



## 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 2013 CYF Annual Report provides information on CYF's goals and a summary of activities as they relate to the Committee's goals.

## COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

### 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

#### COMPOSITION:

Roseanne Flores, PhD (Co-Chair); Patti Johnson, PhD (Co-Chair); Lauren McCubbin, PhD (Chair-Elect); Michael Southam-Gerow, PhD; Douglas Tynan, PhD, and Carmen Valdez, PhD.

#### MEETINGS:

The Committee held two formal meetings in Washington, DC; March 15-17, 2013 and September 20-22, 2013. CYF conducted necessary business between meetings through conference calls, email, and the APA Communities web platform.

#### 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: Sarah Friedman, PhD, Division 7; James DiPerna, PhD, Division 16; Dara Blachman-Demner, PhD, Division 37; Susan Bowen, PhD, Division 40; Mia Smith-Bynum, Ph.D., Division 43; Mery Taylor, PhD, Division 54; and Luis Vargas, PhD, Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI).

#### OTHER GOVERNANCE GROUPS

CYF strives to learn more about the activities of other APA committees so that its work may be more collaborative and synergistic. This year, CYF collaborated with a number of Boards and Committees, including BAPPI, the Members of Color meetings, the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns (CLGBTC), the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP), the Committee on International Relations (CIRP), and the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP).

#### COMMITTEE MISSION AND GOALS

CYF's mission and goal is to further the central purpose of APA - to advance 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.
- recruit members with diverse expertise who will advance the CYF strategic plan

#### 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 and fall meetings included 50% minority members (Flores, McCubbin, and Valdez). The Committee discussed the need to attract an even more diverse pool of applicants, particularly with regard to reflecting LGBT populations and individuals with disabilities. In addition the committee sought to attract and recruit members who are early career in concert with APA's membership initiatives. The desired end result is representation of a broad range of perspectives and expertise as well as diversity characteristics. The dissemination of the call for nominations was broad, with particular outreach to Divisions 17, 44, and 45.

In addition, the needs of diverse youth are inherently addressed by the Committee's topical focus on the needs of diverse youth and families, including Committee members' focal areas of poverty and health disparities affecting children (Flores), military youth and families (Johnson), culture, health disparities, and resilience (McCubbin), and maternal-child depression (Valdez).

#### I. IDENTIFY AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION

##### APA at the UN

Dr. Flores serves as an APA representative to the UN focusing on the Rights of the Child and Family issues.

##### Early Learning Guidelines Toolkit

Dr. Flores serves as a member of the Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education. In collaboration with other members of the coalition she developed Early Learning Guidelines Toolkit which is located on the Coalition webpage and linked to the CYF page. Dr. Fasig featured the Early Learning Guidelines Toolkit in her director's note in the Fall 2013 edition of the CYF news.

### NIH Poverty and Child Development Handbook

Dr. Flores developed a draft template to develop fact sheets based on the Oxford Handbook of Poverty and Child Development edited by Valerie Maholmes and Rosalind B. King.

### Behavioral Health Needs and Interventions for Military and Veteran Children and Families

Dr. Johnson chaired a symposium at the APA convention on this topic, and is guest editing a special issue of the journal "Psychological Services" dedicated to articles on military and veteran children and families.

### APA Public Interest Blog "Psychology Benefits Society"

Several CYF Members submitted blogs for the APA BAPPI Blog:

- Dr. Southam-Gerow: "How can we get children and teens treatment that works"
- Dr. McCubbin: "Cheerios and controversy: The changing face of America's multiracial children and families"
- Dr. Valdez: "I don't understand my children: Addressing acculturation stress in Latino families"

### CYF NEWSLETTER

Four strong topical issues of CYF News were published in 2013.

