

July 2018

- [APA Responds to Administration’s Family Separation and Detention at the U.S. Southern Border](#)
- [Annual FEDAC Summit Held; Psychologists Advocate for Behavioral Health Workforce](#)
- [Congress Begins FY 2019 Appropriations Process; GPE, NIH, and NSF to Receive Increased Funding](#)
- [APA Joins Community in Support of PREMIE Reauthorization Act](#)
- [ICYMI: New CDC Report Revealing Stark Disparities Among Vulnerable Groups](#)
- [APA 2018: Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast](#)
- [Federal Funding and Other Resources – \*Note Approaching DEADLINES\*](#)

### APA Responds to Administration’s Family Separation and Detention at the U.S. Southern Border

The Administration’s policy on border crossings continues to evolve, and as such, APA remains at the forefront of the battle to protect immigrant children and their families. In response, APA CEO Arthur C. Evans, Jr., PhD., [sent a letter](#) on June 14<sup>th</sup> to President Trump expressing the associations' deep concern following the Administration’s policy of separating children from their parents at the border.

APA President Jessica Henderson Daniel, PhD, [issued a statement](#) expressing relief at the President’s decision to end his policy of separating immigrant children from their parents while at the same time voicing serious concern over the fate of already-separated children and the harms posed by indefinite detention on June 20<sup>th</sup>. In an interview with [Time magazine](#), APA’s Past President Antonio E. Puentes, PhD, pointed out “The longer a child is separated, the worse the situation becomes. This is often hidden initially and becomes more complicated as time evolves, only to emerge in other times of crisis or, for that matter, in adulthood.”



Dr. Evans [participated in a press conference](#) with House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) on June 21<sup>st</sup>. He proposed four guiding principles for immigration policy:

- Keep families together;
- Base services for children and families on trauma-informed care research;
- Provide culturally competent mental health services; and
- Apply the same standards of care to immigrant children in U.S. custody as for children in the child welfare system.

### Legislative Activities

On the legislative front, APA is actively tracking immigration bills with a focus on proposals under consideration in the House. The House recently rejected H.R. 4760, [Securing America's Future Act of 2018](#), introduced by Rep. Goodlatte (R-VA). Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Rep. Goodlatte are currently negotiating a second draft bill (the bill number is not yet available) with the House leadership.

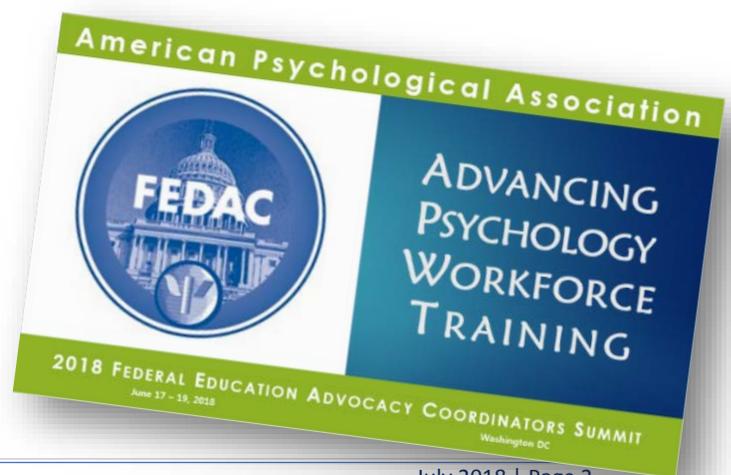


APA issued an [action alert](#) to the APA Federal Action Network (FAN) encouraging them to write their members of Congress in opposition to the bills. Neither bill protects Dreamers nor does enough to keep families together. APA is also monitoring immigration bills in the Senate. The Association will continue its collaboration with other organizations to emphasize psychological research that promotes keeping families together and minimizing the psychological toll exacted on immigrant children and families.

