

# AACAP H2★25 Honors



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
CHILD & ADOLESCENT  
PSYCHIATRY

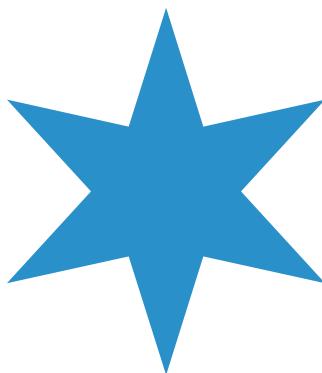
W W W . A A C A P . O R G

# AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY

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## Mission

*The Mission of AACAP is to promote the healthy development of children, adolescents, and families through advocacy, education, and research, and to meet the professional needs of child and adolescent psychiatrists throughout their careers.*



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# AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY

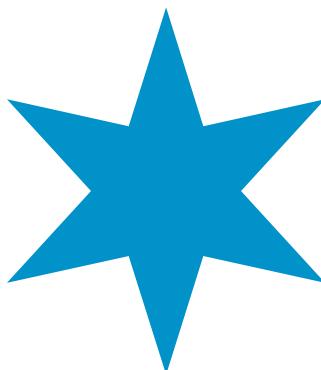
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## AACAP Catchers in the Rye Awards

*I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody around—nobody big, I mean—except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff.*

*J.D. Salinger, The Catcher in the Rye*

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) is honored to present its most prestigious awards, the AACAP Catchers in the Rye Awards, to our 2025 award recipients.



## AACAP Catchers in the Rye Humanitarian Award

Bryan Stevenson, JD

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Mr. Stevenson receives his award during the Opening Plenary on Wednesday, October 22, from 8:30 am–10:15 am.

*The AACAP Catchers in the Rye Humanitarian Award is awarded by the AACAP Executive Committee. It was established in 1990 to honor those who have made a sustained and significant contribution to pediatric mental health through activities such as advocacy, education, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, research, and/or acts of bravery/kindness. AACAP is honored to present the 2025 Catchers in the Rye Humanitarian Award to Bryan Stevenson, JD.*

Bryan Stevenson is a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated, and the condemned. Mr. Stevenson is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, a human rights organization in Montgomery, Alabama. Under his leadership, EJI has won major legal challenges eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, exonerating innocent death row prisoners, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill, and aiding children prosecuted as adults.

Mr. Stevenson has argued and won multiple cases at the United States Supreme Court, including a 2019 ruling protecting condemned prisoners who suffer from dementia and a landmark 2012 ruling that banned mandatory life-imprisonment-without-parole sentences for all children 17 or younger. Mr. Stevenson and his staff have won reversals, relief, or release from prison for over 140 wrongly condemned prisoners on death row and won relief for hundreds of others wrongly convicted or unfairly sentenced.

Mr. Stevenson has initiated major new anti-poverty and anti-discrimination efforts that challenge inequality in America. He led the creation of EJI's highly acclaimed Legacy Sites, including the Legacy Museum, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, and Freedom Monument Sculpture Park. These new national landmark institutions chronicle the legacy of slavery, lynching, and racial segregation, and the connection to mass incarceration and contemporary issues of racial bias.

Mr. Stevenson's work has won him numerous awards including the prestigious MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Prize; the ABA Medal, the American Bar Association's highest honor; the National Medal of Liberty from the American Civil Liberties Union after he was nominated by United States Supreme Court Justice John Stevens; the Public Interest Lawyer of the Year by the National Association of Public Interest Lawyers; and the Olaf Palme Prize in Stockholm, Sweden for international human rights. In 2002, he received the Alabama State Bar Commissioners Award. In 2003, the SALT Human Rights Award was presented to Mr. Stevenson by the Society of American Law Teachers. In 2004, he received the Award for

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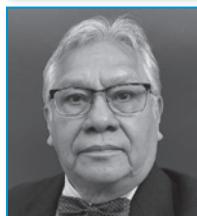
Courageous Advocacy from the American College of Trial Lawyers and also the Lawyer for the People Award from the National Lawyers Guild. In 2006 New York University presented Mr. Stevenson with its Distinguished Teaching Award. Mr. Stevenson won the Gruber Foundation International Justice Prize and was awarded the NAACP William Robert Ming Advocacy Award, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association Lifetime Achievement Award, the Ford Foundation Visionaries Award and the Roosevelt Institute Franklin D. Roosevelt Freedom from Fear Award. In 2012, Mr. Stevenson received the American Psychiatric Association Human Rights Award, the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute Fred L. Shuttlesworth Award, and the Smithsonian Magazine American Ingenuity Award in Social Progress. Mr. Stevenson was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Science in 2014 and won the Lannan Cultural Freedom Prize. In 2015, he was named to the Time 100 recognizing the world's most influential people. In 2016, he received the American Bar Association's Thurgood Marshall Award. He was named in Fortune's 2016 and 2017 World's Greatest Leaders list. He received the Martin Luther King Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize, from the King Center in Atlanta in 2018. In 2020, he received the Right Livelihood Award from The Right Livelihood Foundation in Sweden. In 2023, he was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Biden.

Mr. Stevenson has received over 50 honorary doctoral degrees, including degrees from Harvard, Yale, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, and Oxford University. He is the author of the critically acclaimed *New York Times* bestseller, *Just Mercy*, which was named by *Time Magazine* as one of the 10 Best Books of Nonfiction for 2014 and has been awarded several honors, including the American Library Association's Carnegie Medal for best nonfiction book of 2015 and a 2015 NAACP Image Award. *Just Mercy* was adapted as a major motion picture, and the film won the American Bar Association's 2020 Silver Gavel Award as well as four NAACP Image Awards. Mr. Stevenson is also the subject of the Emmy Award-winning HBO documentary *True Justice*. He is a graduate of the Harvard Law School and the Harvard School of Government.

