



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 2018 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

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

COMPOSITION:

Christina Rodriguez, PhD (Chair); Kalina Brabeck, PhD; Michael Lawler, PhD; Dionne Coker-Appiah, PhD; Sharon Portwood, PhD; Neha Navsaria, PhD

MEETINGS:

The Committee held one formal meeting with the Spring Consolidated meeting in Washington, DC on March 23-24, 2018. CYF conducted necessary business between meetings through regularly scheduled video conference calls and email.

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 included: Yadira Sanchez, PhD, Division 16; Susan Bowen, PhD, Division 40; Rachel Tunick, PhD, Division 54; Adam Lewin, PhD, Division 53; and Evangelina Alonso, PsyD, Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI). Moreover, Dr. Coker-Appiah began serving as the liaison to the Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education.

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 and consulted with a number of Boards and Committees, including the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI), the Board for Scientific Affairs (BSA), the Board of Educational Affairs (BEA), the Policy and Planning Board, the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA); the Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity (CSOGD), 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), the Committee on Legal Issues (COLI), the Committee on Aging (COA), and the Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA). Given APA is currently engaged in strategic planning, CYF also interfaced with BAPPI in responding to the APA CEO's call for comments on the proposed strategic goals, objectives, and guiding principles.

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 included 50% members from underrepresented groups (Rodriguez, Coker-Appiah, and Navsaria). The Committee discussed the need to attract a larger and even more diverse pool of applicants. In addition the committee sought to attract and recruit members who are early career in concert with APA's membership initiatives. At the time of each member's appointment, two members 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 members' topical interests in the needs of diverse youth and families, including: cultural issues relevant to parental physical discipline use (Rodriguez); the challenges facing immigrant and refugee children, youth and families (Brabeck); the well-being of American Indian children and families, and rural communities (Lawler); adolescent dating violence and health disparities particularly in rural communities (Coker-Appiah); culturally competent and accessible parenting interventions (Navsaria); and community partnerships relevant to program evaluation of child and family service delivery (Portwood).

I. IDENTIFY AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION

In 2018, the CYF continued with several ongoing high-priority projects and laid the foundation for new initiatives. A one page new business form for new items was disseminated that could be completed by committee members, liaisons, or other interested division members. Through this, the committee is pursuing:

New Initiatives

(1) Revision of Children's Mental Health Resolution

The APA Resolution on Children's Mental Health was established in 2003 and needed updating to best inform policy and practice. Chair-elect Lawler served as the CYF representative to the working group discussing the revision and update of this resolution. This revision addresses recent scientific advances related to the prevention and treatment of mental health needs of children and youth. This resolution was forwarded to the Fall 2018 cross-cutting agenda.

(2) Preparing a new resource and web-based interactive tool on "How to Engage Youth in Community Settings" was proposed by member Coker-Appiah.

(3) APA 5-year Policy Review

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

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 (2001)
34. Use of anatomically detailed dolls in forensic evaluation
35. Violence against children by governments

As a consequence of this 5-year review, CYF plans to update the *APA Resolution on Promotion of Healthy Active Lifestyles and Prevention of Obesity and Unhealthy Weight Control Behaviors in Children and Youth*. CYF will join working groups with CSOGD in 2019 to update the *APA Resolution on Gender and Sexual Orientation in Children and Adolescents in Schools and Sexual Orientation, Parents and Children*.

Ongoing Initiatives

(1) Mental Health Disparities reports

Working groups completed and released mental health disparities reports, the *Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Racial and Ethnic Minority Youth: A Guide for Practitioners* as well as *Promoting Positive Mental Health among Racial/Ethnic Minority Children: Ensuring and Enhancing Services, Programs, and Resources*, accompanied by webinars and videoclips in production.

(2) Resolution on the Use of Physical Discipline of Children by Parents

Based on the strength of the scientific findings from the task force comprised of members from Division 7 and 37, a formal resolution was drafted in 2017 with updated scientific literature. This resolution was submitted for review and comment by other APA committees and boards on the cross-cutting agenda in fall 2017. After revisions and updates based on those comments, the resolution returned to the cross-cutting agenda during Spring 2018 consolidated meetings, accompanied by a well-attended open conference meeting. Subsequently, additional revisions were undertaken and the resolution was returned to the Fall 2018 cross-cutting agenda for further comment. Based on final comments and revisions, this resolution was prepared for consideration at then next APA council meeting in 2019.

(3) Psychosocial Screening and Assessment of Immigrant and Refugee Youth in School-Based Settings

In 2008, a report by Birman and Chan on psychosocial screening and assessment of immigrant and refugee youth within school-based settings was prepared. CYF member Brabeck formed a working group to prepare an update of cross-culturally relevant materials. This work will culminate in a user-friendly updated report for researchers and school-based professionals, providing guidance on the selection of appropriate instruments, and will be further disseminated in a peer-reviewed article.