- Dr. Patti Johnson edited the Winter 2013 CYF News on "Military Children and Families"
- Dr. Michael Southam-Gerow edited the Spring 2013 CYF News on "Bringing Evidence-Based Practices to Community Settings"
- Dr. Lali McCubbin edited the Summer 2013 CYF News on "Acknowledging the Growing Population of Multiracial Youth and Families"
- Dr. Douglas Tynan edited the Fall 2013 CYF News on "Integrating Child Psychology Services in Primary Care"

### 2012 Convention Report

- CYF sponsored its annual social hour, in conjunction with Divisions 16 & 37
- The Committee, in collaboration with the Committees on Socioeconomic Status (CSES), Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP) and Aging (CONA) submitted a convention proposal to BAPPI titled "Culture and Health Disparities among Asian Americans and native Hawaiians: Indigenous Theory, Research, and Practice" was chaired by CYF Chair-Elect Dr. Lali McCubbin.
- Dr. Johnson chaired a symposium, presented within the APA Presidential Track, and co-sponsored by Division 16, titled "Effective Psychological Interventions for Military Children and Families," which provided an overview of the application of evidence-based treatments for military children and their families.

### II. PROVIDE CONSULTATION (RLF)

CYF was represented at the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI). November 1-3, 2013 meeting in Washington, DC by Dr. Lali McCubbin, PhD (CYF Chair Elect). Throughout 2013, the Committee consulted with a variety of APA Boards, Committees, Directorates, and Divisions

through its liaison and monitor relationships to these groups and on items placed on the Spring and Fall 2013 cross-cutting agendas.

CYF reviewed and commented on the:

- Revision of the APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major
- Petition to CRSPPP for Recognition of Specialties in Professional Psychology
- Principles for the Recognition of Proficiencies in Professional Psychology
- Quality Professional Development and Continuing Education Resolution
- Draft Resolution on HIV Testing and Counseling
- Guidelines for Psychological Practice and Older Adults
- Call for Questions to the President-Elect Candidates
- Creation of an Official APA Definition of Early Career Psychologist
- Making APA into a Data-Driven Organization
- Review of Report of the Task Force on Applying Psychological Science to the Analysis of Data for Continuous Teacher Education Program Improvement
- Recommendation from the BEA Working Group on Strengthening the Common Core of the Introductory Psychology Course
- Competencies for Psychological Practice in Primary Care
- Guidelines for Competency-Based Clinical Supervision in Health Service Psychology Education and Training Programs
- Health Service Psychology: Preparing Competent Practitioners
- Report of the Task Force on Trafficking of Women and Girls for final report
- Resolution on Service Provision for Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities
- Multidisciplinary Competencies in the Care of Older Adults at the Completion of the Entry-Level Health Professional Degree
- Gun Violence Prediction and Prevention Statement
- Suggestions for Improvement of APA website
- Resolutions on LGBT Children and Youth in Schools
- Research Plan for Screening for Childhood Major Depressive Disorder Among Children and Adolescents

### III. ENCOURAGE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND IV. FORMULATE POLICY

The Committee again took an active role in commenting on PI-GRO federal policy issues throughout the year, with members frequently offering expert comments on timely matters (e.g. policy focused activities, including those related to child welfare, juvenile justice and mental health). Furthermore, the Committee collaborated with other entities such as an Institute of Medicine and National Research Council meeting and U.S. Preventive Services Task Force to assist with the translation of research into policy and practice. In addition, in 2013 the Committee undertook a revision of its strategic plan. In line with the new strategic plan the Committee consulted with the Department of Health and Human Services and talks have begun with the goal of developing a project related to maternal and child health that will address the health and mental health needs of children and families.

### 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.

## 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 and societal disruptions that lead to poor outcomes. Over the years the CYF Committee has developed a strong core of expertise making it well positioned to address these issues for the Association, the scientific community, and to advocate on behalf of children, youth, and families given their ever changing needs and circumstances. Over the past year, CYF efforts have shown how the use of 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 culture, health disparities, integrated health care, evidence-based care, community-based care, and alternative systems of care will continue to advance this important work. These contributions clearly enhance the reputation of the Association while at the same time delivering important public service. Furthermore, the potential collaboration between the CYF Committee and HHS will help to ensure the integration of psychological science and practice into policies that affect children, youth and families. 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.

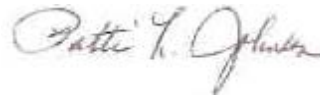
Respectfully submitted,



Roseanne L. Flores, PhD

2013 Co-Chair

Committee on Children, Youth, and Families



Patti Johnson, PhD

2013 Co-Chair

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