



## 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 2014 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

### 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

#### COMPOSITION:

Laurie "Lali" McCubbin (Chair); Michael Southam-Gerow, PhD; Douglas Tynan, PhD, (resigned after Spring consolidated meetings due to appointment within APA) and Carmen Valdez, PhD. (Chair-Elect); Jodi Quas, Ph.D.; Caryn Rodgers, Ph.D; Marietta H. Collins, Ph.D. (replaced Douglas Tynan in July 2014)

#### MEETINGS:

The Committee held two formal meetings in Washington, DC; March 21-22, 2014 and September 19-21, 2014. 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; Margaret Erickson, Ph.D., Division 53; and Elizabeth Vera, 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 Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA); the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns (CLGBTC), the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP), the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP), the Committee on Socioeconomic Status (CSES), the Committee on Aging (CONA) and Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA).

## 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 (McCubbin, Valdez, & Rodgers and 66% respectively (McCubbin, Valdez, Rodgers, and Collins). 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. As the time of each member's appointment, 50% of the committee would be classified as ECP (under the guidelines of 10 years post-graduation). 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 culture, health disparities, and resilience (McCubbin), maternal-child depression (Valdez), children's involvement in the legal system (Quas), adolescent health promotion in low-income urban communities of color (Rodgers) and quality mental health interventions for underserved children, adolescents and families (Collins).

## I. IDENTIFY AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION

### CYF New Business and Priorities

The CYF team with the guidance of Lauren Caldwell created a one page new business form for new items to evaluate potential projects moving forward with the strategic planning of the committee. As

part of this new process in strategic planning, the committee reviewed several new business proposals and decided to pursue two projects: (a) Public Education regarding Children Exposed to Trauma and Violence and (b) updating Developing Adolescence.

#### Public Education regarding Children Exposed to Trauma and Violence

Carmen-Valdez, Chair-Elect, is taking a lead on this project and a list of potential partners were created including the Department of Justice and other initiatives related to the prevention and intervention of children exposed and/or witnessed trauma and violence. This project focuses on raising awareness of children exposed to violence and trauma and the adverse effects through a public campaign.

#### Update Developing Adolescence

The committee developed a plan to update the APA publication *Developing Adolescents: A reference for Professionals*. The last version was 2002 and given this was over 10 years old, new topics need to be addressed including technology, bullying and the cognitive neuroscience research on adolescence. Under the leadership of Jodi Quas, a subcommittee is identifying potential collaborators and the various subtopics within this publication.

#### Translating Psychological Science Task Force Report

The committee discussed the findings from this task force and how to incorporate the suggestions within the current projects being undertaken within CYF including the two new business items and the continued projects below.

#### Pediatric Outreach Initiative

Under the leadership of Dr. Fasig, CYFO, the Education Directorate and the Center for Psychology and Health held the Pediatric Outreach Meeting held on January 6, 2014 bringing together psychologists working in pediatric settings to discuss ways to increase support in integrating care within the pediatric community.

#### CYF Awards

The committee created two awards: (a) early career award and (b) mid-career award. The substance of the award is a recognition plaque and an invitation to write a blog post. These awards were approved by BAPPI and the call for nominations was sent out in the Fall 2014. A subcommittee was created to evaluate the applications in February 2015 and the awards will be presented at the CYF Social Hour in 2015.

The committee also nominated Michael Lamb for the APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest, Senior Career, and Candice Odgers for the APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest, Early Career.

#### Continued Projects

##### Revising *Lesbian & Gay Parenting*

The committee decided to join in a collaboration to update this project and appointed Dr. Quas to join a working group charged with undertaking these projects.

##### Revising *Answers to Your Questions About Individuals with Intersex Conditions*

The committee decided to join in a collaboration to update these projects and appointed Dr. Marietta Colliins to join a working group charged with undertaking these projects.

#### Revising and Updating the 1993 APA Resolution on Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth in Schools

Dr. Michael Southam-Gerow was assigned to this working group and they have updated this resources and are in the process of creating a dissemination plan of the materials that were created as part of this project.

#### CYF news

Dr. Valdez was a guest editor for the Spring 2014 newsletter focusing on maternal depression including articles on perinatal depression, pregnancy-related screening, and community partnership with teenage mothers.

Dr. Quas was the guest editor for the Fall 2014. Her issue focused on adolescent development with articles on positive development, resilience, technology/digital age, social support, puberty and high-risk trajectories and false confessions.

#### APA Public Interest Blog “Psychology Benefits Society”

CYF supported the development of blog posts addressing children, youth and family issues:

Can Preschool Expulsion Be Prevented? A Growing Body of Research Says Yes!

