

# MPS NEWS

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Deadline for articles is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Please email [heidi@mdpsych.org](mailto:heidi@mdpsych.org).  
 MPS News Design & Layout  
 Meagan Floyd

**The MPS Council will meet next by videoconference on September 8 at 8 PM. All members welcome!**

## President's Column

### Engaging Residents, Fellows & Early Career Psychiatrists

One of the pleasures of working in education is the ability to work with medical students, psychiatry residents, and fellows and to watch their careers blossom. As I believe that most people in academia will tell you, we often learn more from our trainees than they learn from us. One of the challenges that the Maryland Psychiatric Society faces, along with other professional associations, is the engagement of younger members. Given the need to join both the district branch and the American Psychiatric Association, the cost of joining these two groups can seem prohibitive for someone just starting out in their career. As it stands now, only half of the psychiatrists who practice in Maryland are MPS members and the average age of our membership is increasing. In addition to advocating on behalf of psychiatry and our patients at the Maryland General Assembly, we need to attend to the needs and interests of our resident and fellow members and early career psychiatrists. To this end, I recently met jointly with the chairs of the Resident and Fellow Member (RFM) Committee and the Early Career Psychiatry (ECP) Committee to learn more about their interests, needs, and plans for the year.

The chair of the RFM Committee is Jamie Spitzer, a fourth-year psychiatry resident in the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt psychiatry program. Dr. Spitzer summarized the work of her committee as follows: "This year the MPS is focusing efforts to engage residents and fellows by expanding inter-institutional opportu-

nities, developing a social justice advocacy group, and determining how best to serve the resident community. In an effort to encourage inter-institutional work, residents from both Johns Hopkins Hospital (JHH) and the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt (UMMC|SEPH) will be meeting for an Anti-Racism Book Club, starting on Tuesday August 4th with the book, Protest Psychosis: How Schizophrenia Became a Black Disease by Jonathan Metzl. The MPS is also exploring other opportunities to bring the residents and fellows together including a group focused on building a supportive community around having a family in residency. MPS resident and fellow members have expressed an interest in social justice and the MPS is excited to begin developing an advocacy committee with a self-directed curriculum for social justice advocacy work. To further engage the residents and fellows, the MPS sent a survey to UMMC/SEPH and JHH residents asking how they would like to get more involved."

The chair of the ECP Committee is Marissa Flaherty, the Director of Medical Student Education at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and a community psychiatrist. According to Dr. Flaherty, the ECP committee "is working with the Resident/Fellow committee and the Recruitment Committee to expand on resources available for the ECPs in Maryland. There are plans to set up a more formal mentoring program for ECPs to discuss clinical and career questions with other members of the MPS. Through the development of an advocacy group, the ECP sector hopes to be able to lobby for important changes for the patients and communities we serve throughout the state of Maryland. We hope to introduce "Open Houses" to different com-

(Continued)

mittees to allow non-MPS members to see what great work can be done as part of the MPS. Throughout the next year, we hope to engage more ECPs in the important work and outreach of the MPS."

We are deeply indebted to the work of Drs. Flaherty and Spitzer and their respective committees. I look forward to continuing to work with them over the course of this year on ways that we can further serve the needs of our RFM and ECP members. I encourage Resident-Fellow Members and Early Career Psychiatrists to join their committees and take on the challenge of working toward a better system of care for the patients we serve here in Maryland.

*Mark J. Ehrenreich, M.D.*

## Attention Newly Graduated Residents

Congratulations! If you haven't already, please complete the APA [membership advancement form](#). This lets us know if you are continuing in a fellowship or advancing to practice. As a General Member, you can access additional benefits, including [resources](#) for early career psychiatrists. Your MPS dues remain the same! The [form](#) takes less than 5 minutes to complete.

The MPS would like to run a special feature in upcoming editions of our publications (The MPS News or Maryland Psychiatrist) that will feature our graduating residents and fellows. (A short write-up highlighting post training plans) In order to be included, [please send](#) the information below, along with a photo before August 31st.

- Are you staying in Maryland? If no, where will you be moving? (Please send an address if you have one so we can start the transfer process to your new branch.)
- Where will you practice?
- What type of patients will you see?
- What will you specialize in?
- Will you be accepting patient referrals?

## License Renewals for Last Names (A-L)

Renew medical licenses that expire September 30 [online](#). (Physicians licensed through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact must complete a [two-part process](#) to renew their Maryland license.)

