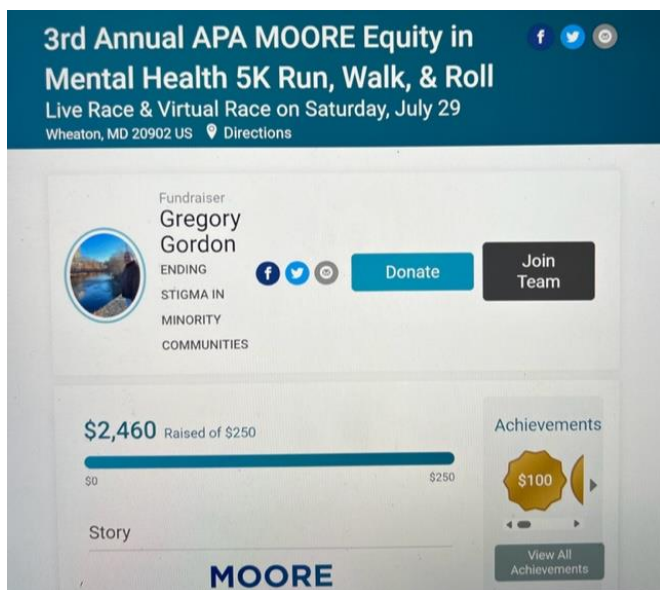


E-Update July 28, 2023



Medical leadership for mind, brain and body.

The weekly E-update is the tool by which MPA members can share information or announcements with each other. It is a member benefit and the mechanism by which MPA shares important notices regarding trends in psychiatry, pharmaceutical updates, information about your medical practice, advocacy, your opinions, and job opportunities. Members are encouraged to make the content their own. Please submit items for weekly publication by Thursday at 5pm. Your email addresses are protected by the DB and not for sale or use by any other entity besides the DB. Content should be pertinent to the practice of psychiatry or related medical information. Review the E-update highlighted titles and attachments for content and action steps. We value your input and attention to your specialty! Any item that appears in **royal blue** contains a link for detailed information on the topic. Questions regarding membership status are referred to our APA Membership Coordinator, Doneisha Berryman. Please contact Doneisha at 202-459-9749 or [dberryman@psych.org](mailto:dberryman@psych.org).



**The Moore Equity in Mental Health 5K to benefit the APA Foundation is Saturday MPA Member Dr. Gregory Gordon of Brandon is currently Top Individual Fundraiser**

The APA's Division of Diversity and Health Equity invited MPA members to join them in combating mental health inequities facing young people of color and in honoring mental health advocate Bebe Moore Campbell. Dr. Gregory Gordon of Brandon, MS took that to heart with his tagline of "Ending Stigma in Minority Communities." As of Thursday, at noon, Dr. Gordon is the top individual fundraiser for the entire race as an individual. Let's support his efforts and donate to this worthy cause. Follow the link shared in blue to donate to his efforts.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Donate/MD/Wheaton/APAMOOREEquityinMentalHealth5KFunds>

raised benefit the APA Foundation Moore Equity in Mental Health Community Grants Program, which supports community organizations that have undertaken innovative awareness programs and/or have provided services to improve the mental health of young people of color.

Get Social! As you run, walk and roll be sure to share to social media and use our hashtags!

#MooreEquityInMentalHealth #BebeMooreCampbell

Continue Your Fundraising Until July 31st! Funds benefit [the APAF Moore Equity in Mental Health Community Grants Program](#). Read more about your impact by [clicking here](#)

## July 2023 Advocacy Update from the APA

The last few months have seen significant movement across a broad array of issues. Learn more by reading the full [July 2023 Advocacy Update](#).

### APA Supports Mental Health Services for Students Act

On May 25, APA signed a [letter of support](#) for [H.R. 3713](#), the Mental Health Services for Students Act. This bill provides on-site school and community-based mental health services and provides funding for schools to build partnerships with health care providers, welfare agencies, and other services. [Click here to read more.](#)

### APA Participates in House Call on the Mall

On June 6, APA President Petros Levounis, M.D., M.A., and APAPAC Board Chair Brian Hart, M.D., took part in the National Republican Campaign Committee's (NRCC) annual lobbying event with the congressional Doctors Caucus. [Click here to read more.](#)

### APA Sends Workforce Letter of Support to HELP Committee

On June 27, APA [sent a letter](#) to the Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee in support of the Committee's continued efforts to address the healthcare workforce shortage, expressing support for several initiatives. [Click here to read more.](#)