## AACAP Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to an Individual

### Saul Stepensky Tiktin, MD, Sergio Muñoz-Fernandez, MD, and Oscar Sánchez-Guerrero, MD

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Drs. Stepensky Tiktin, Muñoz-Fernandez, and Sánchez-Guerrero receive their award during the Assembly of Regional Organizations Meeting on Tuesday, October 21, from 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

*The AACAP Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to an Individual was established in 1996 to recognize an individual for their outstanding advocacy efforts on behalf of children and adolescents. AACAP is honored to present Saul Stepensky Tiktin, MD, Sergio Muñoz-Fernandez, MD, and Oscar Sánchez-Guerrero, MD, with the 2025 Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to an Individual.*

Around 1990, the Asociación Mexicana de Psiquiatría Infantil (AMPI) began taking part in the Assembly of Regional Organizations, with the right to speak but not to vote. In 1997, a working group of three delegates was created, given the strong interest in collaborating with AACAP. This group, integrated by Drs. Saul Stepensky, Sergio Muñoz, and Oscar Sánchez, has since participated in nearly every Annual Academy Meeting, helped organize some mid-year meetings (1994 and 2000), and served on the scientific committees of several joint AACAP meetings (San Antonio, San Diego).

Every two years, the president of the Academy is invited to attend AMPI's meeting. Almost all presidents have accepted this invitation, as have Ginger Anthony and Heidi Buttner Fordi, who have been the driving force within AACAP, offering constant and invaluable support to these efforts.

These collaborations have also allowed other distinguished child and adolescent psychiatrists to take part in the Mexican meetings. Their generous and voluntary contributions have strengthened bonds of friendship and professional cooperation with many colleagues and friends here today.

*The AMPI delegates to the Assembly wish to express our deepest gratitude for the great honor we receive on this occasion. Please know that “the three amigos,” as we are fondly called among the many friends we have here, will continue working to strengthen the relationship between our association and AACAP.*

## AACAP Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to a Component Committee on Medical Students and Residents

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*The AACAP Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to a Component was established in 1996 to recognize an AACAP component for their outstanding efforts on behalf of children and adolescents. This year's award recognizes the Committee on Medical Students and Residents chaired by Mollie C. Marr, MD, PhD, and Alyssa Shaffner, MD.*

The AACAP Committee on Medical Students and Residents was formed more than 25 years ago to ensure representation of trainees at all levels in the activities and deliberations of AACAP. The mission of the Committee continues to evolve to meet the needs of trainees, AACAP, and the population that we serve.

The mission of MSR is to recruit and engage trainees interested in the field of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, to nurture future leaders through collaboration with other AACAP components and peer professional organizations, and to foster career interests through mentorship and providing resources and best practices while creating and maintaining an inclusive and equitable community. Through the recent development of subcommittees (Advocacy, Longitudinal Projects, Recruitment, and Innovation), the support of members across the Academy, and the incredible tenacity of trainees, MSR is able to provide yearlong educational activities and robust Annual Meeting programming.



The Committee on Medical Students and Residents receives its award during the Assembly of Regional Organizations Meeting on Tuesday, October 21, from 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

*We are humbled to receive this award and extend our deepest appreciation to the Assembly for this distinction. The support and mentorship received from AACAP leadership and the efforts of past and present committee members, volunteers, and the amazing Anneke Archer makes the work we do possible.*

*To receive this honor in the wake of the current political atmosphere, mental health crisis, and workforce shortage is truly empowering and will serve as motivation for the continued endeavors of this committee.*

## AACAP Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to a Regional Organization Washington State Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

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Dr. Ravi Ramasamy, past president of the Washington State Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, will receive this award on behalf of the organization during the Assembly of Regional Organizations on Tuesday, October 21, from 8:00 am–4:00 pm.

*The AACAP Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to a Regional Organization was established in 1996 to recognize a regional organization for its outstanding advocacy efforts on behalf of children and adolescents. AACAP is honored to present the Washington State Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry with the 2025 Assembly Catchers in the Rye Award to a Regional Organization.*

Our Washington State ROCAP is focused on advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels about a variety of issues, including expansion of quality evidence-based mental health care in Washington especially for underserved populations, opposition to granting psychologists prescribing privileges, promoting firearm safety, encouraging insurance payors to utilize a transparent and peer-reviewed tool for medical necessity criteria, and supporting mental health interventions in schools. Collaborating with the Washington State Psychiatric Association (WSPA) and Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) has expanded our advocacy impact. Several members of our group join respective advocacy days with WSMA in Olympia and with AACAP in “the other Washington,” DC. We regularly engage our local and national leaders by inviting them to speak at our regional conferences to discuss how to improve mental health services and provide continuing education opportunities. Our Washington State ROCAP also served as the Local Arrangements Committee for the AACAP Annual Meeting in Seattle in October 2024, where we enjoyed organizing events to showcase our corner of the country.

*Our regional organization is humbled and honored to be selected for this award, which motivates us to identify additional ways to support underserved youth in our state and region. We thank the AACAP Council, and appreciate their example in promoting mental health initiatives nationally, and supporting state and federal legislation that promotes youth mental health.*

## AACAP Virginia Q. Anthony Outstanding Woman Leader Award

### Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA

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*The AACAP Virginia Q. Anthony Outstanding Woman Leader Award is awarded by AACAP's President. It was established in 2013 to celebrate the lifetime achievements of extraordinary women in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. As its namesake envisioned, the award is for women who have applied their talent, medical skills, and leadership to dramatically improve the wellbeing of children with mental illness. AACAP is honored to present the 2025 AACAP Virginia Q. Anthony Outstanding Woman Leader Award to Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA.*

Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA, is the CEO and co-founder of eMed, a digital healthcare company founded to provide equitable access to diagnostic at-home testing.

Dr. Harris is a board-certified psychiatrist from Atlanta and has diverse experience as a private practicing physician, county public health director, and physician executive. She has deep experience and expertise in public policy and advocacy. Dr. Harris was the 174th president of the American Medical Association, the first African American woman and the first child and adolescent psychiatrist elected to that position.

Two themes that govern Dr. Harris's professional life are a passion to improve the lives of children and service to others. She has led efforts on both local and national levels to improve access to care for those with mental disorders.