Due to Governor Hogan's March 12 Executive Order, the Board will extend the usual September 30 expiration date "to the 30th day after the date by which the state of emergency is terminated and the catastrophic health emergency is rescinded." There is no grace period after that time; an application for reinstatement would be required along with a new Criminal History Records Check (CHRC). A CHRC is **not** required for renewals – only for new licenses and reinstatements.

Renewals include a question about [medical liability coverage](#) status, which is posted on the physician profile.

You may be randomly selected for CME audit. If you get a pop-up notice when you log in, you must submit 50 hours of CME documentation within 15 days of the license expiration date.

You are not authorized to practice if your license is not renewed. For more information, see the [MBP physician renewals page](#).

## MPS Members Out & About

**Diane Ossip, M.D.** participated in a [listening session](#) at Baltimore Crisis Response, Inc. (BCRI) where Second Lady Karen Pence and SAMHSA Assistant Secretary Elinore McCance-Katz, M.D. learned about BCRI services and education programs addressing mental health and suicide prevention.

## LAST CALL: Special Member Rate for 2020 Directory Ad

MPS members can advertise their practice, new office location, specialty, new book, etc. for a special members-only rate of \$100 for 1/3 page in the MPS membership directory. The 2020-2021 directory will be out in early fall 2020, so order NOW!

For details, email Meagan at [mfloyd@mdpsych.org](mailto:mfloyd@mdpsych.org).

## MPS Virtual Annual Meeting: Register Now

Despite challenges and uncertainty that have persisted throughout much of 2020, MPS is pleased to announce it will hold a virtual Annual Meeting **free for members** on **October 8<sup>th</sup>**. We are excited to give our members the opportunity to gather virtually to celebrate the many achievements of the FY20 year, and to officially turn the gavel over to Mark Ehrenreich, M.D., FY21 MPS President. Virginia Ashley, M.D is the President-Elect and Jessica Merkel-Keller, M.D., is Secretary-Treasurer.

[MORE INFO AND REGISTER HERE!](#)

The Maryland Psychiatric Society &  
The Southern Psychiatric Association  
*present their*

## FREE 2020 Virtual CME & Social Events



September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>  
6:15 - 8:30PM  
4 CME Hours\*



### About the Meeting

Despite challenging times and much uncertainty we are excited to offer members this **FREE**, virtual CME meeting! Featuring timely and outstanding presentations, well known speakers and virtual happy hours, we are confident you will agree that this meeting is one you don't want to miss. You are welcome to join for as many sessions as you can!

### September 22 Agenda

- 6:15 **Welcome:** Margaret Cassada, MD: SPA President
- 6:30 **Ethics: Panel Session**  
-Annette Hanson, MD: *Ethical Issues in Correctional Psychiatry*  
-Pamela McPherson MD: *Whistleblowing and Ethics: An Investigation of the ICE Detention Centers*
- 7:30 **Treating Geriatric Patients: Panel Session**  
-O. Joseph Bienvu, MD, PhD: *Psychiatric Morbidity after Critical Illness/Intensive Care*  
-Robert Roca, MD, MPH: *Measuring the Quality of Dementia Care: Do We Have it Right?*
- 8:30 **Social Reception via Zoom**

### September 23 Agenda

- 6:15 **Welcome:** Mark Ehrenreich, MD: MPS President
- 6:30 **Opioid Update: Panel Session**  
George Kolodner, MD & Sunil Khushalani, MD:  
*Pharmacological Management of Opioid Use Disorders*
- 7:30 **COVID-19: Panel Session**  
David A. Casey, MD: *Coronavirus and Psychiatry*  
Robert Caudill, MD: *We're all Telepsychiatrists Now: Irreversible Changes in the Field Brought on by the COVID-19 Response*
- 8:30 **Social Reception via Zoom**

**Register Today!**

[CLICK HERE FOR SPA/MPS MEMBER ONLY REGISTRATION](#)

**More Information:**

[www.mdpsych.org/meetings](http://www.mdpsych.org/meetings)

**Support Provided By:**

Professional Risk Management Services (PRMS)

American Professional Agency, Inc.

HopeWay

Rogers Behavioral Health

Sheppard Pratt

**\*PENDING APPROVAL:** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of American Psychiatric Association (APA) and Maryland Psychiatric Society (MPS). The APA is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The APA designates this live activity for a maximum of 4 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s) TM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## Maryland News

### 2020 Network Adequacy Reports

The Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) has [posted](#) the annual reports health plan network adequacy measures that were due July 1. 2020 is the third year that reports have been received, which are preliminary until MIA completes its review. The MPS has not analyzed all the data, but some reports indicate significantly longer wait times for non-urgent BH/SUD services. MIA is wrapping up a review of its network adequacy regulations after posing various questions to interested parties and holding a series of public meetings. The link above includes all this information.

