychological issues in the increasing commercialization of childhood and the psychological implications

of commercialism in schools. Contains recommendations for public policy, research, applied psychology, industry practices, media literacy, and advertising and schools. 68 pages. 2004.

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/advertisingandchildren.pdf>

An Annotated Bibliography on the Implications of Interactive Media for Adolescents. This bibliography provides a comprehensive list of references on the implications of interactive media for adolescents. 71 pages. 2002. <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/interactivemedia.pdf>

Report of the APA Working Group on Psychotropic Medications for Children and Adolescents. This report provides a thorough review of the existing literature and reports on the current state of knowledge concerning the effective use, sequencing, and integration of psychotropic medications and psychosocial interventions for children and adolescents. 246 pages. 2006
<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/childmeds.pdf>

Report of the Task Force on Resilience and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents. This report encourages a paradigm shift from an emphasis on risk to exploring the complex interactive process of resilience in African American youth. 134 pages. 2008
<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/resiliencerpt.pdf>

Report of the Task Force on Evidence-Based Practice with Children and Adolescents. This report addresses the unique challenges for practitioners in developing, strengthening, and disseminating evidence-based practice (EBP) for children, adolescents, and their families.
<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/evidencerpt.pdf> 69 pages. 2008

Children and Trauma Update for Mental Health Professionals

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child-trauma/update.html>

This 16-page booklet provides a brief overview for mental health professionals on:

- What we know about PTSD and trauma in children and adolescents
- How you can help children, adolescents, and their families cope and recover from trauma
- What we still need to learn about the complexities of PTSD and trauma
- Additional resources for professionals

Children and Trauma: Tips for Mental Health Professionals

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/kids-trauma-tips.html>

This tip sheet serves as a practical guide for professionals on:

- Basic information every mental health professional should know about PTSD and trauma in children and adolescents
- How to identify PTSD and/or trauma and provide care to children, adolescents, and their families
- Pitfalls to avoid when you encounter trauma and PTSD in children and adolescents

Policy Briefing Sheet: Trauma and PTSD in Children and Adolescents

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child-trauma/fact-sheet.pdf>

This policy briefing sheet serves as a functional guide for policymakers on the following:

- Impact of exposure to trauma on children and adolescents
- Best approach to policymaking that will improve outcomes for youth exposed to trauma
- Recommendations in the areas of research, practice, education, and training.

A free copy of most material is available by contacting publicinterest@apa.org.

PUBLIC INTEREST GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OFFICE

The Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO) serves APA's Public Interest Directorate to advance the interest of psychology in federal legislation and policy. PI-GRO actively engages in shaping federal policy to promote psychology in the public interest. PI-GRO endeavors to:

- inform members of Congress and their staffs about psychology and its relevance to federal policy;
- advocate for increased support for federally funded psychological research and behavioral and mental health services;
- strengthen the inclusion of psychological concerns at the regulatory level;
- enhance opportunities for education and training psychologists; and
- utilize the expertise of psychologists to address our nation's human welfare problems.

Specific Initiatives

PI-GRO maintains a close relationship with decision makers on Capitol Hill and in federal agencies, working with them and their staffs as they formulate legislation and regulations of interest to psychologists. PI-GRO routinely prepares and disseminates briefing and fact sheets, congressional testimony, and responses to proposed federal agency regulations and periodically conducts formal congressional briefings.

PI-GRO focuses on the following issues associated with children, youth, and families:

body image/eating disorders/childhood obesity; bullying; child abuse prevention; child welfare; children's media; education and schools; immigrant children and families; juvenile justice; resilience; and trauma.

Other Public Interest issue areas include:

- disabilities;
- ethnic minorities;
- HIV/AIDS;
- lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons;
- media and telecommunications;
- older adults;
- socioeconomic status;
- trauma, violence, and abuse; and
- women.

Advocacy positions in these areas are based on policy resolutions of the APA Council of Representatives and consultation with the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) and its committees, APA divisions, and other interested members.