The association's next steps on the immigration front include continuing to focus media attention and public concern towards this issue. APA will also continue to engage public officials, including sending a letter to the Secretary of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar regarding APA's concern over the mental health care of immigrant children in U.S. custody. [Read more.](#)

## Annual FEDAC Summit Held; Participants Advocate for Behavioral Health Workforce Programs

Psychologists from 24 states participated in the June [Federal Education Advocacy Coordinators](#) (FEDAC) Annual Summit. The Summit focused on strengthening the psychology workforce by advocating for increased federal funding for the [Graduate Psychology Education](#) (GPE) and Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) programs. The GPE program provides grants to doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral programs to train health service psychologists in integrated care settings. The BHWET program provides grants to train the full continuum of behavioral health paraprofessionals and professionals, including health service psychologists to expand the behavioral health



workforce. Summit participants included FEDACs, along with GPE and BHWET grantees.

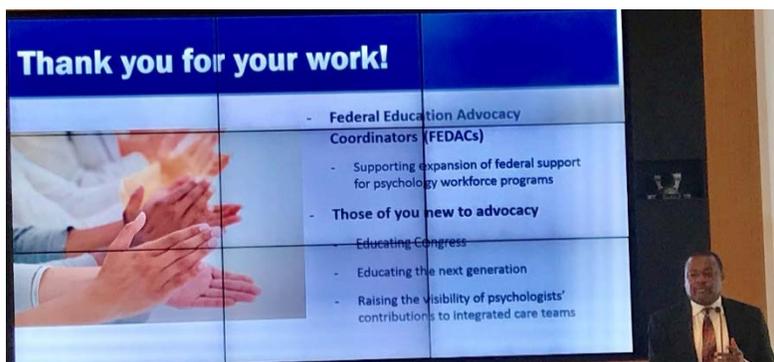
On the first day of the Summit, participants received advocacy training to prepare for their Congressional visits. They were joined by APA's CEO, **Arthur C. Evans, Jr., PhD**, who spoke about the association's commitment to advocacy efforts in an ever-changing political climate. APA's Executive Director for Education **Jim Diaz-Granados, PhD**, and Deputy Executive Director for Education **Cathi Grus, PhD**, facilitated a conversation designed to identify challenges for institutions obtaining these grants along with potential ways for APA to assist.



The following day, participants headed to the Hill to speak with their senators and representatives about the importance of these critical investments in the GPE and BHWET programs.

They encouraged Congress to increase the funding available for the GPE and BHWET programs in Fiscal Year 2019. On the same day, nearly 400 members of the Education Advocacy Grassroots Network and FAN contacted their own congressional delegations in support of the programs via an accompanying [action alert](#).

Later that week, the House Labor, HHS Subcommittee proposed a record high of \$24.9 million for GPE in FY 2019 and \$82 million for BHWET. Thank you to all of those who took action and made a difference last month!



## Congress Makes Progress on FY 2019 Appropriations Bills; GPE, NIH, and NSF to Receive Increased Funding

### Labor, HHS Funding Bill Advances in Both Chambers; NIH Receives \$2 Billion Increase, GPE Receives \$16 Million Increase

#### *National Institutes of Health, Fighting Opioid Abuse*

The House Appropriations Subcommittee approved its version of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 funding bill for the Departments of Labor-Health and Human Services and Education on June 15. The budget [blog](#) from the Science Government Relations Office outlines the bill's research provisions, including the distribution of the bill's \$1.25 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Senate



Appropriations Committee marked up its version on June 26. It provided NIH \$39.1 billion, a \$2 billion increase. The Senate also provided \$3.7 billion (\$145 million increase) to fight opioid abuse targeting funds towards “improving treatment and prevention efforts; finding alternative pain medications; workforce needs, especially in ...rural communities; and behavioral health.” The bill further provides \$3.4 billion (\$195 million increase) for mental health treatment, prevention, and behavioral research.

### ***GPE and BHWET Programs Receive Increases from House Subcommittee***

The House recommended \$24.9 million, a \$16 million increase, for the Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) inter-professional Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Program. The goal of the program is “to increase the number of health service psychologists trained to provide integrated services to high-need, underserved populations in rural and urban communities.” Meanwhile, the Senate allocated level funding of \$36.9 to HRSA’s Mental and Behavioral Health Account without specifying how much would go to GPE.

For HRSA’s Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Grant (BHWET) Program, the House recommended \$82.5 million, a \$6.5 million increase, while the Senate proposed \$75 million. The BHWET program “establishes or expands internships or field placement programs in behavioral health serving populations in rural and medically underserved areas.” Final funding levels will not be determined until these differences are resolved as the appropriations process continues.