### APA Responds to ONC's Health Data, Technology, and Interoperability (HTI-1) Proposed Rule

On June 20, APA sent a [letter](#) to the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) applauding the office's efforts to improve the accountability and transparency of health IT products to customers, regulators, and policymakers. Proposed approaches include additions to certification standards for health IT developers to document the usability and interoperability of certified products. [Click here to read more.](#)

### Enhanced HIPAA Protections for Sensitive Data

APA sent a [letter](#) to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights supporting the strong privacy protections for patients, clinicians, and those facilitating lawful reproductive health care, further encouraging HHS to expand the proposed rule to other types of highly sensitive protected health information (PHI) including gender affirming and sexual health care. [Click here to read more.](#)

### Support for Expansion of SUD Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment

On June 16, APA [responded](#) to an Information Collection Request (ICR) from the Health Resources and Services Administration regarding the Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program (STAR LRP) and the Pediatric Speciality Loan Repayment Program. This program is an important tool in incentivizing physicians to enter the mental health and substance-use treatment workforce. [Click here to read more.](#)

### Biden Administration Continues Efforts to Address Medicaid Access Challenges

In response to proposed rules intending to improve quality and access to Medicaid care, APA responded by supporting proposals to add appointment wait time standards, secret shopper studies, enrollee experience surveys, and improved transparency requirements. [Click here to read more.](#)

### APA Urges CMS to Adopt Policies to Increase Reimbursement for Care in Inpatient Psychiatric and Acute Care Hospitals

[APA responded](#) to two CMS proposals regarding payment and quality measurement in the inpatient setting, urging CMS to refine their policies to ensure that payments made are sufficient to cover the increasing cost to provide inpatient care. [Click here to read more.](#)

### **Ohio Patient Safety Victory**

The Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Association (OPPA), in conjunction with the Ohio State Medical Association, lobbied throughout this year's legislative session against legislation that would have created a new health care practitioner license for "Certified Mental Health Assistants" (CMHAs). [Click here to read more.](#)

### **Oregon's Psilocybin Policy Implementation Highlights Gaps in Evidence**

In 2020, Oregon became the first state to decriminalize the manufacturing and administration of psilocybin at licensed facilities. [A recent editorial in the Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law](#) summarized the risks to patient safety the current implementation is exposing. [Click here to read more.](#)

### **Oklahoma Governor Signs Collaborative Care Legislation Into Law**

Governor Stitt signed SB 444 into law on June 9. [SB 444](#) requires insurers to reimburse Collaborative Care codes for both private insurance and Medicaid. [Click here to read more.](#)

### **Biden Administration Announces New Rules Meant to Push Insurance Companies to Increase Coverage of Mental Health Treatments**

According to the [AP](#) (7/25, Megerian, Miller), on July 25, the Biden Administration "announced new rules meant to push insurance companies to increase their coverage of mental health treatments." These "new regulations, which still need to go through a public comment period, would require insurers to study whether their customers have equal access to medical and mental health benefits and to take remedial action, if necessary." Were the rules to be finalized, they "would force insurers to study patient outcomes to ensure the benefits are administered equally, taking into account their" clinician "network and reimbursement rates and whether prior authorization is required for care."

[Reuters](#) (7/25, Holland) reports, "The administration...will release the text of a proposed rule change to the 2008 Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act," that "would also provide specific examples that make clear that health plans cannot use more restrictive prior authorization, other medical management techniques or narrower networks that make it harder for people to access mental health and substance use disorder benefits." The proposed rule change text "will be open to public comment for 60 days and administration officials said they expected it would go into effect sometime afterward."

### **MPA President Announces New Executive Council for 2023-2025**

Dr. Philip Merideth MPA President, is pleased to announce the following elected members of the 2023-2025 MPA Executive Council to include President-Elect, *Dr. Katherine Pannel*; Secretary, *Dr. Chanda Miller*; Treasurer, *Dr. Finn Perkins*; APA Assembly Reps, *Doctors Chasity Torrence and Jon Jackson*, Immediate Past President.

MPA Committee Chairs appointed by the President include Private Practice Cte, *Dr. Andy Bishop*; Child & Adolescent Cte, *Dr. Jonathan Baker*; Membership, *Dr. Mark Ladner*; Ethics and Bylaws, *Dr. Clyde Glenn*; The MPA Journal Editor, *Dr. John Wilkaitis*; Early Career Psychiatry, *Dr. Seth Kalin*; CME Cte, *Dr. Phil Scurria*; Disaster Cte, *Dr. Jahan Khan*; Resident Liaison *Dr. Mimi Pham*, UMMC and *Dr. Kirolos Adly*, MSH: CAC Rep, *Dr. Philip Merideth*.