### 2020 Back To School Survey

As plans for school reopening across Maryland continue to be announced, the Children's Mental Health Matter's Campaign invites participation in a survey to help prepare for a live virtual event to be held in August. The event will consist of a panel of experts, including a parent, student and mental health providers to answer your questions about supporting children and families with the transition back to school. Parents/caregivers, students of all ages (as they are able), educators and providers are encouraged to [complete the survey](#).

### BHA Crisis Services Locator

As part of its commitment to ensuring that individuals in crisis have access to immediate and appropriate care, the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) has developed an [interactive map of crisis services](#) (mobile, walk-in centers, and safe stations) and their locations in Maryland.

### Latest Resources for Maryland Psychiatrists During COVID-19

The MPS maintains a comprehensive set of [coronavirus resources for Maryland psychiatrists](#) with links to detailed requirements for telehealth, state agencies, general COVID-19 information and other information.

See [MedChi's Coronavirus Resource Center](#) for more info that Maryland physicians need to know.

Visit the Maryland Department of Health [COVID-19 webpage](#) for daily updates on the outbreak. The site has information, FAQs and resources for a wide range of settings.

### Medicaid Collaborative Care Pilot Launched

Maryland Medicaid [announced](#) the launch of the Collaborative Care Model (CoCM) pilot program to reach, diagnose and treat HealthChoice patients who have access to primary care, but may not receive needed behavioral health care. The premise behind CoCM is care integration – meeting the patient in their current care environment where treatment can be easily accessed and destigmatized. The CMS-approved CoCM pilot, which includes a primary, behavioral health and psychiatric care practitioner, will be tested in three diverse regional sites: an obstetrics-gynecology practice, an urban site and a rural site. The pilot will run July 2020 through 2023. Site operations and services will be managed by Privia Medical Group (part of Privia Health, a national physician organization caring for over 2.6 million patients), which is partnering with Mindoula.

### Suspension of Insurance Cancellation for Non-Payment of Premium

On July 30, the Maryland Insurance Administration [invoked emergency powers](#) to require health carriers to suspend health benefit cancellations and non-renewals of [individual health policies](#) for non-payment of premium. The suspension will remain in effect for 60 days and may be renewed by the Commissioner. Call 410-468-2170 with questions.

### Telehealth Adoption Assistance for Outpatient Practices

So far, over 50 practices have completed the Telehealth Adoption Program for Ambulatory Practices. The Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) collaborates with State-Designated Management Service Organizations on the program to provide guidance to practices looking for help with telehealth implementation. Support includes helping to assess telehealth readiness and educating staff on telehealth technical requirements, clinical best practices, and policy developments in response to COVID-19. Telehealth coaches work collaboratively with practice staff to remap workflows to address the entire telehealth lifecycle (i.e., tasks that occur before, during, and after a telehealth encounter). Practices interested in participating may contact Melanie Cavaliere, Chief, Innovative Care Delivery, MHCC Center for Health Information Technology & Innovative Care Delivery at 410-764-3282 or [melanie.cavaliere@maryland.gov](mailto:melanie.cavaliere@maryland.gov). For more details, visit <http://mhcc.maryland.gov>.

## Deadline Extended to Apply for Provider Relief Funding

HHS has [extended](#) the deadline to **August 28** for eligible Medicaid and CHIP providers to apply for the \$15 billion CARES Act Provider Relief Fund. Eligible physicians are those who have not previously received a payment. The amount will be at least 2% of reported gross revenue from patient care based on submitted data, including the number of Medicaid patients served. [Click here](#) for details.

## Ethical Considerations in Digital Mental Health Webinar

SMI Adviser is sponsoring a free one-hour CME webinar "Ethical Considerations in Digital Mental Health" on **August 6** from 3 to 4 PM. It will describe how technologies are being leveraged to capture personal health data for research and draw attention to nuanced technical and ethical aspects that require careful consideration during the study design phase. [Click here](#) to register.

## Last Chance to Update your Directory Listing and Respond to the Member Survey

Please return corrections to the form sent in May or log in to your member account on the MPS website to enter updates. **The deadline for directory changes is August 15.**

Help guide how MPS will work for you in the coming year and have a chance to win a **\$100 credit** by completing the survey **by August 15**. [CLICK HERE](#) to start!