Dr. Harris graduated medical school at West Virginia University and completed her psychiatry residency and fellowship training in child and adolescent psychiatry and forensic psychiatry at Emory University.

Dr. Harris is an adjunct assistant professor in the Emory Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and an adjunct clinical assistant professor in psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Morehouse College.



Dr. Harris receives her award during the Distinguished Member Awards Lunch on Wednesday, October 22, from 11:45 am–1:15 pm.

*I am deeply honored to receive the Virginia Q. Anthony Outstanding Woman Leader Award. A sincere note of thanks to Dr. Tami Benton and the Academy for this recognition. Your support inspires me to continue advocating for youth mental health and empowering future leaders. I'm grateful to be part of such a passionate and dedicated community.*

## AACAP Sidney Berman, MD, Award for the School-Based Study and Treatment of Learning Disorders and Mental Illness

Kristie Ladegard, MD



Dr. Ladegard presents,  
“Delivering Hope Where Kids  
Learn: A New Era of Mental  
Health Care for Youth” during  
Honors Presentation 1 on  
Thursday, October 23, from  
9:30 am–10:20 am.

*The AACAP Sidney Berman, MD, Award for the School-Based Study and Treatment of Learning Disorders and Mental Illness acknowledges outstanding leadership in the public education and treatment of learning disabilities. Albert Abramson, president of the Abramson Family Foundation, established this award in 1996 as a tribute to founding member and AACAP Past President (1969–71) Sidney Berman, MD.*

Kristie Ladegard, MD, is an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Colorado and a child and adolescent psychiatrist at Denver Health and Hospital Authority. She completed her medical degree at Creighton University followed by training in general psychiatry residency and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at East Carolina University. Dr. Ladegard has been instrumental in expanding school-based mental health services in Denver, helping to grow the program to 19 clinics, including 10 with on-site substance use treatment. She has received several awards for her service and innovation, including the 2010 Outstanding Mental Health Provider Award, the 2016 Deb Carter Distinguished Educator Award, and the 2024 Compassionate Care Award. A dedicated educator and author, she also co-edited the “School Consultation” chapter in the *6th edition of Lewis’s Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: A Comprehensive Textbook*.

*I’m truly honored to receive this award from the Academy and deeply grateful to my colleagues and mentors—Shashank Joshi, Erika Ryst, Jeff Bostic, Sharon Hoover, and Shirley Alleyne—whose support and inspiration have been vital to this work. Being part of the school mental health community has given me a deeper passion for advocacy, innovation, and equity in youth mental health services. I want to thank the staff and students of Denver Public Schools for welcoming Denver Health and Hospital into their community.*

## Klingensteiner Third Generation Foundation Award for Research in Depression or Suicide, supported by the Klingensteiner Third Generation Foundation

Norbert Skokauskas, MD, PhD

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*The Klingensteiner Third Generation Foundation Award for Research in Depression or Suicide recognizes the best paper published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry on depression and/or suicide, written by a child and adolescent psychiatrist, and published between July 2024 and June 2025. The award is supported by the Klingensteiner Third Generation Foundation, which established this award in 1999.*

Dr. Norbert Skokauskas, MD, PhD, is a professor of child and adolescent psychiatry at the Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Child Protection, IPH, Norwegian University of Science and Technology. He also serves as secretary for education and scientific publications at the World Psychiatric Association. Previously, he held a senior lecturer position in child and adolescent psychiatry at the Department of Psychiatry, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, and worked as a consultant psychiatrist at Temple Street Children's University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland.



Dr. Skokauskas presents  
“Suicidality and Self-Harm  
Behavior of Adolescents  
During the Early Phase of  
the War in Ukraine” during  
Honors Presentation 3 on  
Thursday, October 23, from  
2:00 pm-4:30 pm.

*Research is not just an academic exercise.*

## AACAP Irving Philips, MD, Award for Prevention

Heather J. Walter, MD, MPH



Dr. Walter presents “Can Prevention Achieve Societal Change? Four Decades of Experience” during Honors Presentation 2 on Thursday, October 23, from 10:30 am–11:20 am.

*The Irving Philips, MD, Award for Prevention recognizes a child and adolescent psychiatrist and AACAP member who has made significant contributions in a lifetime career or single seminal work to the prevention of mental illness in children and adolescents. The award is named after former AACAP President Irving Philips, MD (1985–1987), who was renowned for his work in the field of prevention.*

Heather Walter, MD, MPH, is a professor of psychiatry at Harvard University and a senior attending psychiatrist at Boston Children’s Hospital. Dr. Walter’s research and clinical interests focus on increasing access to preventive health and behavioral health (BH) services for youth in under-resourced communities. She has developed, evaluated, and nationally disseminated primary prevention programs addressing health risk factors and BH concerns in inner city schools; secondary and tertiary prevention programs targeting psychiatric disorders in schools and pediatric primary care; and digital BH education programs (*Building Bridges of Understanding*) for pediatric primary care practitioners, BH clinicians, and patients and families. Dr. Walter also served as co-chair of AACAP’s Committee on Quality Issues, which, during her tenure, published over 30 practice parameters, clinical updates, and clinical practice guidelines in *JAACAP*. Dr. Walter trained in preventive medicine, public health, and epidemiology at the University of California, Los Angeles; psychiatry at New York University; and child and adolescent psychiatry at Columbia University. Previously, Dr. Walter was the director of community school psychiatry at Columbia University; director of outpatient psychiatric services and professor of psychiatry at Northwestern University; and chief of child and adolescent psychiatry, vice-chair of psychiatry, and professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at Boston University.