(4) *Revising Lesbian & Gay Parenting Reference Guide*

Upon further review and advice from a consultant, CSOGD has decided that new research does not contradict the existing document to warrant a substantive revision and at most, the current version would need only the addition of newer references. Instead, CSOGD is considering whether they will pursue composing a statement on divorce situations and will consult with CYF should they consider developing such a document.

(5) *Revising Answers to Your Questions About Individuals with Intersex Conditions*

Drafts of a revision to a fact sheet on “Answers to Your Questions about Medical Conditions Referred to as Differences/Disorders of Sex Development” continued through 2018. A dialogue has continued between CSOGD and the CYF about the need to update existing materials. CYF, in conjunction with CSOGD, also responded to a request by the InterACT Advocates for Intersex Youth organization, along with two other advocacy groups, to investigate improved care for these youth. CYF thus supported the development of a task force to review the literature on Disorders of Sex Development, in concert with Division 54, which is now underway.

(6) CYF reviewed and/or commented on the following:

Cross-cutting agenda items:

- Amendment to the Association Rule 100-1.4: Division Position and Policy Statements
- Revision to the APA Model Curriculum in Psychopharmacology for Prescriptive Authority and Related APA Policies: Request for Adoption as APA Policy
- Proposed Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Military Service Member, Veterans, and their Families: Call for Comments
- Proposed Professional Guideline on the Implementation of Clinical Practice Guidelines: Call for Comments
- Revised Principles for the Validation and Use of Personnel Selection Procedures, Society for Industrial/Organizational Psychology, 2018: Request for Adoption as APA Policy
- Resolution Supporting the Expansion of Mature Minors’ Ability to Participate in Research: Request for Adoption as APA Policy
- APA Citizen Psychologist Initiative Update
- Call for Questions to the President-Elect Candidates
- Voting Privileges for Graduate Student Affiliates: Call for Comments
- Feedback Requested on the National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula (APA, 2011)
- APA Clinical Practice Guideline for Treatment of Depression: Call for Comments
- Resolution on Support of Universal Design and Accessibility in Education, Training, and Practice: Call for Comments
- Resolution on Campus Sexual Assault: Request for Adoption as APA Policy
- Update on the APA Ethics Task Force
- Update on the Revised Rules and Procedures for the Ethics Committee

Additional Comments

CYF also commented on the Guidelines for Child Custody Evaluations in Family Law Proceedings. CYF also engaged in a self-study, submitting a report, in response to a request from BAPPI to all PI subcommittees. CYF Chair Rodriguez also provided input to the APA Legislative and Federal Affairs office for APA's feedback, as a member of the National Child Abuse Coalition, regarding the re-authorization of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

(7) Proposed Resolution Addressing Solitary Confinement of Juvenile Offenders

In consultation with BAPPI and COLI, a working group has been formulated to accomplish the work needed for this proposal, on which CYF member Dr. Portwood serves as the liaison. The working group divided into subgroups focusing on Definition and Continuum, US and International Practices, and Psychological Effects.

(8) APA Convention planning for 2019

CYF collaborated with CONA in submitting an APA Governance Collaborative Proposal on Family Caregiving. In addition, CYF chair-elect Dr. Lawler and CYF member Dr. Portwood are organizing a pre-convention meeting focused on translational science regarding Adverse Childhood Events to be followed by a session during the main conference.

CYF Awards

Based on nominations submitted in January 2018, Dr. Rodriguez appointed subcommittees to evaluate nominees. Two award were presented during the CYF Social Hour at the APA annual convention in San Francisco in August 2018. The committee recognized two individuals in 2018 with an (a) early career award and (b) mid-career award. Jessica Borelli, PhD received the early career award and Allison Redlich, PhD was awarded the mid-career award.

CYF News

Dr. Coker-Appiah served as guest editor for the Spring 2018 newsletter focusing on community based approaches to preventing teen dating violence.

Dr. Portwood was the guest editor for the Fall 2018 newsletter, "Adverse Childhood Experiences: Current Research and Practice Applications" to focus on current applications of the ACES framework.

APA Public Interest Blog "Psychology Benefits Society"

CYF supports the development of blog posts addressing children, youth and family issues. This year, CFY members submitted the following:

"Families Belong Together: Four Reasons Why Family Separations are So Harmful," by Kalina Brabeck, PhD and Christina M. Rodriguez, PhD

2018 Convention Report

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

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.


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, including with APA Legislative and Federal Affairs. CYF is particularly effective in ensuring that its members have the needed expertise to respond to contemporary challenges confronting children, youth, and families, including such timely topics as physical discipline, immigration obstacles for children and families, interpersonal violence, and mental health challenges. The resolutions and initiatives being considered and drafted by our committee reflect our attention to these challenges, and our persistent efforts to address the needs of children, youth, and families as broadly as possible.

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 demonstrated 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, juvenile justice, parenting practices, and immigration 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. 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 purple ink, appearing to read 'Christina M. Rodriguez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christina M. Rodriguez, PhD
2018 Chair
Committee on Children, Youth, and Families