## Trends in Self-Payment for Outpatient Visits

A study of 750 psychiatrists in the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey appears to find that patients are self-paying for psychiatrist visits more than before and that many psychiatrists, particularly those in solo practice, continue to only care for patients who can self-pay. Psychiatrists may be more likely to rely on self-payment than other specialties because of low insurance reimbursement rates, particularly for psychotherapy, as well as a demand that outstrips supply. The findings begin to highlight a 2-tiered system for outpatient psychiatrist care, which presents potential issues of health equity. "[Note: the trend also bolsters arguments by non-physicians that expanding their scope of practice will help solve the problem of network scarcity.]

[July 15 JAMA Psychiatry Research Letter](#)

## New Mental Health Warm Line

To support Marylanders experiencing mental health impacts related to COVID-19, the Pro Bono Counseling Project secured funding for a new [WARMLine](#) available weekdays from 9 AM to 5 PM. Call 211 or dial 443-608-9182 to connect with a call specialist who will listen and refer the caller to any additional resources.

## New 988 Crisis Number

In July the Federal Communications Commission approved 988 as a nationwide, three-digit phone number that people in crisis can call to speak with suicide prevention and mental health crisis counselors. All phone service providers are required to direct all 988 calls to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-TALK) **by July 16, 2022**. This includes all telecommunications carriers and interconnected and one-way Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service providers. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline will remain operational during and after the two-year transition to 988. [Click here](#) for the [July 17 Psych News Alert](#).

## Building Mental Resiliency Videos

A three-part video series, [Insights for Accessing Mental Health Care](#), features advocates Darcy Gruttadaro, Director for the Center for Workplace Mental Health; Marjorie Morrison, CEO and Co-Founder of Psych Hub; and Jeremy Nobel, MD, Founder of The UnLonely Project and Foundation for Art and Healing discussing where and how to access mental health resources during and after the pandemic. Otsuka Pharmaceuticals has [other videos](#) on the importance of maintaining mental health, caregiving, and the impact of COVID on Alzheimer's disease and dementia featuring experts and advocates from organizations such as the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, the Caregiver Action Network and others.

## Widespread Burnout Among Psychiatrists

Nearly 80% of North American psychiatrists reported burnout, and 16% reported symptoms consistent with major depression, according to a [report](#) in *AJP in Advance*. The survey by the APA Workgroup on Psychiatrist Well-Being and Burnout ran 10/30/2017 to 12/10/2018. It included the 16-item Oldenburg Burnout Inventory as well as the Patient Health Questionnaire-9. Both APA members and nonmember psychiatrists were invited, and 2,084 responded.

From [July 20 Psychiatric News Alert](#)

## Revised Privacy Rule 42 CFR Part 2 for SUD Treatment

On July 13, SAMHSA [announced](#) the revision of Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records regulation, 42 CFR Part 2, to better support care coordination and improve privacy protections. "Under Part 2, a federally assisted substance use disorder program may only disclose patient identifying information with the individual's written consent, as part of a court order, or under a few limited exceptions." The change makes it easier for primary care clinicians to treat individuals with substance use disorders by sharing information, with patient consent, among multiple providers to enable higher-quality care. This represents another step in aligning 42 CFR Part 2 with HIPAA regulations. Additionally, declared national emergencies (such as the COVID-19 pandemic) that disrupt treatment facilities and services are considered under the revised guidelines to be a "bona fide medical emergency" for the purposes of disclosing SUD records without patient consent.

- To view a fact sheet on what has changed and what has not changed, please click [here](#).
- For FAQs on Substance Abuse Confidentiality Regulations, [click here](#).
- To learn about federal statutes, regulations, and guidelines that apply to opioid treatment programs and medication-assisted treatment, [click here](#).

## AMNet Addiction Medicine Practice-Based Research Network

Addiction medicine and addiction psychiatry play an important role in responding to our nation's devastating opioid epidemic. To learn more about the type of patients treated in these practices, the services they receive, and their clinical outcomes, [AMNet](#) was launched as a collaborative initiative of the APA, American Society of Addiction Medicine, Friends Research Institute, and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The research network is focused on measuring and improving patient outcomes through the collection of data in [PsychPRO](#). Participants have complimentary access to PsychPRO and receive free CME webinars. Take the survey at [this link](#) to determine your practice's eligibility.

## Psychiatric Society of Virginia Fall CME

*Healing Wounds in our Society: Addressing Angst About a Tumultuous World* is the theme of the September 25-26 meeting of the Psychiatric Society of Virginia. MPS members can participate virtually at the \$150 rate with early bird registration. [Click here](#) for more information or to register.