*My heartfelt thanks to AACAP and the Health Promotion and Prevention Committee for honoring me with this award. I would like to express my gratitude to the distinguished mentors who inspired my career and my teams of talented colleagues, without whom my work would not have been possible.*

## AACAP Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Award for Scientific Achievement

### Kate D. Fitzgerald, MD, MS

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*The AACAP Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Award for Scientific Achievement recognizes the best paper published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry from July 2024 through June 2025. Established in 1988, the award is supported by the Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Foundation.*

Kate D. Fitzgerald, MD, MS, is the Ruane Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute (NYSPI). At Columbia University/NYSPI, she serves as director of research in the Children's Day Unit, and director of pediatric clinical studies in the Center for OCD and Related Disorders. She also co-leads NIMH-funded T32 and R25 training grants to cultivate the next generation of child and adolescent psychiatry researchers. Dr. Fitzgerald's clinical and research expertise is in pediatric obsessive compulsive and anxiety disorders. In her lab at Columbia University/NYSPI, she leads a team of interdisciplinary clinicians and researchers, combining fMRI, EEG and clinical trial methods to understand neural mechanisms of cognitive behavioral therapy effect, and to test brain-based interventions to improve outcomes in affected youth. Her research has implicated alterations of neural substrate for cognitive control in children, adolescents, and adults with OCD and anxiety disorders. Currently, she is conducting a randomized clinical trial testing a novel cognitive training game to enhance brain-behavioral capacity for cognitive control to augment exposure and response prevention therapy for children with OCD. Dr. Fitzgerald is also studying play-based cognitive training strategy designed to reduce early childhood anxiety by increasing EEG-indexed cognitive control. Dr. Fitzgerald is motivated to find ways to facilitate brain maturation to prevent and treat OCD and anxiety disorders in children and adolescents. She has published extensively on these topics in general and child psychiatric journals. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with early career researchers, especially post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Dana Diaz, a talented early career scientist who first-authored this 2025 Rieger Award paper in *JAACAP*.



Dr. Fitzgerald presents  
“Neural Substrates of Emotion  
Processing and Cognitive  
Control Over Emotion in  
Youth Anxiety: An  
RDoC-Informed Study Across  
the Clinical to Nonclinical  
Continuum of Severity” during  
Honors Presentation 3 on  
Thursday, October 23, from  
2:00 pm–4:30 pm.

*When we step in early, we can keep anxiety and OCD from taking hold of a child's life. Today's treatments help, but not enough. By nurturing the developing brain, we have a powerful opportunity to build better therapies—and give more kids the chance to grow up free from illness.*

## AACAP Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Service Program Award for Excellence

Wynne S. Morgan, MD



*The AACAP Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Service Program Award for Excellence recognizes innovative programs that address prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of mental illness in children and adolescents and serve as model programs to the community. Supported by the Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Foundation, the Award was established in 1996.*

Wynne S. Morgan, MD, is an assistant professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at the University of Massachusetts. Dr. Morgan graduated from medical school at the University of Massachusetts where she also continued her training in adult and child and adolescent psychiatry. She is double board-certified in adult psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry.

Dr. Morgan presents  
“Believing in Change:  
Collaborating with the Child  
Welfare System to Support  
the Mental Health Needs  
of Children in Foster Care”  
during Honors Presentation 4  
on Friday, October 24, from  
12:00 pm–12:50 pm.

Dr. Morgan’s work in child psychiatry has focused on building systems of care to promote childhood resilience factors that mitigate the impact of developmental trauma to support vulnerable children and families. She is co-program director of the FaCES Safe and Sound clinic at UMass Children’s Medical Center, an integrated behavioral health clinic for youth entering foster care. This clinic addresses both the medical and mental health needs of children as they enter the child welfare system, using a trauma-informed approach and emphasizing parenting supports with lived experiences. Dr. Morgan also serves as the consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist for the Massachusetts state child welfare system, the Department of Children and Families in Boston, MA, and helps lead psychotropic oversight efforts for youth in foster care throughout Massachusetts.

At AACAP, Dr. Morgan serves as a current co-chair of the Adoption and Foster Care Committee and a past committee liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Council on Foster Care, Adoption, and Kinship Care Executive Committee. Dr. Morgan also received the inaugural Marilyn Benoit Child Maltreatment Mentorship Award from AACAP in 2018.

*“What we ask of you is to use your children as a standard. If it is not good enough for your children, it is not good enough for us.”*

*—Misty Stenslie, Foster Care Alumnus and Founder of Foster Care Alumni of America*

## AACAP Jeanne Spurlock, MD, Lecture and Award on Diversity and Culture

Eraka P.J. Bath, MD

*The AACAP Jeanne Spurlock, MD, Lecture and Award on Diversity and Culture recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the recruitment of child and adolescent psychiatry from all cultures. This award was established in 2012 in honor of Jeanne Spurlock, MD, a giant in child and adolescent psychiatry and in advocacy for children, adolescents, and their families from all cultures. This award is administered through AACAP's Department of Research, Grants, and Workforce, along with AACAP's Diversity and Culture Committee, under the direction of Brandon Newsome, MD, and Deepika Shaligram, MD.*

Eraka P.J. Bath, MD is professor and vice chair for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the Department of Psychiatry, and assistant dean for faculty initiatives at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. Board certified in child and adolescent, adult, and forensic psychiatry, she has committed her career to community mental health, advancing health equity for ethnoracially minoritized, and structurally marginalized youth and families, with specialized focus on youth impacted by the child welfare and juvenile legal systems. She teaches about structural racism, intersectionality, and antiracism, and how they shape mental health, biomedical research, and the healthcare workforce. Her research uses community-based models to improve behavioral and reproductive health engagement among girls with histories of commercial sexual exploitation and system involvement.

An AACAP member since 2005, Dr. Bath was recognized for her outstanding mentorship in 2018, and currently serves as *JAACAP* Assistant Editor of Health Equity and Antiracism. In addition to the Nominating Committee, she has also been a member of the Children and the Law Committee since 2009 and was appointed co-chair in 2017.

Dr. Bath obtained her undergraduate degree at University of California, Berkeley; her medical degree at Howard University; her general residency at Saint Vincent Hospital Manhattan; and her child psychiatry and forensic training at New York University, where she was faculty prior to joining UCLA.



Dr. Bath presents "The Fierce Urgency of Now: The Importance of Everyday Activism and Community Organizing in Medicine" during the Honors Presentation 3 on Thursday, October 23, from 2:00 pm–4:30 pm.

