

August 2018

- [Your Action Is Needed: Tell the Senate to Pass Legislation Addressing the Opioid Epidemic](#)
- [APA Advocacy - NIH Announces One-Year Delay in Implementation of Clinical Trials Policy](#)
- [Minority Fellowship Program Fellows Share Virtues of MFP with Congress](#)
- [APA Co-Hosts Congressional Briefing on 'Demystifying Gender Dysphoria'](#)
- [APA Expresses Support for International LGBTI Rights Legislation](#)
- [APA Submits Programs for Funding Eligibility Under New Child Welfare Law](#)
- [APA-Commissioned Report Addressing Supply and Demand of the Psychologist Workforce Released](#)
- [ICYMI: Psychologist Elizabeth Albro appointed Commissioner of IES's NCER Research Groups](#)
- [APA 2018: Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast](#)
- [APA 2018: Additional Highlights of Public Policy, Advocacy, and Related Sessions](#)
- [Federal Funding and Other Resources](#)

### Your Action Is Needed: Tell the Senate to Pass Legislation Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

Join APA in calling on the Senate to pass comprehensive legislation addressing the opioid crisis before Labor Day.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2016, more than 63,600 Americans died of a drug overdose — a staggering 21 percent increase above 2015. Approximately 174 Americans are dying daily from a drug overdose. The nation's drug epidemic remains an urgent and severe public health crisis requiring a comprehensive response that includes investments in prevention, treatment, recovery supports, overdose reversal, law enforcement, and criminal justice reform.

Throughout the year, APA has been advocating for legislation and [policy changes](#) that would



address the nation's growing opioid epidemic. Congress has yet to provide new services funding at levels commensurate with the unmet need for substance abuse treatment, however, it is considering a wide variety of policy and program changes aimed at addressing the crisis.

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the House of Representatives passed the "SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act," broad, bipartisan legislation that would improve access to care for individuals with substance use disorders, increase services and care coordination among providers, and promote the use of non-addictive interventions for the treatment and management of chronic pain.

While Senate committees have approved bills similar to those passed in the House, **time is running out** for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress to pass legislation to address the opioid crisis. **APA needs your help!** We need the Senate to pass its version of opioid legislation so that the House and Senate can resolve differences between their bills in time to enact legislation later this year.

[\*\*\*Take Action Now!\*\*\*](#)

### APA Advocacy - NIH Announces One-Year Delay in Implementation of Clinical Trials Policy

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced it will suspend enforcement of its recent clinical trial guidelines that classify much basic research with humans as "clinical trials" in response to advocacy from scientific organizations, including APA. The association has worked closely with sister scientific organizations including the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS) to encourage NIH to reconsider its requirements that represent a significant burden to many basic scientists. As reported in [Science](#), these organizations are continuing to push for basic science to be excluded from the definition of clinical trials. [Read more in APA Science Advocacy Blog.](#)



### Minority Fellowship Program Fellows Share Virtues of MFP with Congress

Twenty APA [Minority Fellowship Program](#) (MFP) fellows from ten states participated in 40 Congressional meetings intended to inform Members and their staff about the MFP and advocate for increased funding for the program on July 12<sup>th</sup>.



The MFP is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The program facilitates the recruitment and training of racial and ethnic minorities and individuals dedicated to minority behavioral health into careers in the behavioral health fields working with underserved populations. Before making their Capitol Hill visits, fellows participated in an APA staff-led advocacy training session. Afterward, in their meetings, fellows urged their representatives to support a funding level of \$13.7 million (\$1 million increase above the FY 2018 funding level) for the MFP program in FY 2019 and \$14 million (an increase of \$300 thousand) in FY 2020.

### **MFP Coalition**

Also, APA leads a government relations coalition on MFP that includes organizations receiving MFP support. In addition to responding to the President’s FY 2019 budget request to zero out the program’s budget, the coalition’s work includes meeting with the Administration as well as with Members of Congress. The response to these meetings has been encouraging. APA is hopeful that the MFP program’s funding will be sustained.

## APA Co-Hosts Congressional Briefing on ‘Demystifying Gender Dysphoria’

On July 20th, 2018, APA joined with the American Psychiatric Association to host a congressional briefing on “Demystifying Gender Dysphoria.” The briefing speakers included Beverly Fisher, MD; Michael Hendricks, PhD, ABPP; and Eric Yarbrough, MD. The panel focused on dispelling common myths and misconceptions about gender-diverse individuals from the perspective of experts within the fields of medicine, psychology, and psychiatry. They defined and clarified important concepts related to gender diversity; provided research highlighting the physical and psychological challenges faced by gender diverse individuals and ways that psychological science can be more inclusive of these populations; and offered examples of patients who have shown significant improvement in their mental health following gender-affirming surgeries.