Outreach to APA Members and the Public

PI-GRO keeps APA members informed of recent federal initiatives and supports their involvement in the public policymaking process. PI-GRO, along with the Government Relations Offices in the Science and Education directorates, has developed the Public Policy Action Network (PPAN), which is a non-interactive grassroots e-mail network that helps interested psychologists advocate for their discipline. PI-GRO disseminates targeted information and action alerts to PPAN members, focusing on recent and upcoming federal legislative or regulatory action of concern to psychology, as well as relevant federal grant and job opportunities. These alerts are often supplemented with more detailed background information on the PI-GRO webpage. PI-GRO also develops documents that provide information to APA members on how to effectively communicate with federal lawmakers, including *Advancing Psychology in the Public Interest: A Psychologist's Guide to Participating in Federal Policymaking*. PI-GRO forges and maintains vital links between APA and other scientific and professional societies, organizations, and coalitions to advance common policy interests.

APA Congressional Fellowship

PI-GRO, with APA's Executive Office, administers the APA Congressional Fellowship Program, which includes the Educational Assessment Congressional Fellowship, the Williams A. Bailey Health and Behavior Congressional Fellowship, and the Catherine Acuff Congressional Fellowship (for mid-career to senior psychologists). The program offers APA members the opportunity to spend one year as a special assistant with a member of Congress or congressional committee on Capitol Hill. The program goals are to provide psychologists with an invaluable public policy learning experience, to contribute to the effective application of psychological knowledge in government, and to promote and emphasize the value of cooperative interactions between psychology and government. Fellows may be involved in conducting legislative or oversight work, assisting in congressional hearings and debates, preparing briefs, and writing speeches. Fellows attend an intensive orientation program and education seminars on science and public policy administered by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Public Policy Internship Program

The APA Public Policy Internship Program provides psychology graduate students with an opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of how psychological research can inform public policy, while working on the staff of APA's Public Interest Government Relations Office in Washington, DC. Applicants must be in at least their second year of a psychology doctoral program.

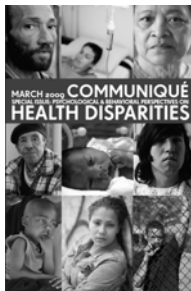
For more information, visit the Public Interest Government Relations Office webpage at <http://www.apa.org/ppo/pi> or call (202) 336-6166.

OFFICE of ETHNIC MINORITY AFFAIRS

American Indian Mascots Project

The APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) has championed an increased focus on the effects of American Indian mascots and other similar representations and images on the self-esteem and behavior of American Indian children and youth. CEMA drafted the APA Resolution Recommending the Immediate Retirement of American Indian Mascots, Symbols, Images, and Personalities by Schools, Colleges, Universities, Athletic Teams, and Organizations, which was adopted by the APA Council of Representatives on August 21, 2005. More recently in celebration of American Indian Month, CEMA, in collaboration with the Society of Indian Psychologist and the APA Staff Education Program on American Indian Mascots, developed educational materials on the impact of American Indian mascots. Some of the materials are available at: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/american-indian.html>.

Communiqué



In March 2009, the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (<http://www.apa.org/pi/oema>) released a Special Issue of its biannual newsjournal, *Communiqué*, which focused on health disparities in minority populations. The Special Issue sought to inform federal legislators and their staff, federal officials and other public policy advocates, psychologists and behavioral scientists, and the general public about the impact of health disparities and their disproportionate impact on communities of color. In addition, the Special Issue made the case that significant improvements in these disparities cannot be made without the inclusion of psychological and behavioral science perspectives, i.e., effective public policy in support of the elimination of health disparities must ensure the participation of not only medical and public health scientists and health care providers, but also psychological and other behavioral scientists and providers.