*A multi-hyphenate changemaker who combined activism, community and academic psychiatry, policy and service, Dr. Spurlock's career serves as a cultural north star, especially in the "fierce urgency of now." It is with deep humility and gratitude that I accept the 2025 Jeanne Spurlock, MD, Diversity and Culture Award. It is an honor and privilege to carry the torch that shines light on her legacy and that of the previous distinguished awardees.*

## AACAP George Tarjan, MD, Award for Contributions in Developmental Disabilities

Craig A. Erickson, MD



*The AACAP George Tarjan, MD, Award for Contributions in Developmental Disabilities recognizes a child and adolescent psychiatrist and AACAP member who has made significant contributions in a lifetime career or single seminal work to the understanding or care in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. The award was established in 1993 in honor of former AACAP President George Tarjan, MD (1977–79), by his wife, Mrs. George Tarjan, and friends.*

Dr. Erickson presents  
“Target Engagement  
Fast-Fail Clinical Trials  
in Neurodevelopmental  
Disorders” during Honors  
Presentation 3 on  
Thursday, October 23,  
from 2:00 pm–4:30 pm.

Craig A. Erickson, MD, is a professor of psychiatry at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Erickson leads a neurodevelopmental clinical and research group focused on improving clinical care through research discovery. He is the director of the Cincinnati Fragile X Research and Treatment Center, which is one of the largest such programs in the world. Additionally, he is the director of research in the Division of Psychiatry at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.

*I am honored to receive the George Tarjan award from AACAP. I devoted my career to improving outcomes for patients of all ages with developmental disorders following many summers prior to medical school spent working at camps for youth with autism and related disorders. My mentor Christopher J. McDougle got me off to great start in our field and since Cincinnati Children’s Hospital has offered tireless support of our work seeking to develop new and impactful treatments for the patients we serve.*

## AACAP Simon Wile, MD, Leadership in Consultation Award

Sandra L. Fritsch, MD, MEd

*The AACAP Simon Wile, MD, Leadership in Consultation Award acknowledges outstanding leadership and continuous contributions in the field of consultation-liaison child and adolescent psychiatry. The award is named after Simon Wile, MD, a renowned pediatrician and lifelong supporter of child and adolescent psychiatry, and it was established in 2003 with a donation from the Massachusetts General Hospital.*

Sandra L. Fritsch, MD, MEd, received her medical degree from Michigan State University in 1985. She trained in the first cohort of the Triple Board Program in pediatrics, psychiatry, and child psychiatry at Brown University and completed her residency in 1991. Her career has encompassed working at the interface of pediatrics and child psychiatry; both for inpatients in pediatric hospitals and in outpatient child psychiatry. Dr. Fritsch's current professional role is as the medical director of the Pediatric Mental Health Institute, Children's Hospital Colorado, executive director of the Colorado Mental Health Access Programs, and professor in the Department of Psychiatry at University of Colorado. While working in Massachusetts, Dr. Fritsch was fortunate to be involved in the Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Program (MCPAP), then developed a similar program in Maine and subsequently in Colorado. CoPPCAP, the Colorado Pediatric Consultation & Access Program, which Dr. Fritsch directs, is a HRSA PMHCA funded initiative. Dr. Fritsch's professional interests include collaborative care models between primary care and mental health providers, advocacy, innovations in medical education, and the interplay of physical health concerns and mental health needs.



Dr. Fritsch presents, "The Interface of Child Psychiatry & Pediatrics: From Psychoanalytic Formulations to Functional Disorders to Collaborative Care Models" during the Simon Wile Symposium on Tuesday, October 21, from 11:00 am–1:00 pm.

*This award is truly an honor. I attended the Simon Wile Symposium at my first AACAP Annual Meeting as a Triple Board resident and discovered a forum that I returned to regularly to help guide my professional career. Receiving this award is a "full circle" experience. But I would not be receiving this if not for the wisdom, guidance, and mentorship I have received throughout my career. "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."*

—Isaac Newton

## AACAP New Distinguished Fellows

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*AACAP congratulates the following members elevated to Distinguished Fellows between 11/1/2024 and 08/19/2025.*

**Adefolake Akinsanya, MD**—Perry Hall, MD  
**Vivek Anand, MD**—Sioux Falls, SD  
**Sarah H. Arshad, MD**—Havertown, PA  
**Stephanie Barnes, MD**—Cleveland, OH  
**Arden Barnett, MD**—Champaign, IL  
**Petronella T. Bell, MD**—Tallahassee, FL  
**Tiffani Bell, MD**—Boston, MA  
**Casey Berson, MD**—Simpsonville, SC  
**Aaron D. Besterman, MD**—San Diego, CA  
**Jawed Bharwani, MD**—Omaha, NE  
**Megan Campbell, MD**—New Orleans, LA  
**Beau A. Carubia, MD**—Morrison, CO  
**Mary Cutler, MD**—Reisterstown, MD  
**Joan Daughton, MD**—Omaha, NE  
**Stephanie Davidson, MD**—Haverford, PA  
**Vittoria DeLucia, MD**—Baltimore MD  
**Rachel Dew, MD, MHSc**—Durham, NC  
**Tom DiMatteo, MD**—Lisle, IL  
**Mary Dobbins, MD**—Springfield, IL  
**David Driver, MD**—Bethesda, MD  
**Eman El Gamal, MD**—Brooklyn, NY  
**Ritu Goel, MD**—Long Beach, CA  
**Lisa R. Fortuna, MD, MPH, MDiv**—Riverside, CA  
**Keith Foster, MD**—Clancy, MT  
**Benjamin I. Goldstein, FRCPC, MD, PhD**—Toronto, ON  
**Thomas J. Hoffman, MD**—Butte, MT  
**Robert P. Holloway, MD**—West Hollywood, CA  
**Suma Jacob, MD, PhD**—Los Angeles, CA