## APA Expresses Support for International LGBTI Rights Legislation



APA sent a [letter](#) of support for the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2018 ([H.R. 6033](#), [S.3020](#)) to Representative Alan Lowenthal (D-CA) and Senator Edward Markey (D-MA), the lead sponsors of the legislation on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Act would enforce the protection and advancement of human rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) individuals internationally. The measure also authorizes U. S. officials to “provide assistance to prevent and respond” to criminalization, discrimination, and violence against these populations. In the letter, the association stressed that sexual and gender minorities around the world experience pervasive violence and discrimination, a violation of their human rights. Further, APA explained that exposure to discrimination, a chronic stressor, can harm physical and mental health.

## APA Submits Programs for Funding Eligibility Under New Child Welfare Law

On July 20, APA [responded](#) to a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) request for comments on a new clearinghouse of programs authorized under the recently enacted [Family First Prevention Services Act](#) (FFPSA) as part of the [Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018](#) (H.R. 1892). FFPSA is set to dramatically increase the availability of mental health, substance use, and parenting education services.

APA's comments respond to HHS' solicitation for feedback on evidence standards for programs to include in the clearinghouse as well as program nominations for the clearinghouse. APA designed a survey to gather input from APA and Division members on programs that should be included, performed an internal review to ensure a high likelihood of inclusion by HHS, and collated the

information for easy analysis by HHS.

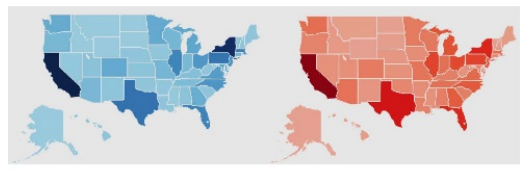
Further, APA signed on to [comments](#) authored by psychologists at the Penn State Center for Healthy Children addressing questions regarding evidence standards. The association will continue to share information about FFPSA implementation as the law fully comes online October 1, 2019.

## APA-Commissioned Report Addressing Supply & Demand of the Psychologist Workforce Released

### A Summary of Psychologist Workforce Projections:

Addressing Supply and Demand from 2015-2030

American Psychological Association  
Center for Workforce Studies  
July 2018



The first independent workforce analysis, *Psychologist Workforce Projections: Addressing Supply and Demand from 2015-30*, commissioned by the APA Center for Workforce Studies is now available. According to the report, psychologist workforce projections highlight insufficient supply to meet unmet need for mental health services.

The report has three key findings:

1. BY 2030, supply will meet or exceed baseline demand, demand under the Affordable Care Act, and demand in the geographic equivalence scenario.
2. There is an unmet need. Psychologist supply is insufficient to meet unmet need or demand in the racial/ethnic equivalence scenario.
3. There is a supply and demand gap. Increasing supply through more graduates and later retirement narrows but does not eliminate the gap between supply and demand.

Download the [summary](#). Additional information, including fact sheets, are available on the [APA website](#).

- [Supply Scenarios for the Psychologist Workforce](#)
- [Demand Scenarios for the Psychologist Workforce](#) (
- [Geographic Equivalence](#)
- [Racial/Ethnic Equivalence](#)
- [Unmet Need](#)
- [Demand Across Age Groups](#)

- [Demand Across Racial/Ethnic Groups](#)
- [Demand Within the Hispanic Population](#)
- [Demand Within the Black/African-American Population](#)
- [Demand by Employment Setting](#)
- [Geographic Patterns in Supply and Demand](#)
- [Data Sources](#)

## ICYMI: Elizabeth Albro appointed Commissioner of IES's NCER Research Groups



Elizabeth Albro

In case you missed it, Psychologist, Elizabeth Albro, PhD, was recently appointed the Commissioner of the [National Center for Education Research](#) (NCER) within the [Institute of Education Sciences](#) (IES) in the U.S. Department of Education. She is currently leading the Department's efforts on public access and open science. Dr. Albro previously served as Acting Commissioner for Education Research in 2011-2013. She began her time at IES in 2002 through the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy Fellowship program. Before joining IES, Dr. Albro was a professor at Whittier College and Wheaton College where she taught child development and education to prospective elementary and secondary school teachers.

Dr. Albro's 15-year tenure at IES extends to her early work as a program officer managing the Cognition and Student Learning and Reading and Writing research portfolios. She also served in the role of Associate Commissioner of NCER's Teaching and Learning Division for the past 11 years, where she oversaw several large-scale research efforts, including the Reading for Understanding Research Initiative, the National Research and Development Center on Cognition and Mathematics Instruction, and the Early Learning Network.

## APA 2018: Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast

Have an interest in APA's advocacy on behalf of education? [Join us for breakfast in San Francisco!](#)

A promotional poster for the APA 2018 Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast. The poster features a black and red color scheme. At the top right, 'APA 2018' is written in large, bold, red letters. Below this, the title 'Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast' is written in white on a black background. The location and date are listed: 'Marriott Marquis Yerba Buena Salons 10 &amp; 11' and 'Saturday, August 11 7:30 - 9:00 am'. The main topic is 'Federal Support for Graduate Study: Expanding Access and Serving Our National Needs'. A paragraph of text describes the discussion: 'Join us for a discussion on protecting the federal investment in graduate study and the critical role of advocacy in preserving the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program.' At the bottom right, there is a red triangle containing the APA logo and the text 'AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION'. At the bottom center, the text 'RSVP Here' is written in bold black letters.