With regard to children, youth, and families, the March 2009 issue contained articles on resilience in LGBTQ African American adolescents; the mental, social, and emotional factors associated with economically disadvantaged adolescents' violent/aggressive behavior; and Project SMART (Supporting

Minority Adolescent Research Training). The next issue of the *Communiqué* will be released in August 2009. For more information, please visit: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/communique.html>

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, and TRANSGENDER CONCERNS OFFICE

Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project

The Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project (HLGBSP) continues its work to strengthen the capacity of the nation's schools and youth-serving organizations to prevent health risks and promote healthy outcomes among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and 'questioning' youth. The project, which has been funded since its inception by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), began its 10th year of operation in May 2008. The project's principal undertaking has been the development, implementation, and evaluation of a full-day training workshop, "Preventing Health Risks and Promoting Healthy Outcomes Among LGBQ Youth: A Training Workshop for School Counselors, Nurses, Psychologists, and Social Workers." To date, HLGBSP has provided more than 40 trainings at the national, regional, and state levels, reaching a combined audience of more than 1,200 school counselors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, and other youth-serving professionals. Together, these professionals are responsible for providing health and mental health services to nearly 1 million middle- and high-school students.

HLGBSP has initiated long-term partnerships with several state and local education agencies to improve their education and outreach programs for HIV prevention with LGBTQ youth. After a selective application process, APA is collaborating with the San Diego Unified School District, the District of Columbia Public Schools, the Massachusetts Department of Education, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and several other jurisdictions to strengthen their policies, procedures, and professional development programs.

HLGBSP has also expanded its capacity building efforts beyond education agencies and marketed its services to approximately 150 community based organizations whose work focuses on LGBTQ youth. In collaboration with the Behavioral and Social Sciences Volunteer (BSSV) program of APA's Office on AIDS, over the past 3 years the project has provided intensive, tailored technical assistance for HIV prevention programming to more than 20 organizations across the United States.

To learn more about HLGBSP's mission, history, and future plans, please visit the website at www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/hlgbsp.

Michigan Project for Informed Public Policy

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office will provide consultation to a project of the Rockway Institute/Alliant International University that is funded by a grant from the Arcus Foundation. The Michigan Project for Informed Public Policy (MPIPP) includes the Michigan Psychological Foundation as the local partner. This one-year project will organize social scientists, mental health experts, and medical professionals in Michigan to convey accurate information about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues to the public, the media, legislators, courts, and other policy makers. The focus of these educational activities will include, among others, legislation and ballot measures related to adoption and other parental rights and to safe schools (i.e., anti-bullying policy).

In delivering this program, the Rockway Institute will work closely with existing social service and equality groups in Michigan that represent the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. The goal is to increase the likelihood that future public policies related to sexual orientation and gender identity in Michigan will be based on accurate information rather than competing political ideologies.

To learn more about MPIPP's mission, history, and future plans, please visit the website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/policy/michigan-inform.html>

Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion

The Report of the Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion was received by the APA Council of Representatives in August 2008. Task Force members and WPO staff worked with the Public and Member Communications Office to develop talking points for the report. Staff continues to work with PI-GRO and the Public and Member Communications Office to disseminate the report. Additionally, staff are working with PI-GRO on the development of a factsheet for advocacy related purposes. The full text of the report is located at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo>. For additional information, please contact Tanya Burrwell at tburrwell@apa.org.

Report of the APA Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls

The Report of the APA Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls was released February 2007 and WPO is completing a draft curriculum for teachers to address issues discussed in the report. Dr. Miles-Cohen also met with the D.C. Charter School Board to discuss approval of the curricula for the 2009-2010 school year, however, due to budget constraints, the projected launch date for this initiative has been postponed. WPO continues to work to secure external funding to further promote the report. The report is available at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/sexualization.html>. For additional information, please contact Shari Miles-Cohen, PhD, at smiles@apa.org.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION OFFICE

The Violence Prevention Office is the focal point for APA activities related to violence and injury prevention. The office provides training and technical assistance, and disseminates information on topics associated with child maltreatment, media violence, youth violence, and intimate partner violence. It is the coordination point for the APA ACT/Parents Raising Safe Kids program, the initiative designed to disseminate research-based psychological knowledge and skills to educate families and communities to create environments that protect children and youth from violence.

