

Committee on Children, Youth and Families
2023 Annual Report
American Psychological Association

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Mission

There shall be a Committee on Children, Youth, and Families which shall concern itself with furthering the major purpose of the APA "to advance psychology as a science and a profession and as a means of promoting health, education, and human welfare" by ensuring that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association in order that all human resources are actualized. It should function as a catalyst, interacting with and making recommendations to the various parts of the APA's governing structure, to the APA's membership, and to relevant divisions and other groups. Specifically, the Committee will pursue the following goals: (a) identify and disseminate information concerning the psychological status of children, youth, and families for psychologists, other professionals, policy makers, and the public; (b) 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; (c) encourage psychological research on the factors that promote or inhibit the development of individual and family competence; (d) contribute to the formulation and support of policies that facilitate the optimal development of children and youth within families; (e) designate priorities for APA involvement in the issues affecting children, youth, and families, including issues related to gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability.

The Committee shall consist of six members who are elected for staggered terms of three years. It shall report to Council through the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest.

Meeting DatesVirtual Monthly Meetings:

January 20, 2023
February 17, 2023
March 17-18, 2023 (*Spring Consolidated Meeting*)
April 21, 2023
May 19, 2023
June 16, 2023
July 21, 2023
August 18, 2023
October 20, 2023
November 17, 2023
December 8, 2023

Membership

Darlene DeMarie, PhD, Co-Chair; Theresa Schmitz, PhD, CoChair; Laurie Cardona, PsyD; Sue Hobbs, PhD; Laura Dilly, PhD; Wendy Grolnick, PhD.

Statement of Diversity Representation within the Committee

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 (Cardona and Hobbs). 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 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, 22, 44, and 45.

Major Activities

There was a total of 23 activities that the Committee on Children, Youth and Families participated or initiated in 2023.

Table 1

Type of Activities	# of Activities
Presentations	0
Comments	12
Publications	0
Recognitions	2
Resolutions and Guidelines Creation/Development	0
Advocacy	1
Collaborative Meetings	8

Presentations

None

Comments

The Committee on Children, Youth and Families responds to request for comments to insure that children, youth and families issues are appropriately addressed.

Comm #1

APA BEA Racial Disparities Task Force Report: Racism and Bias: Their Role in Maintaining Racial Disparities in Education

Comm #2

Questions for President-elect candidates running in the 2023 election

Comm #3

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Summary & Trends Report: 2011-2021

Comm #4

Second edition of APA's Inclusive Language Guide

Comm #5

APA Guidelines for the Treatment of PTSD in Adults.

Comm #6

AHRQ Key questions on the management of suicidal thoughts in youth

Comm #7

APA Resolution to Support Parents with Disabilities

Comm #8

New rule on Head Start's Program Performance Standards

Comm #9

Resolution on Developmental Risks and Opportunities in Adolescent Employment

Comm #10

Resolution Opposing Involuntary Individual Isolation of Youth in Carceral and Detention Settings

Comm #11

2014 Edition of the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing

Comm #12

APA Advocacies Priorities

Publications

None

Recognitions

The Committee on Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) invites nominations for the APA annual award for early career and mid-career psychologists whose contributions benefit the psychological functioning or well-being of children, youth, and families.

Reg #1

2023 Early Career Award for Outstanding Contributions to Benefit Children, Youth and Families

*Ariana C. Hoet, PhD
Executive Clinical Director of On Our Sleeves
Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Department of Pediatric Psychology and Neuropsychology
Nationwide Children's Hospital and Ohio State University*

Reg #2

2023 Mid-Career Award for Outstanding Contributions to Benefit Children, Youth and Families

*Idia Binitie Thurston, PhD
Associate Professor
Texas A & M University, Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences*

Resolutions and Guidelines Creation/Development

None

Advocacy

CYF participated in the BSD advocacy trainings and developed their BSD initiative.

Collaborative Meetings

CYF partnered with the Coalition on Psychology in School and Education (CPSE) to develop implementation and professional development resources related to the CDC Educational Disparities self-reflection tool.

CM#1

CYF members met with CPSE members

CM#2

CYF members met with Division partners to discuss CPSE project

CM#3

Drs. Schmitz and Demarie met with board and committee chairs

CM#4

CYF met with APA Advocacy Partners

CM#5

CYF and Divisions 7, 16, 37, 43, 54 cosponsored the “Networking Together to Advance Children’s Mental Health and Well-Being Social Hour” during the 2023 APA Convention.

CM#6

CYF working group met with members from CPSE on October 20, 2023

CM#7

CYF working group met with members from CPSE on November 11, 2023

CM#8

Dr. Cardona represented CYF as the BSD Coordinator during committee meetings