Now is the time to volunteer to serve one of the committees above that may be of interest to you. Please email [mpa39206@aol.com](mailto:mpa39206@aol.com) and indicate your willingness to serve on a committee.

The choices include Legislation, Membership, Ethics, Private Practice, Child and Adolescent, Early Career Psychiatry (ECP), Disaster and The Journal of the MPA.

**APA Fellowship Applications Now Accepted** If you have been on the fence about applying for APA Fellowship, MPA encourages you to do so this year, if you are eligible. Members submit their own applications to become a Fellow of the APA. APA will be reaching out to eligible members through August 2023. Simply follow the link below and fill out the application. It will not take you long and you can become a part of this esteemed group. **FAPA Application Link (also available on APA website):** <https://fapa.psychiatry.org/>

### **Past and Upcoming Trainings from the APA Communications Team:**

Thanks to all who have attended the first three webinars on communications! These are hosted the second Tuesday of every other month at 3 pm Eastern, as live and recorded webinars. These are open to any APA member, but specifically geared to those who are active in their DB/SAs.

*Next up:*

Effective Opinion Writing

This training will cover the basics of opinion writing as well as options for publication: op-eds, letters to the editor, LinkedIn, etc.

Tuesday, August 8, 3 pm-4 pm Eastern

Register:

[https://psychiatry-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkfu2gpzMtHdBRQVzfQcX5o\\_6LXY0-YGLv](https://psychiatry-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkfu2gpzMtHdBRQVzfQcX5o_6LXY0-YGLv)

*Recordings:*

[Social Media for Organized Psychiatry](#): Passcode: q3tf@A##

[APA Storytelling for Communications](#): Passcode: 0N?7DHc=

[Media Relations 101 with Senior Media Relations Manager Erin Connors](#)

### **UPDATE ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN:**

You may have heard that President Petros Levounis, M.D., M.A., is focused [on addiction for his presidential year](#). APA will be covering Vaping, Opioids, Alcohol, and Technology in the coming months with public education materials.

**Vaping materials for the public are available here—please share!**

Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3jtG1pi22M> (English)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKp\\_JJ9oP5s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKp_JJ9oP5s) (Spanish)

Blog: <https://www.psychiatry.org/News-room/APA-Blogs/Vaping-is-Unhealthy-Tips-and-Resources-to-Help-Qui>

New Informational Website: <https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/e-cigarettes-and-vaping>

Infographics: [https://americanpsych-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/vtitterton\\_psych\\_org/EmjM-Az4aQIJsauCCoF9OMoBFpXuuoaoOcNY3Mc2Fq26Chw?e=4jcQAe](https://americanpsych-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/vtitterton_psych_org/EmjM-Az4aQIJsauCCoF9OMoBFpXuuoaoOcNY3Mc2Fq26Chw?e=4jcQAe)

Materials on Opioids are in development for release in September, Recovery Month.

## JOIN APA'S SPEAKER'S BUREAU

APA is seeking members who are active in the association to join APA's Speaker's Bureau. The Speaker's Bureau is aimed at diversifying and broadening APA's bench of public-facing experts. In addition to traditional media requests, APA has a number of other opportunities available for members who are willing to share their expertise. [Fill out the form here](#) to participate in the APA Speaker's Bureau. Please contact us ([vtitterton@psych.org](mailto:vtitterton@psych.org)) with any questions you may have.

## THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT: PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Written by  
Professional Risk Management Services® (PRMS®)

1. All policies will contain a list of activities the liability for which will be excluded from coverage. Typical exclusions include: acts of fraud or criminal activity, business ventures, sexual misconduct, etc. Exclusions may also include specific procedures or practice at certain locations.
2. Insurance policies will also list conditions which must be met by the insured. Failure to meet these conditions will be deemed a breach and can result in termination of the insurance contract by the carrier. These conditions typically include requirements that the insured: pay the premium, notify the carrier of claims, assist in the defense of the claim/cooperate with the carrier, and notify the carrier of practice changes.
3. Aside and apart from reviewing policy language, it's a good idea to know something about the company itself starting first with financial viability. Take a look at AM Best and other ratings to ensure that the company is stable. You might also want to review your state's insurance department website to see whether any complaints have been made against the company.