**Peter S. Jensen, MD**—Maumelle, AR  
**Kyle P. Johnson, MD**—Portland, OR  
**Sheena Joychan, MD**—Hartford, CT  
**Lisa Karabelnik, MD**—West Hartford, CT  
**Urszula Kelley, MD**—Plano, TX  
**Anna J. Kerlek, MD**—Columbus, OH  
**Brian P. Kurtz, MD**—Wyoming, OH  
**Carmen Lopez-Arvizu, MD**—Baltimore, MD  
**Robert Lovern, MD**—Bethesda, MD  
**Courtney L. McMickens, MD, MPH, MHS**—Raleigh, NC  
**Shivana Naidoo, MD**—Chandler, AZ  
**Fedra Najjar, MD**—Skokie, IL  
**Olugbemiga A. Osoba, MD**—Dunwoody, GA  
**Rishi Parikh, MD**—Rancho Cucamonga, CA  
**Ernest Pedapati, MD, MS**—Cincinnati, OH  
**Carl E. Peterson, DO**—Chesapeake, VA  
**Laurence Pezor, MD**—Easton, MD  
**Zheala Qayyum, MD, MMSc**—Boston, MA  
**Noshene Ranjbar, MD**—Tucson, AZ  
**Timothy Rice, MD**—Nyack, NY  
**Eileen Ryan, DO**—Blacklick, OH  
**Jeanette M. Scheid, MD, PhD**—East Lansing, MI  
**Abigail B. Schlesinger, MD**—Wexford, PA  
**Joseph Shrand, MD**—Marshfield, MA  
**Mary Steinmann, MD**—Salt Lake City, UT  
**Rex Taber, MD**—Willard, MO  
**Rebecca V. Taylor, MA, MD**—Durham, NC  
**Rameshwari V. Tumuluru, MD**—Wexford, PA  
**Jennifer Zaspel, MD**—Milwaukee, WI

## AACAP Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD, International Scholars Award

### André Luiz S. da Rosa, MD, MSc, PhD

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*AACAP's Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD, International Scholars Awards recognize international physicians who have shown a commitment, early in their careers, for the enhancement of mental health services for children, adolescents, and their families. The award was established in 2015 with a donation from AACAP Past President Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD.*

André Luiz da Rosa, MD, MSc, PhD, is a clinician-researcher from Porto Alegre, Brazil, whose career bridges public health, clinical psychiatry, research, and education. He is completing his PhD at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, where his work investigates the use of clozapine for treatment-resistant aggression in youth with autism.



Dr. da Rosa helped establish one of southern Brazil's first public, interdisciplinary programs for early neurodevelopmental assessments, dramatically expanding access to evidence-based care. He also leads regional initiatives through the Rio Grande do Sul Psychiatry Association and the Brazilian Association of Child Neurology and Psychiatry. His science communication project, Infância com Evidência, brings research-based knowledge to families, educators, and clinicians.

*This award inspires me to continue building bridges between research, clinical care, and advocacy so that children and families everywhere, regardless of setting, can access evidence-based mental health support. I'm honored to bring the perspective of Brazil to AACAP's global community and deeply grateful for the opportunity to learn, share, and contribute.*

## AACAP Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD, International Scholars Award

### Lakshmi Sravanti Tanuku, MD

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*AACAP's Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD, International Scholars Awards recognize international physicians who have shown a commitment, early in their careers, to the enhancement of mental health services for children, adolescents, and their families. The award was established in 2015 with a donation from AACAP past president Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD.*

Lakshmi Sravanti Tanuku, MD, is an assistant professor in child and adolescent psychiatry at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, India. She has helped develop infant mental health and eating disorder services and conducts research on mood and anxiety disorders, non-invasive brain stimulation, and culturally responsive care.

Dr. Tanuku also serves as deputy editor for the *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health* journal and the *IACAPAP Bulletin*, where she works to make research accessible worldwide. She has received multiple honors, including the Dr. M. V. Govindaswamy Memorial Award and the Helmut Remschmidt Research Seminar Fellowship.

Through her clinical work, research, and education efforts, Dr. Tanuku is advancing child and adolescent psychiatry in India and strengthening international collaboration to improve care for youth in resource-limited settings.

*Attending the AACAP Annual Meeting is a catalyst for building bridges between science and service, and between contexts and cultures. I look forward to bringing insights from this global community back to India, where they can inform training, research, and care for children and families in resource-limited settings.*

## AACAP Ülkü Ülgür, MD, International Scholar Award

### Nazish Imran, MBBS, MRCPsych, FRCPsych, MHPE, PhD

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*AACAP's Ülkü Ülgür, MD, International Scholar Award recognizes an AACAP member in the international community who has made significant contributions to the enhancement of mental health services for children and adolescents. The award was established in 2013 with a donation from AACAP member Ülkü Ülgür, MD.*

Prof. Dr. Nazish Imran is Professor and Head of Child and Family Psychiatry at King Edward Medical University, Lahore, Pakistan. She established Pakistan's first public-sector inpatient unit for children in 2012, co-founded a free multidisciplinary Autism and Neurodevelopmental Therapy Centre, and co-developed the country's first national suicide prevention guidelines for youth.

She also spearheaded Pakistan's first fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry, mentoring the next generation of specialists, and contributes internationally through the IACAPAP e-Textbook, AACAP, and WPA.

Through clinical innovation, advocacy, and training, Dr. Imran has expanded access to evidence-based care in low-resource settings and continues to advance child and adolescent mental health in Pakistan and beyond.



*This recognition reflects not only my journey but also the resilience and commitment of all those working for children's mental health in Pakistan. It inspires me to continue building sustainable services, mentoring the next generation, and ensuring that every child has the chance to thrive.*

## AACAP's Psychodynamic Faculty Initiative Mentorship Award

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AACAP's Psychodynamic Faculty Initiative (PsyFI) Mentorship Award aims to support and advance psychodynamic psychotherapy training in child and adolescent psychiatry residency programs through faculty development. Under guidance of an assigned AACAP mentor, award recipients identify a problem or area in need of improvement in their child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship program's teaching of psychodynamic psychotherapy and design a project to address the need. They work through the year toward project completion with their assigned mentor, while gaining access to a network of leaders in the specialty. Funded through a generous donation by the Leatherman-Drell-Ritvo Fund for the Advancement of Psychodynamic Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (LDRF), recipients receive financial assistance toward their registration to attend a daylong project planning retreat, along with networking events during the week of AACAP's Annual Meeting. The program is administered through AACAP's Department of Research, Grants, and Workforce, under the direction of Rachel Ritvo, MD, Marty Drell, MD, Michael Shapiro, MD, and Laura Prager, MD.