What Every Parent Should Know About Timeouts

How Can We Prevent Bullying? Involve Parents and Start Early

Our Invisible Youth: Addressing Disparities in the School-To-Prison Pipeline

#### PTA and APA Prevention Webinar Training

On May 4, 2014, Drs. Southam-Gerow, McCubbin and Mary Alvord conducted a webinar hosted by the National PTA and APA on “How to Tell When A Kid is Struggling Emotionally.” A similar webinar was conducted in May 2013 in partnership with YMCA and APA.

#### 2014 Convention Report

CYF sponsored its annual social hour, in conjunction with Divisions 7, 16, 37, and 53

The Committee, in collaboration with the Committees on Socioeconomic Status (CSES), Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP), The Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns (CLGBTC) and Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA) and Aging (CONA) submitted a convention proposal to BAPPI titled “Risk and Resilience: Overcoming the Odds of Community Violence” was chaired by CYF Chair Dr. Lali McCubbin.

#### Five –Year Policy Review

The committee reviewed 35 resolutions as part of the five-year council policy review. The following policies were reviewed:

1. Aids Education
2. Americans with Disabilities Act

3. APA resolution on emancipating and assisting victims of human trafficking
4. APA resolution on promotion of healthy active lifestyles and prevention of obesity and unhealthy weight control behaviors in children and youth
5. APA resolution on school drop-out prevention
6. Bullying among children and youth
7. Child custody determination
8. Child custody or placement
9. Children's mental health
10. Corporal punishment
11. Death penalty in the United States
12. Empirically supported sex education and HIV prevention programs for adolescents
13. English-only initiatives
14. Homeless mentally ill and functionally disabled
15. Immigrant children, youth and families
16. Maltreatment of children with disabilities
17. Mandatory minimum drug sentencing regulations
18. Motor vehicle trauma
19. Psychological needs of children exposed to disasters
20. Report on the Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls
21. Report on the Working Group on Psychotropic Medications for Children and Adolescents
22. Resolution on Cigarette Smoking
23. Resolution on families of incarcerated offenders
24. Resolution on lesbian, gay, and bisexual youths in the schools
25. Resolution on sexuality education
26. Resolution on the use of psychology to market tobacco products
27. Resolution opposing child sexual abuse
28. Sexual orientation, parents and children
29. Social factors that induce violence
30. Special education and related services for children with conduct disorders
31. Support for Science Education K-12
32. UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
33. UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Optional
34. Use of anatomically detailed dolls in forensic evaluation
35. Violence against children by governments

CYF reviewed and commented on the following cross-cutting agenda items:

- Inclusion of Early Career Psychologists on Boards and Committees
- Engaging New Talent in APA Governance (NBI #31C)
- Proposal for an APA Committee on Associate and Baccalaureate Education
- Proposed Resolution in Support of Education and Implementation of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD)
- Proposed Guidelines for Integrating the Role of Work and Career into Professional Psychology Practice
- Proposed Revised Policy on Guidelines Entitled, "Professional Practice Guidelines: Guidance for Developers and Users"
- Call for Comments: New Business Item 25(B) Independence of Psychologists
- Resolution in Support of the U.N. Convention on the Rights and Dignity of

#### Persons with Disabilities

- Resolution on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) Children and Youth in Schools
- Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Clients
- Call for Questions to the President-Elect Candidates
- Implementation Work Group Recommendations Regarding Service on APA Boards and Committees
- New Haven Competencies (Trauma Competencies)
- Guidelines for Post-Doctoral Training in Rehabilitation Psychology
- Modifying the Composition of the Board of Educational Affairs (BEA)
- Standards and Criteria for Approval of Sponsors of Continuing Education for Psychologists
- Criteria for the Recognition of Organizations that Provide Certifications in Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology
- Resolution on Violent Video Games
- Resolution on the 2015 White House Conference on Aging

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

### GOALS

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 2014 the Committee incorporated the revision of its strategic plan, created a form for new business and priorities, evaluated several possible projects and chose two to focus on for 2015.

### IV. DESIGNATE APA PRIORITIES FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

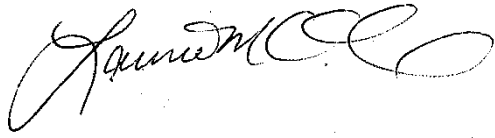
This goal permeates every aspect of CYF's work and is evident in its consultation efforts with various groups. CYF is particularly effective in ensuring that its members have expertise to respond to present-day events affecting children, youth, and families.

### CONCLUSION

CYF focuses APA's organizational efforts and capabilities on issues of critical social importance. During times of economic stress and community violence, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurie McCubbin', with a stylized, cursive script.

Laurie "Lali" McCubbin, PhD

2014 Chair

Committee on Children, Youth, and Families