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**Twitter Accounts of Interest** Main account: [@APAPsychiatric](https://twitter.com/APAPsychiatric)

□ Healthy Minds: [@APAHealthyMinds](https://twitter.com/APAHealthyMinds)



- MPA Main account: [@MSPsychiatrist](#)

### Facebook Pages of Interest

- Main account: [American Psychiatric Association](#)
- Healthy Minds: [APA Healthy Minds](#)
- MPA Main Account: [Mississippi Psychiatric Association](#)

### LinkedIn

- [American Psychiatric Association](#)
- [Mississippi Psychiatric Association](#)

### DMH 52 Weeks of Progress

Each week this year, DMH will be highlighting a specific service or program to increase awareness of services and supports available across Mississippi. Our hope is by the end of 2023, you will know more about offerings in your state through seeing these highlights - 52 Weeks of Progress.

**This week, we highlight HIV efforts through *Put Your Foot Down, Mississippi*.**

The *Put Your Foot Down, Mississippi* campaign is in partnership with the Mississippi State Department of Health. It is a call to all Mississippians to take steps toward ending the misconceptions surrounding HIV/AIDS by educating themselves, getting tested to know their status, protecting themselves proactively against HIV, and doing their part to stop the spread. The efforts focus on encouraging people to engage with content that will help strengthen understanding about HIV/AIDS from a scientific perspective, how it spreads, and practical ways to protect yourself and those you love. DMH provides federal funding to offer HIV testing in substance use treatment programs. You can find facts, testing locations, other resources, and more at [www.putyourfootdownms.com](http://www.putyourfootdownms.com) or by following the campaign on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PutYourFootDownMS](http://www.facebook.com/PutYourFootDownMS).

### What's New at the APA

- APA released a statement in response to a Supreme Court ruling in *Students for Fair Admissions v. President and Fellows of Harvard College and Students for Fair Admissions v. University of North Carolina* that struck down affirmative action. The statement supports a race-conscious approach to college admissions as an effective tool for assembling a diverse mental health work force. You can read the full [APA statement on the affirmative action decision here](#).
- The APA Foundation earned three Gold Telly Awards for an educational video promoting the Notice. Talk. Act.® program. The official award titles are Gold Telly for Social Video – Not for Profit, Gold Telly for Social Video – Social Impact, and Gold Telly for Social Video – Workplace Culture. The Telly Awards have been recognizing excellence in digital storytelling for over 15 years. You can read more about the foundation's Gold Telly Awards [here](#).

### Videos for Sharing:

APA's [Youtube channel](#) has a plethora of mental health focused videos you can use on social media or share elsewhere. Check out our playlist of Spanish language mental health explainers: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyBKDUY3d-c&list=PLf3-c0tpWquvGObSROanF\\_Eb6jqS0eR2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyBKDUY3d-c&list=PLf3-c0tpWquvGObSROanF_Eb6jqS0eR2)

## **July Course of the Month – Anxiety Disorders Treatment: Current State and Future Promise**

This course will review anxiety disorders, discuss changes as we move from DSM-5 to DSM-5 TR and any implications this may have for diagnosis of these syndromes, discuss an approach to conceptualizing how the social determinants of health and mental health may impact the treatment of anxiety disorders, discuss treatment options, evidence-based psychotherapies, the value of pharmacological strategies, and explore how new technologies may play a disruptive influence on how we recognize people at risk for developing these syndromes – potentially extending our treatment options.

[Click here to access the Course of the Month and sign up for updates about this free member benefit.](#)

## **2023 APA Annual Meeting Virtual Courses Available**

These four-hour online courses are led by experts on major topics in psychiatry. They offer a comprehensive approach to learning using various formats, from interactive self-paced modules to virtual skill-building instruction featuring live case presentations and breakout groups. [REGISTER HERE.](#)

## **Submit Abstracts for APA's 2024 Annual Meeting**

Abstract submissions are now being accepted for APA's 2024 Annual Meeting, which will take place May 4 to 8 in New York, N.Y. The theme of the meeting is "Confronting Addiction: From Prevention to Treatment." Submit your ideas for general sessions, courses, and posters to the biggest psychiatric meeting of the year. [LEARN MORE](#)

## **Registration Now Open for 2023 Mental Health Services Conference**

The Mental Health Services Conference will be held in Washington, D.C., on Thursday, October 12, through Saturday, October 14. Roll your sleeves up and learn, collaborate on new solutions, and network with other colleagues who care for those with mental illness. [REGISTER TODAY](#)

## **Nominations Now Open for APA Components and Board of Trustees**

APA's success hinges on the expertise, knowledge, and input of its members. Learn more about APA leadership opportunities and nominate yourself or a colleague by Tuesday, August 15, for component service and Friday, September 1, for the Board of Trustees. [LEARN MORE](#)