ACT/Parents Raising Safe Kids program

This APA national initiative is designed to educate communities and families from all types of background on violence prevention through partnerships with community-based organizations and agencies and training of professionals and other adults who work or are in regular contact with families.

The APA parent program is currently implemented in 46 communities in 19 states, including Latino communities. In several of the sites, the program is lead by a psychologist member of the Association. Activities conducted include:

- a) The office conducted the 5th annual leadership seminar on February 27-28 for 38 program coordinators from all over the country. The seminar provided in-depth learning and review about program implementation and evaluation and of topics related to violence prevention such as impact of media violence, corporal punishment, and family involvement.
- b) A manual adapting motivational interviewing technique to violence prevention and parenting groups is being developed to be incorporated into the ACT program and help increase parents' motivation and adherence to the program goals.

New Initiative: The ACT Parenting Program in Community Health Centers Project

With funding from the MetLife Foundation, the office is working on this project that will provide integrated services to parents/caregivers from all backgrounds coming to community health centers for their primary health care. The integrated services proposed in the project include the ACT parenting program, screening for parental risk factors for child maltreatment, and mental health services for those screening positive. The three community health centers participating in the project have been identified and are located in Washington, DC; Toledo, OH; and Chicago, IL. The project will (a) assess the effectiveness of the ACT parenting program delivered at the centers to improve parenting practices that prevent child maltreatment and (b) will evaluate the centers' readiness to provide integrated services to families. Three psychologists, members of APA, are consultants for the project. It is planned to be completed by the end of 2010.

Working Group on Child Maltreatment Prevention in Community Health Centers

CDC contracted with Public Interest Directorate Violence Prevention Program to create a working group to prepare a report identifying promising practices and strategies to prevent child maltreatment in community health centers. The working group released the report in February 2009 and hard copies were distributed to several APA divisions, other national organizations, individual experts, to government agencies and officials, and to policy makers. The report is available at www.apa.org/pi/preventviolence/working-group.html. A series of articles are being written for submission to the *American Psychologist*, and to *Pediatrics*, the American Academy of Pediatrics flag ship journal. Information will also be disseminated through division newsletters.

For additional information, contact the Violence Prevention Office Director, Julia Silva at jsilva@apa.org or at (202) 336-5817. Visit the ACT- Adults and Children Together- Against Violence website at www.ActAgainstViolence.org

HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Training Program

APA's Office on AIDS has been training psychologists about HIV/AIDS for more than 18 years. The impact of HIV on children and adolescents has always been a special focus of APA's activities.

The Office administers a federally funded HIV/AIDS mental health provider training initiative called the HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program. HOPE features a nationwide faculty of more than 174 Regional Psychologist Trainers who deliver HIV-related mental health training based on the HOPE Training Resource Package. The Training Resource Package contains 10 modules encompassing the most frequently requested topics for HIV mental health-related professional development. Workshops are individually tailored to meet the needs of a sponsoring organization and meet requirements for in-service and continuing education credit.

The Training Resource Package module entitled HIV and Families highlights the epidemiology of HIV among children and adolescents; outlines relevant issues including disclosure, multiple loss, permanency planning, school issues, bereavement and grieving, transitions, and psychological interventions as well as providing the participant experience identifying and using skills needed to work in this specialty area.

For additional information, please visit their web site at <http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/>.

Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) Program

APA's BSSV Program has been funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) since 1996. The BSSV Program, operated through the APA Office on AIDS, has previously established a national network of over 280 psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists and public health experts who are trained to provide HIV prevention capacity-building assistance (CBA) services. The BSSV Program, operated through the APA Office on AIDS, offers free CBA to health department-funded Community Based Organizations (CBO), health departments, and HIV prevention community planning groups (CPGs). All of these entities have a special focus on developing and implementing HIV prevention programs for adolescents.