## AMA COVID-19 Health Equity Resources

The AMA is compiling critical health equity resources to shine a light on the structural issues that contribute to and could exacerbate already existing inequities. Grouped in several categories focused on demographics, policy, health literacy, historical aspects, racism and more, the resources are [available here](#).

## Free CME Responding to Racism from Patients, Families, and Guests Towards Residents and Practicing Psychiatrists

Psychiatrists, and particularly psychiatry residents, may be ill-equipped to recognize and respond to racial discrimination from patients, families, and guests. The treatment settings where they practice often fail to respond adequately and risk legal ramifications of failing to protect their employees against Title 7 violations. This module addresses these gaps by providing guidelines, recommendations and case studies to address such discrimination. The on-demand, one hour credit, online course is available [here](#).

## NIMHHD Research Spotlights

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities website has a [new section](#) that highlights recent research findings on minority health and health disparities by its grantees. The research spans a range of topics affecting health disparity populations, such as maternal health and sexual and gender minority (SGM) mental health.

## Member Publication: Dr. Josue'

Cholet Kelly Josue, M.D. has published his first book, [Twelve Unending Summers--Memoir of an Immigrant](#), about seeking to find a home among the three cultures that have played a role in his life while embracing the legacy of family heritage.

## AMA Advocacy on PPE for Ambulatory Settings

The AMA is urging Vice President Pence and FEMA to address access to supplies for infection prevention as non-hospital-based physicians reopen their practices. Office-based physicians often don't have relationships with vendors or consistent ability to source PPE, disinfectants, etc. and they can lose to larger institutions with more bargaining power. PPE is needed for all health care sites, including ambulatory settings. [Click here](#) for more details.

## APA News & Information

### July 11-12 APA Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights [this is an unofficial report]

The main issues were trying to address budget problems, and a spirited, emotional discussion of how to address racism in society, psychiatry, and APA. Following is a summary of updates and actions.

APA President Jeffrey Geller, M.D., M.P.H. testified before the House Subcommittee on Health at its first hearing held specific to mental health legislation in several years. APA supported most bills discussed, with one important exception—H.R. 884, to redefine psychologists as physicians under Medicare. Nearly 2,000 APA members contacted their members of Congress in opposition to the bill.

APA worked with other professional organizations to send letters to every governor and insurance commissioner, as well as to the National Council of State Legislatures, asking that every state continue to cover telehealth for at least 12 months after the COVID emergency ends. A second letter asked them to permanently require all payers to cover telemedicine at in-person rates, including audio-only services. APA also wrote to the Secretary of HHS asking for an extension of the public health emergency.

On July 15th, APA leadership and members of the Assembly MOC Committee and MOC Caucus will meet with ABPN leadership to advocate for MOC reform, including changes to the MOC process that simplify requirements, reduce cost, and award MOC credit for activities that diplomates are already doing to meet state licensing and other credentialing requirements.

The Presidential Task Force to Address Structural Racism throughout Psychiatry [see page 8] is charged with:

- Providing education and resources on APA's and psychiatry's history regarding structural racism;
- Explaining structural racism's current impact on the mental health of our patients and colleagues;
- Developing achievable and actionable recommendations for change to eliminate structural racism in the APA and psychiatry now and in the future;
- Recommending achievable actions to the APA BOT through May 2021; and
- Monitoring the implementation of tasks 1 through 4.

So far, the Task Force has conducted a mini survey regarding structural racism's impact on patients, established a [webpage](#) with resources, and is planning its next Town Hall for August 24. [see page 8]

The BOT approved the addition of diagnostic codes with corresponding text for suicidal behavior and non-suicidal self-injury to DSM-5-TR as recommended by the DSM Steering Committee.

APA is advocating that all healthcare professionals (i.e. medical residents, fellows, medical researchers, and those working in non-clinical settings, not just those involved in COVID-19 research and practice) are critical to our national interest and exempt from the President Trump's executive order on immigrants.

The Presidential Task Force on the Assessment of Psychiatric Bed Needs in the U.S. chaired by **Anita Everett, M.D.** is working to research, assess, and develop recommendations regarding the current capacity of inpatient psychiatric care in the U.S. The final product expected in December 2020 will be a paper and model that can be utilized across a community or population, which will enable creating an estimate for the number of psychiatric beds needed across a population of adults and children.

Finance & Budget Committee Chair Ann Marie Sullivan, M.D. presented financial projections for 2021 through 2024 outlining the need for more budget reductions before 2023 to meet the loan requirements of a balanced budget.