Don't miss these advocacy sessions at APA 2018. Learn more about APA advocacy and how you can get involved in public policy. ([Additional highlights here](#)).

**Invited Address: Ask NIH – Program Officers from NIMH and NIDA Discuss Funding Priorities and More! (1122)**

**Thursday, August 9**  
**10:00am – 10:50am**  
**Moscone Center**  
Level 3 – West Bldg.  
Room 3004

**Participants:**

**Julia L. Zehr, PhD**, and **Joel Sherill, PhD**, National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
**Eve E. Reider, PhD**, and **Mary Rooney, PhD**, National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)  
**Belinda E. Sims, PhD**, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

---

**Symposium: U.S. Government Update – Psychology, Politics, and Policy During the Trump Presidency (1249)**

**Thursday, August 9**  
**1:00pm – 1:50pm**  
**Moscone Center**  
Upper Mezzanine – South Bldg.  
Room 154

**Chair:**

**Douglas Walter, JD**, APA

**Discussants:**

**Lindsey R. Buckman, PsyD**, Independent Practice, Phoenix, AZ  
**Jared L. Skillings, PhD**, APA

---

**Symposium: Now, More Than Ever, APA Policy Fellowships in a New Federal Landscape (2243)**

**Friday, August 10**  
**2:00pm – 2:50pm**  
**Moscone Center**  
Upper Mezzanine – South Bldg.  
Room 159

**Co-Chairs:**

**Craig Fisher, PsyD**, and **Gabriel Twose, PhD**, APA

**Participants:**

**Amanda M. Dettmer, PhD**, Institute of Education Sciences  
**Meghann Galloway, PhD, JD**, Washington, DC  
**Laura Knudtson, PhD**, Washington, DC

## **Symposium: Getting Involved in the Policy Process – Challenges, Successes, and Strategies (3147)**

**Saturday, August 11**

**10:00am – 10:50am**

**Moscone Center**

Upper Mezzanine – South Bldg.

Room 156

**Chair:**

**Patrick H. DeLeon, PhD, JD**, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS)

**Participants:**

**Jennifer F. Kelly, PhD, ABPP**, Atlanta Center for Behavioral Medicine

**Le Ondra Clark Harvey, PhD**, Independent Practice. Sacramento, California

**Discussant:**

**Fernanda P. De Oliveira, BA**, USUHS

---

## **Symposium: Psychology's Voice At the Table – Psychologists As Advocates and Elected Officials (3154)**

**Saturday, August 11**

**10:00 - 11:50am**

**Moscone Center**

Level 3 – South Bldg.

Room 306

**Chair:**

**Bobbie Celeste, PhD**, Independent Practice, Columbus, OH

**Participants:**

**\*Alan Lowenthal, U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA)**

**John Lee Evans, PhD**, San Diego Unified School District

**Laurel Stine, JD**, APA

**Jorge Wong, PhD**, Palo Alto University

---

## **Symposium: Title IX and Public Policy – Implications in Legislation, Education, and Sport (3192)**

**Saturday, August 11**

**11:00am – 11:50am**

**Moscone Center**

Level 3 – West Bldg.

Room 3008

**Chair:**

**Patrick H. DeLeon, PhD, JD**, USUHS

**Participants:**

**Colleen M. Hacker, PhD**, and **Mallory E. Mann, PhD**, Pacific Lutheran University

---

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

**Department of Education**

- [Grants and Funding](#)

**Health Resources & Services Administration**

- [Grants and Cooperative Agreements](#)
- [Faculty Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [ACF Funds Improving Rural Child Welfare](#)
- [Suicide Prevention in Rural Populations](#)
- [Responding to Emerging Agricultural Health Threats](#)
- [Call for Grant Reviewers](#)

**National Institutes of Health**

- [Grants and Funding](#)
- [Research Training and Career Development Programs](#)
- [NIMH Programs to Enhance Workforce Diversity](#)
- [Public Health Response - Prescription Drug and Heroin Epidemic](#)

**National Science Foundation**

- [Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Graduate Research Fellowship Program \(GRFP\)](#)

**Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**

- [Funding Opportunities](#)

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

- [Grant Announcements and Awards](#)
- [Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information Related to Mental and Substance Use Disorders](#)
- [\(FY\) 2018 Tribal Opioid Response grants](#)
- [Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders Grant Program](#)

**Subscribe** to receive *News and Alerts* from the **APA Federal Action Network**

We'll keep you updated on important legislative issues impacting Psychology on Capitol Hill.