### **Bekir Artukoglu, MD**

Brown University Health

Mentor: Jawed M. Bharwani, MD, Creighton University



### **Alexander H. Buell, MD**

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Mentor: Roberta Isberg, MD, Boston Children's Hospital



### **Charles Calvin Coleman, MD**

Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Mentor: Arden D. Dingle, MD, University of Nevada, Reno



### **Rajesh K. Mehta, MD**

Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters/Old Dominion University

Mentor: Manal F. Khan, MD, University of California, Los Angeles



### **Sohail Amar Nibras, MD**

Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital

Mentor: John P. Glazer, MD, Boston Children's Hospital

## Members of the 100% Club

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*The following child and adolescent psychiatry residency directors recruited all of their residents to be members of AACAP. Since child and adolescent psychiatry residents are the future of both AACAP and the field of child and adolescent psychiatry, AACAP acknowledges and warmly thanks the following residency directors for their support.*

**Zheala Qayyum, MD, MMSc**—

Boston Children's Hospital Program

**Katherine Liebesny, MD**—Carilion

Clinic-Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine Program

**Stephanie Barnes, MD**—Case Western

Reserve Univ/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center Program

**Sumru Bilge-Johnson, MD**—Children's

Hospital Medical Center of Akron/NEOMED Program

**Anik Jhonsa, MD**—Children's Hospital of

Philadelphia Program

**Brian P. Kurtz, MD**—Cincinnati Children's

Hospital Medical Center Program

**Carlos A. Salgado, MD**—Citrus Health

Network, Inc. Program

**Wendy Watson, MD, MPH**—Creighton

University School of Medicine Program

**Craig Donnelly, MD**—Dartmouth-Hitchcock/

Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital Program

**Rebecca Klisz-Hulbert, MD**—Detroit

Medical Center/Wayne State University

**Jennifer Holton, MD**—Emory University

School of Medicine Program

**Kevin J. Winders, MD**—Gateway Behavioral

Health Community Service Board Program

**David V. Braitman, MD**—Indiana University

School of Medicine Program

**Salma Malik, MD, MS**—Institute of Living/

Hartford Hospital Program

**Hal Kronsberg, MD**—Johns Hopkins

University Program

**Lisa Ann Durette, MD**—Kirk Kerkorian

School of Medicine at UNLV Program

**Dhana Ramasamy, MD**—Lehigh Valley

Health Network Program

**Pamela McPherson, MD**—Louisiana State

University (Shreveport) Program

**David Rubin, MD**—Massachusetts General

Hospital/McLean Hospital Program

**Khadijah Booth Watkins, MD**—

Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital Program

**Julie Sadhu, MD**—McGaw Medical Center

Northwestern University Program

**Dale A. Peeples, MD**—Medical College of Georgia Program

**Erica Michelle Arrington, MD**—Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals Program

**A. Lee Lewis, IV, MD**—Medical University of South Carolina Program

**Danae Evans, MD**—Morehouse School of Medicine Program

**Nicholas Ladd, DO**—Mountain Area Health Education Center Program

**Oliver M. Stroeh, MD**—New York Presbyterian Hospital (Columbia) Program

**Megan Mroczkowski, MD**—NYU Grossman School of Medicine Program

**Mariam Rahmani, MD**—Old Dominion University/Eastern Virginia Medical School Program

**Craigian Todd Usher, MD**—Oregon Health & Science University Program

## Members of the 100% Club (*continued*)

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**John E. Bragg, Jr., MD**—Prisma Health/  
University of South Carolina School of  
Medicine-Columbia Program

**Jeffrey I. Hunt, MD**—Rhode Island Hospital/  
Brown University Health Program

**Shashank V. Joshi, MD**—Stanford Health  
Care Program

**Isheeta Zalpuri, MD**—Stanford Health  
Care-Sponsored Stanford University Program

**Sarah Mallard Wakefield, MD**—Texas Tech  
University Health Sciences Center at  
Lubbock Program

**Cecilia C. De Vargas, MD**—Texas Tech  
University HSC El Paso

**Neha Sharma, DO**—Tufts Medical  
Center Program

**Myo Thwin Myint, MD**—Tulane  
University Program

**Brian Skehan, MD, PhD**—UMass Chan  
Medical School Program

**Anne Penner, MD**—University of  
Colorado Program

**Cassie Karlsson, MD**—University of Kansas  
(Wichita) Program

**Nathan Prichard, DO**—University of Kansas  
School of Medicine Program

**Sandra Batsel-Thomas, MD**—University of  
Kentucky College of Medicine Program

**Sarah Edwards, DO**—University of  
Maryland Program

**Caren Jacquette Blacker, MD**—University of  
Minnesota Program

**Kimothi Cain, MD**—University of New  
Mexico School of Medicine Program

**Tara R. Buck, MD**—University of Oklahoma  
of Community Medicine, at Tulsa Program

**Leigh J. Ruth, MD**—University of South  
Florida Morsani Program

**Kari Whatley, MD**—University of Texas at  
Austin Dell Medical School Program

**Mary Steinmann, MD**—University of Utah  
Health Program

**Maya Strange, MD**—University of Vermont  
Medical Center Program

**Ray Chih-Jui Hsiao, MD**—University of  
Washington Program

**Sansea L. Jacobson, MD**—UPMC Medical  
Education Program

**Dimal D. Shah, MD**—Virginia Commonwealth  
University Health System Program

**Naomi Leslie, MD**—Wake Forest University  
Baptist School of Medicine Program

**Eric Spiegel, MD**—Washington University/  
B-JH/SLCH Consortium Program

**Dorothy E. Stubbe, MD**—Yale-New Haven  
Medical Center Program

## AACAP Marilyn B. Benoit, MD, Child Maltreatment Mentorship Award

### Obaro Okopie, MD, MPH

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*The AACAP Marilyn B. Benoit, MD, Child Maltreatment Mentorship Award was made possible by a generous donation from Lisa Yang, MBA, in honor of past AACAP president, Marilyn B. Benoit, MD. This award provides an opportunity for recipients and mentors to design a project over 12–16 weeks focusing on child welfare, foster care, and/or child maltreatment in order to raise awareness, recognize leaders, and create a community of knowledgeable teachers who will become leaders in these fields.*