### ***A Boost for Student Support Grants***

Both the House and Senate bills include increases for the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants program. These funds, distributed by formula to States and local educational agencies (LEAs), must be used for well-rounded education,

student health and safety, and technology. The \$1.2 billion proposed by the House and the \$1.225 billion proposed by the Senate are increases from the \$1.1 billion provided in FY 2018.

### ***Public Service Loan Forgiveness***

The Senate bill also includes \$350 million to support certain Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) borrowers who may have enrolled in an ineligible repayment plan but otherwise would have been eligible for the PSLF program. The funds and accompanying authority extend the [Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Repayment](#) (TEPSLF) program established in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 ([Public Law 115-141](#)). The Senate report also includes language directing the Department to provide a biannual

report to key Committees of Congress on the PSLF and TEPSLF programs in hopes of providing greater transparency on who this program is serving and how it is working in practice. Thank you to the nearly 1,600 APA Federal Action Network advocates who have [contacted](#) Congress to express their support for PSLF.

The House full Appropriations Committee is expected to consider its version of the bill after the July 4<sup>th</sup> recess.

## **House and Senate Appropriations Committees Approve NSF Funding Bills for FY 2019; Research Receives Increase**

Both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees reported their bills for FY 2019 National Science Foundation (NSF) funding for full consideration by their respective chambers. Significantly, the Senate bill clarifies that funding for the *10 Big Ideas* -- NSF’s long-term research initiatives focused on addressing vital national priorities and promoting interdisciplinary work, increasingly framed as “convergence” -- should not take funding from NSF’s existing core programmatic research. Further, Senate Appropriators specified that

“NSF shall maintain its core research at levels not less than those provided in fiscal year 2017,” thus, protecting the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at NSF from potential politically-motivated cuts.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations allocated \$8.1 billion to NSF, or \$301 million (3.9 percent) above the FY 2018 level and \$597 million (8 percent) above the President’s Budget request. For research and related activities, the bill provides \$6.6 billion, \$222 million (3.5 percent) above the current funding level of \$6.3 billion. The accompanying report language specifies this funding level “will allow NSF to provide more grants to highly competitive research projects and help provide opportunities to prepare the next generation of STEM leaders.”

The House Committee on Appropriations allocated \$8.2 billion to NSF, \$408 million (5.2 percent) above the FY 2018 level and \$704 million (9.4 percent) above the President’s Budget request. It funds the research and related activities at \$6.7 billion, \$317 million (5 percent) above the current level of \$6.3 billion. According to report language accompanying the bill, Members specified that such funding is aimed at “fostering innovation and U.S. economic competitiveness, including funding for research on advanced manufacturing, physics, mathematics, cybersecurity, neuroscience, and STEM education.”

### APA Joins Community in Support of PREEMIE Reauthorization Act

In June, APA joined with advocacy partners in signing letters of [support](#) for [S. 3029](#) and [H.R. 6085](#), the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act.

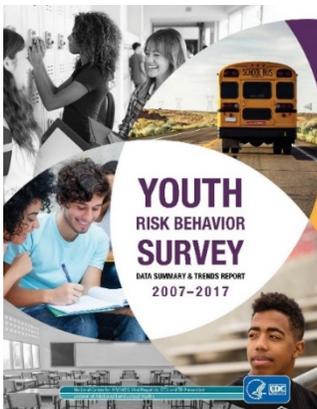
Originally enacted during the 109th Congress, the legislation was the first to focus on prevention of preterm births. Reauthorization of the legislation was spurred by reports showing recent increases in preterm births after a period of decline, and disturbing disparities in both preterm births

and maternal mortality data, with Black women experiencing preterm birth rates more than 50 percent higher than white women.

In addition to supporting data collection, the PREEMIE Act also promotes interventions and community initiatives to prevent preterm births, including screening for maternal depression and other health concerns.