From its inception in 1996 until April 2009, the BSSV Program has successfully delivered CBA services in response to over 500 separate requests from various organizations across the country with the majority (over 60%) of these requests coming from CBOs. Of the completed consultations thus far, the majority involved building the capacity to conduct evaluations, the capacity to conduct needs assessment, building the capacity to write grant proposals, and building the capacity to adapt evidence-based interventions. Our BSSVs provide support to CBOs in selecting, adapting and evaluating specific HIV prevention interventions designed for adolescents such as Focus on Youth (FOY), MPowerment, Together Learning Choices (TLC), etc. which are a sampling of evidenced-based interventions in CDC's Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions (DEBI) Project. For more information about these interventions, visit www.effectiveinterventions.org.

In addition to providing a series of 90 minute web-based trainings covering topics such as Program Evaluation and Marketing during the months of March, April and May 2009, the program successfully completed and disseminated *The Resource Guide for Adapting SISTA (Sisters Informing Sisters on Topics about AIDS) for Latinas (GUIDE)* in collaboration with staff of CDC. SISTA is also one of CDC's Diffusion of Effective Behavioral Interventions. For more information about the Resource Guide for Adapting SISTA for Latinas, please visit <http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/bssv.html>.

Education Directorate

APA Classroom Management Modules

<http://www.apa.org/ed/cpse/class-management.html>

A Guide to the Use of Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) in Assessing Intervention Effects: The Promise of Multiple Methods

(Guide and its accompanying narrative)

<http://www.apa.org/ed/cpse/multmethod08-chart.pdf>

<http://www.apa.org/ed/cpse/multmethod08.pdf>

Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education

<http://www.apa.org/ed/cpse/interdivision.html>

CPSE Current Activities (including **Classroom Violence Directed Against Teachers Task Force** and **Study of the impact of Specialized Public High Schools of Science, Math, and Technology**)

<http://www.apa.org/ed/cpse/cpseinit.html>

Practice Directorate

APA Help Center (APA's Public Information Website)

www.APAHelpCenter.org

Work & School

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/articles/topic.php?id=1>

Family & Relationships Topics

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/articles/topic.php?id=2>

Warning Signs of Youth Violence

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/featuredtopics/feature.php?id=38>

Painful Shyness in Children & Adults

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/featuredtopics/feature.php?id=5>

Overwhelmed By the Back-To-School Rush?

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/articles/article.php?id=158>

Summer Camp Blues

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/articles/article.php?id=20>

Talking to Your Children About Violence

<http://www.apahelpcenter.org/articles/article.php?id=147>

Public Interest Directorate

Children, Youth and Families Office

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf> New!

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Trauma in Children and Adolescents Materials

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/child-trauma/> New!

Resilience in African American Children and Adolescents

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/resilience.html> New!

Evidence-Based Practice for Children and Adolescents

<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/evidence.html> New!

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns Office

<http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/homepage.html> New!

Lesbian and Gay Parenting

<http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/publications/lgparenthome.html>. Contact the Public Interest Directorate at publicinterest@apa.org to request a free print copy.

Just the Facts about Sexual Orientation and Youth: A Primer for Principals, Educators, and School Personnel

<http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/publications/justthefacts.pdf> (PDF 254K).

Single paper copies of Just the Facts are available by contacting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office at lgbc@apa.org.

*Answers to Your Questions for a Better Understanding of Sexual Orientation & Homosexuality

<http://www.apa.org/topics/sorientation.html>.

*Answers to Your Questions about Individuals with Intersex Conditions

<http://www.apa.org/topics/intersx.html>.

*Answers to Your Questions about Transgender Individuals and Gender Identity

<http://www.apa.org/topics/transgender.html>.

*Single paper copies of any of the three brochures are available by contacting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office at lgbc@apa.org. Bulk orders of the three brochures are sold in lots of 25 copies at \$4.00 per lot and obtained by contacting the Order Department at 1-800-374-2721.

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<http://www.apapractice.org/apo/pracorg/legislative.htm>

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