### Call for Nominations

APA President-Elect Vivian B. Pender, M.D., invites voting APA members to share their expertise and serve APA, the field of psychiatry, and patients by joining an **APA component**. Members are invited to submit their names or nominate a colleague **by August 31**. Contact [appointments@psych.org](mailto:appointments@psych.org) with any questions or click to [submit a nomination](#).

The APA also issued a call for APA Board of Trustees nominations for the 2021 APA election.

- Early Career Psychiatrist Trustee (ECP)
- Minority/Underrepresented Representative Trustee
- Resident-Fellow Member Trustee-Elect

APA members who are interested in serving on the Board should submit a completed nomination form available at [psychiatry.org/election](https://psychiatry.org/election) by **September 1**. Nominees selected by the Nominating Committee will be invited to run as a candidate in the 2021 election. [The ECP Trustee Nominating Subcommittee includes Chair Ayana Jordan, MD, PhD, [ayana.jordan@yale.edu](mailto:ayana.jordan@yale.edu) as well as Jasleen Chhatwal, MD, MBBS, [jchhatwal@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jchhatwal@email.arizona.edu) and Jacqueline Calderone, MD, [jacqueline.calderone@ucdenver.edu](mailto:jacqueline.calderone@ucdenver.edu).] Members may also nominate a colleague by emailing [election@psych.org](mailto:election@psych.org). Please visit the [APA Election Website](#) for more information or contact Chiharu Tobita at [election@psych.org](mailto:election@psych.org) or (202) 609-7228.

## APA News & Information

### APA Task Force to Address Structural Racism

On July 2, the APA [established](#) a Presidential Task Force to Address Structural Racism Throughout Psychiatry. The task force, initially described at a [virtual APA Town Hall](#), has organized quickly to distribute a survey on mental health care of Black patients and is planning a second virtual town hall for **August 24**.

Focusing on organized psychiatry, psychiatrists, psychiatric trainees, psychiatric patients, and others who work to serve psychiatric patients, the task force is initially charged with the following:

- Providing education and resources on APA's and psychiatry's history regarding structural racism.
- Describing the current impact of structural racism on the mental health of patients and colleagues.
- Developing achievable and actionable recommendations for change to eliminate structural racism in APA and psychiatry.
- Providing reports with its recommendations to the APA Board of Trustees at each of its meetings through May 2021.
- Monitoring the implementation of this plan.

Chairing the task force is Cheryl D. Wills, M.D., an associate professor of psychiatry at Case Western Reserve University and APA Area 4 Board of Trustees member.

### APA Survey on Institutional Racism Within APA

The APA Presidential Task Force to Address Structural Racism Throughout Psychiatry launched a second short survey (available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/56C3GYV>) to gauge your impressions regarding institutional racism within APA. Survey #2 is **open until August 6**. Please submit a response to the survey and share it with your networks.

The results of the first brief survey by the Task Force are now available. The top four ways that structural racism affects patients are:

1. Access to care,
2. Professional diversity,
3. Experiences of racism, and
4. Education.

Additional results are available at [www.psychiatry.org/taskforce](http://www.psychiatry.org/taskforce).

### APA Addresses Structural Racism: Town Hall Part 2

On **August 24 from 8 to 9:30 PM** APA will hold a virtual Member Town Hall to commemorate the 57<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the March on Washington in August 1963. The March drew attention to the continuing challenges and inequalities faced by Black Americans a century after emancipation. It is also where Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his now iconic "I Have a Dream" speech.

The Town Hall will examine:

- How the Black Lives Matter movement is an outgrowth of the civil rights initiatives reducing the inequalities faced by Black people and their families.
- Impact of racial injustices within APA and psychiatry.
- How far we still must go to address structural racism.

Panelists will join APA President Jeffrey Geller, M.D., M.P.H. to discuss how structural racism plays a role in these inequalities and propose solutions to improve Black America's mental health outcomes. Dr. Geller will also discuss the formation of the APA Presidential Task Force to Address Structural Racism Throughout Psychiatry, and its structure, charge, how members can provide feedback, and expected outcomes. [Click here](#) and jump to Webinars for details.

### Free Members' Course of the Month

Due to ongoing updates to APA's Learning Management System, there will be no Course of the Month in August. There will be additional courses of the month in September and October to account for the absence of courses in July and August. For more information, visit the Course of the Month page at the link below.

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

## Congratulations!!

**Gregory Barber, M.D.** at the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt residency program has been selected as a 2020-2022 APA/APAF Leadership Fellow.

