

APA President-elect Candidate Statement –CAF Caucus

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At Boston Children's Hospital (BCH), I direct the APA-approved training program in the Department of Psychiatry and serve as Associate Director of the LEAH (Leadership Education in Adolescent Health) Training Program in the Division of Adolescent Medicine. My career has focused on education, training and mentoring. I also hold an academic appointment as Associate Professor in Psychology, in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

I have supervised psychology interns and post-doc fellows since obtaining my psychology license in 1977. In this role, I have encouraged both interns and fellows to pursue their interests in psychology which have included practice, research, education and policy. The majority of our graduates who pursue practice careers tend to work in academic medical centers or community agencies.

Over the years, I have written letters of support for K award applications that have focused on children and adolescents. The successful applicants have been a diverse group of psychologists: African American, Latina, Asian American and Native American. In 1999, with a total of \$46,000 from the Dean's Office at Harvard Medical School, the Kellogg Foundation and the NIH, I founded *Next Generation*, a mentoring program to increase the number of women of color researchers who focus on children and adolescents of color. The participants included former interns and post-doc fellows from BCH as well as other programs across the country. Of the 9 participants, three went on to receive K awards, one a R01 Award, and two are employed at research agencies (IOM and CDC).

I have assisted graduates from the BCH training program in successfully pursuing Congressional Science Fellowships after completing their post-doc fellowships. I have helped former interns and fellows earn appointments to the APA Committee on Children, Youth and Families. During my tenure on the APA Board of Directors, I secured funding for a Task Force on Strength and Resilience in Black Children and Adolescents. The TF included mid-career psychologists and an early career psychologist. The report has been well-received. The chair was a Next Generation alum who was also a K-Awardee.

Finally, our graduates also have become leaders in other training programs as well.

My campaign has emphasized "Leadership and Collaboration as Citizen Psychologists" because "Psychology is Every Day in Almost Every Way." Research supports education as being critical in the lives of children and adolescents. Working with the relevant interest groups in APA, I will seek to recognize and engage psychologists to become citizen psychologists in their respective communities as members of school committees and boards. As a profession, we have knowledge that can inform practice and policy to enhance the quality of education that is provided. We need to be in the room, at the table and yes at the head of the table to make a difference.

Another area of concern is health. I have been at a children's hospital for several decades. Psychology focuses on behavior which is critical in both prevention and intervention. The training program at BCH is a Pediatric Psychology Program as well as a Child/Adolescent Clinical Program. Working as team members, we can make a difference in the care that is provided. I plan to focus on developing leadership and collaboration skills so that psychologists can maximize their impact.

I want psychology to move into the "power lane of associations" in this country because we have much to contribute in many ways.