### ICYMI (In Case You Missed It): New CDC Report Revealing Stark Disparities Among Vulnerable

#### APA Disseminates New CDC Report Revealing Stark Disparities Among Vulnerable Groups



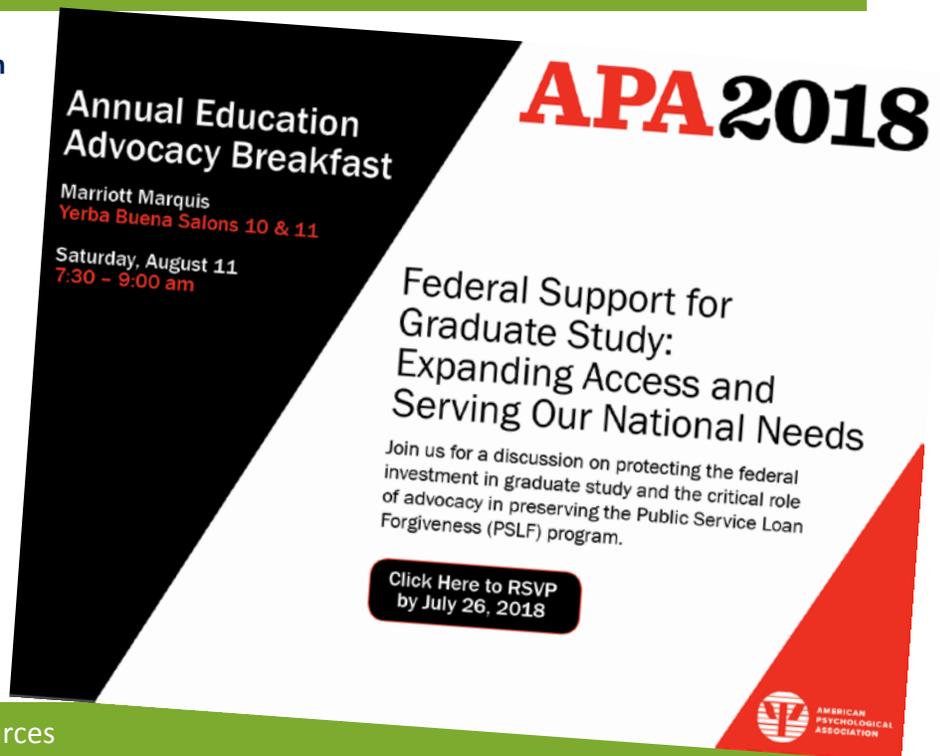
American youth face unequal risk to their health and well-being, according to a May 2018 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report. The [Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(YRBS\) Data Summary and Trends Report 2007 -2017](#) summarized data over a ten year period across the priority areas of sexual behavior, high-risk substance use, sexual behavior, violence and victimization, as well as mental health and suicide. The 2017 YRBS reports high school students are making better decisions about sexual behaviors. For example, the percentage of high school students who report that they have ever had sex declined from 47.8 percent in 2007 to 39.5 percent in 2017. However, the percentage of students who reported using a condom during the last time they had sexual intercourse declined from 61.5 percent to 53.8 percent during the same timeframe.

While the national picture is improving in many areas, there are still groups of vulnerable youth experiencing unacceptable levels of poor mental health, violence, and sexual risk. For example, the percentage of students

who reported ever using select illicit drugs is down -- one in seven, or 14 percent, of high school students reported misusing prescriptions opioids in 2017. The report also highlights health disparities based on [sex](#), [race/ethnicity](#), and [sexual identity/same-sex contact](#).

## APA 2018: Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast

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



**Annual Education Advocacy Breakfast**  
Marriott Marquis  
Yerba Buena Salons 10 & 11  
Saturday, August 11  
7:30 - 9:00 am

**APA 2018**

**Federal Support for Graduate Study: Expanding Access and Serving Our National Needs**

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.

Click Here to RSVP by July 26, 2018

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

## Federal Funding and Other Resources

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [CDC Funding for Public Health Crisis Response](#)

### Department of Education

- [Applications for New Awards; Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs](#) - July 27

### Health Resources & Services Administration

- [Grants and Cooperative Agreements](#)
- [Faculty Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [HRSA Invites Applications for National Health Service Corps Sites](#)
- [Assistance for Applicants to RCORP-TA](#)

### National Institutes of Health

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

### National Science Foundation

- [Funding Opportunities](#)

### Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

- [Funding Opportunities](#)

### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

- [Grant Announcements and Awards](#)
- [Key Components of Behavioral Health Integration](#)

**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. If you have questions or want additional information, contact us at [GRO@apa.org](mailto:GRO@apa.org)