**Crystal Han, M.D.** at the University of Maryland/Sheppard Pratt residency program has been selected as a 2020-2021 APA SAMHSA Minority Fellow.



## APA News & Information

### APA and AACAP Recommendations on Returning to School

APA and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) [issued recommendations](#) for schools and communities as they move to safely reopen schools in the COVID-19 era. Members may want to share these recommendations with their local school boards or other government entities. The organizations urged schools and communities to keep precautions in mind when considering reopening while recognizing that education, including school attendance, is an essential component of successful and healthy development for all children and adolescents.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has also issued [guidance](#) in conjunction with educators and school superintendents.

### APA Find A Psychiatrist

The APA Find a Psychiatrist searchable database includes **only** members who actively [opt-in](#) (link will take you to an easy to complete online form). [Finder.psychiatry.org](#) is a useful tool for patients to find docs. Participating APA members can update their availability, contact info, and insurance acceptance at [apps.psychiatry.org](#). The site can be updated in real-time, so psychiatrists can turn it on to get more referrals and then turn it off as needed. It also allows participants to indicate what types of patients are accepted and what, if any, insurance. It can be searched by state, and can be narrowed by city or zip, etc. For assistance, please contact APA Customer Service at 1-888-357-7924.

### Are you a General Member? Become an APA Fellow!

Are you ready to take the next step in your career? Fellow status is an honor that enhances your professional credentials and reflects your dedication to the psychiatric profession. Dues rates remain the same. **The deadline is September 1.** Visit the [APA website](#) for more details and a link to the [application](#).

### APA Member Obituaries

The APA has launched a new feature on its website for publishing member obituaries. If you would like to write an obituary for an APA member who has died, please review the [instructions](#) on how to memorialize your colleague.

### Call for Nominations: APA Research Awards

**Nominations for the following awards are all due August 15.** Please see the links for requirements and other details.

#### [Award for Research in Psychiatry](#)

First awarded in 1949 as the Hofheimer Prize, the Award for Research in Psychiatry recognizes a single distinguished contribution, a body of work, or a lifetime contribution that has had a major impact on the field and/or altered the practice of psychiatry. The award covers the full spectrum of psychiatric research. The prize includes \$5000 and a lecture at the APA annual meeting.

#### [Health Services Research Award](#)

Honors an early career psychiatrist and a senior APA member for outstanding contributions to the field of psychiatric health services research. Cash prize.

#### [Ittleson \(Blanche\) Award for Research in Child/Adolescent Psychiatry](#)

Recognizes a child psychiatrist or group of investigators for outstanding research pertaining to the mental health of children and adolescents. Cash prize.

#### [Kempf Fund Award for Research Development in Psychobiological Psychiatry](#)

The Kempf Fund Award recognizes a senior researcher on the psychobiological, psychological, and/or sociological causes and treatment for schizophrenia for both research and mentoring. The prize includes \$1,500 to the senior researcher awardee and \$20,000 to the awardee's protégé.

#### [Marmor \(Judd\) Award](#)

Honors an individual who has contributed to research advancing the biopsychosocial aspects of psychiatry. Cash prize.

#### [Nasrallah Family Award for Advances in Psychiatric Neuroscience](#)

This award recognizes distinguished contributions to psychiatric neuroscience that have had a major impact on the field and/or altered the practice of psychiatry. Cash prize.

#### [Research Mentorship Award](#)

Honors an academic psychiatrist who has fostered the research of a student, Resident-Fellow Member, or early career psychiatrist in a significant manner through direct mentorship or by the promotion of novel research-oriented training activities. Cash prize.

## Medicare Updates

### PHE Renewed July 23

[HHS Secretary Azar officially renewed the public health emergency](#) (PHE) for an additional 90 days, which keeps the Medicare provisions on coverage of telehealth, among other COVID-19 flexibilities, in place until late October. In addition to relaxed telemedicine guidelines, the PHE continuation allows DEA waivers for prescribing controlled substances to continue, FDA to quickly authorize unapproved COVID-19 medications and state and local flexibility in assigning personnel to respond to outbreaks.

### Preview Physician Compare Data

Physicians can preview 2018 Quality Payment Program performance information before it posts on [Physician Compare](#). Access the secure preview through the [Quality Payment Program](#) website.

The [Physician Compare Preview Period User Guide](#) may be helpful. To learn more, visit the [Physician Compare Initiative page](#). **The preview period closes on August 20.** Questions, please contact [PhysicianCompare-Helpdesk@AcumenLLC.com](mailto:PhysicianCompare-Helpdesk@AcumenLLC.com).

### CMS Publishes 2019 Open Payments Data

Manufacturers and Group Purchasing Organizations (GPOs) collectively reported over \$10 billion publishable payments and ownership and investment interests to physicians and teaching hospitals in 2019. CMS published this Open Payments data at <https://openpaymentsdata.cms.gov/>. The Open Payments national disclosure program promotes transparency by making financial relationships between manufacturers and GPOs and physicians and teaching hospitals available to the public. The 2019 data relate to 614,910 physicians and 1,196 teaching hospitals. Payments are reported in three categories, general payments, research payments, and ownership or investment interests:

- \$3.56 billion general (i.e., non-research related) payments
- \$5.23 billion research payments
- \$1.24 billion ownership or investment interests held by physicians or their immediate family members

For more information, please visit <https://www.cms.gov/openPayments>.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**RICA-Baltimore:** The main purpose of this position is to provide the full performance level of clinical psychiatric services to adolescents suffering from serious emotional behavioral health care issues in an RTC facility (24/7) in Catonsville. Duties include treatment of patients, psychiatric evaluations, psychopharmacology and supervision of a clinical team. Part-time 60% position. Includes state benefits. [Link to ad](#) E-mail CV to [tonyad.tuggle@maryland.gov](mailto:tonyad.tuggle@maryland.gov)

**PSYCHIATRY POSITIONS:** MedStar Health is seeking psychiatrists to work in the Baltimore area in a variety of settings. Our hospitals provide inpatient, outpatient, intensive outpatient, partial hospitalization and consult liaison services. We offer flexible hours with competitive comp plans and benefits including CME reimbursement, 7 weeks paid time off, holidays and personal leave, 403 B match, medical benefits and paid malpractice ins. and much more! Please email CV to [stephen.pasko@medstar.net](mailto:stephen.pasko@medstar.net).

### OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

**ELLCOTT CITY:** Full time (unfurnished) and part-time (attractively furnished) offices in established, multi-disciplinary mental health suite. Ample parking and handicapped access. Expansive, welcoming waiting rooms with pleasant music throughout. Private staff bathrooms, full size staff kitchen with refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, Keurig coffees and teas. Staff workroom with mailboxes, photocopier, fax machine, secondary refrigerator and microwave. Wireless internet access available. Plenty of networking and cross-referral opportunities with colleagues who enjoy creating a relaxed and congenial professional atmosphere. Convenient to Routes 40,29, 70 and 695. Contact Dr. Mike Boyle, 410-465-2500.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Position openings and office space available are also posted on the MPS website!** Listings from each newsletter issue are displayed online for the month of the publication. If you can't find your newsletter in your email inbox, visit the [Classifieds page](#) to view employment and office space ads.

### Medicare Changes for Inpatient Facilities

CMS has finalized three Medicare payment rules to better align payments for [inpatient psychiatric facilities](#) (IPF), skilled nursing facilities (SNF) and hospices. IPFs will have a 2.2 percent payment rate update. CMS is also updating non-physician roles within the scope of practice of each state.

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**Residential: The Retreat**

**Consultation-Liaison**

**Medical Education Services**

**Southern Maryland: Medical Director, Adult,  
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- Must be board-certified or board-eligible
- Must have a current license to practice in Maryland at the time of hire
- Individuals hired for inpatient, PHP, and residential school services participate in a call schedule

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- Physician-led organization
- Generous compensation package with comprehensive benefits, including medical, dental, vision, and life insurance; an extensive wellness program; and ample leave
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- Sign on bonus
- A network of the brightest minds in psychiatry
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- State-of-the-art research and technology
- Cross-discipline collaboration

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For more information, please contact Kathleen Hilzendeger, Director of Professional Services, at **410.938.3460** or [khilzendeger@sheppardpratt.org](mailto:khilzendeger@sheppardpratt.org).

## About Sheppard Pratt

Consistently ranked as one of the top ten psychiatric hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report*, Sheppard Pratt is the nation's largest private, nonprofit provider of mental health, substance use, special education, developmental disability, and social services. We employ more than 95 doctors who all share a passion for providing the best care to those we serve. Visit [sheppardpratt.org](http://sheppardpratt.org) to learn more about our services. EOE.



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As the field of psychiatry evolves in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, now more than ever, we're here for our doctors with timely risk management support, updates, and the latest resources. Our psychiatry-specific expertise, paired with our long-standing ability to defend and support our clients, allows us to keep you covered — with more than an insurance policy.

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