Obaro “Tobi” Okopie, MD, MPH, is a second-year triple board resident in the Boston Combined Residency Program—Boston Children’s/Boston Medical Center & Tufts Medical Center. She completed her undergraduate degrees in biochemistry, minor in justice and peace studies at Georgetown University. She then matriculated into a dual degree, MD/MPH program, between Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso & University of Texas Health at Houston. There, Dr. Okopie had the opportunity to explore the realities of border health and the implications for child well-being and development. After graduating in 2024, she began residency with the Boston Triple Board Program, with the ambitious goal of pursuing preventive psychiatry through an integrated primary care model for unhoused, migrant, justice-involved and system-involved youth.

Dr. Okopie’s project, “Where the Kids Go: Care Utilization Patterns Among Children with a History of Trauma,” intends to explore the differences in care utilization between children with and without a history of abuse. Her mentor, Dr. Mary Margaret Gleason, serves as the chief of early childhood at Boston Children’s Hospital. This project is meant to gain a better understanding of Child Protective Services (CPS) involvement and its potential implications.



Dr. Okopie’s project is entitled, “Where the Kids Go: Care Utilization Patterns Among Children with a History of Trauma.”

*AACAP’s Marilyn Benoit, MD, Child Maltreatment Mentorship Award is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be mentored by one of the very best in an area I am so passionate about. I am hopeful that this opportunity will create additional opportunities for advocacy and policy changes on a national scale. I am grateful for the support of the Academy and my mentor in making all of this possible.*

## AACAP Drs. Gabrielle and Harold Carlson Psychopharmacology Research Award

Amanda E. Downey, MD



Dr. Downey presents “Innovative and Emerging Therapeutics for Eating Disorders” during Clinical Perspectives 85 on Friday, October 24, from 2:30 pm–4:30 pm

*The AACAP Drs. Gabrielle and Harold Carlson Psychopharmacology Research Award was established in 2022 to provide mentored research funding support to a child and adolescent psychiatry second-year fellow or early career faculty in the area of psychopharmacology, to include neurotherapeutics, with a focus on practical and investigative work toward treatment for children and adolescents. Offering \$20,000 to one child and adolescent psychiatry fellow or early career faculty to complete a two-year mentored research project, this award supports early investigators at a critical stage, encouraging a future career in child and adolescent psychiatry research.*

Amanda E. Downey, MD, is an associate professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). She partners closely with patients and families to develop treatment plans that honor their strengths and challenges, and she aims—through education, advocacy, and research—to dismantle the systems that increase risk for eating disorders. Dr. Downey serves as the assistant medical director of the UCSF Eating Disorders Program. She earned her medical degree at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and completed a triple board residency at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Downey’s research program explores innovative psychopharmacologic treatments for youth with severe eating disorders, including ketamine and psilocybin therapy, alongside nutritional rehabilitation strategies that impact metabolism and cognitive function. With support from the AACAP Drs. Gabrielle and Harold Carlson Psychopharmacology Research Award, Dr. Downey is examining the mechanisms by which psilocybin-assisted psychotherapy might alleviate rigid thought patterns and affective dysregulation in anorexia nervosa, including inflammation. Her project builds on her dual training in pediatrics and psychiatry and her commitment to evidence-based, compassionate treatment. The work supported by this award laid the groundwork for subsequent grants that have significantly expanded the scope and impact of her research.

*I am deeply honored to receive the AACAP Drs. Gabrielle and Harold Carlson Psychopharmacology Research Award. This award has allowed me to explore novel therapeutic pathways for young people with eating disorders and to bridge the worlds of medicine and psychiatry. I look forward to advancing evidence-based treatments that honor the resilience of my patients and expand the horizons of care for adolescents and young adults and their families.*

## AACAP Beatrix A. Hamburg, MD, Award for the Best New Research Poster by a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Resident

Hagar Kandel, MBChB, MSc

*The AACAP Beatrix A. Hamburg, MD, Award for the Best New Research Poster by a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Resident was established in 1996 through a grant from the Greenwall Foundation and the Klingenstein Third Generation Foundation in honor of Beatrix A. Hamburg, MD, former president of the William T. Grant Foundation and an AACAP Life Fellow. This award honors her commitment to the education and development of young investigators by recognizing the best new research poster by a child and adolescent psychiatry resident and AACAP member.*

Hagar Kandel, MBBCh, MSc, earned her medical degree and completed combined neurology and psychiatry residency training at Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt, where she also received a master's degree in clinical neurology and psychiatry. After serving as an attending physician treating children with neurodevelopmental conditions, she moved to the United States to expand her clinical and research expertise. Dr. Kandel completed her general psychiatry residency at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, where she was a long-term trainee in the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program, and her child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean. She is currently a Postdoctoral Autism Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital, with research focused on understanding gender variance in autistic individuals and strengthening systems of care across the lifespan. Dr. Kandel is a mother of four who enjoys reading and music.



Dr. Kandel presents the poster "Gender Variance in Clinically Referred Individuals with Autism: Prevalence and Identity Patterns," which is available to view during New Research Poster Session 3 on Thursday, October 23, from 10:30 am–12:30 pm or on the Annual Meeting website throughout the meeting.

*I am deeply honored to receive the 2025 AACAP Beatrix A. Hamburg, MD, Award and sincerely grateful for this recognition of my work. My passion is to advance understanding of gender variance and improve care for autistic individuals while supporting families navigating developmental challenges. As a mother of four, this mission is especially meaningful, and I remain committed to contributing to the field.*

## **AACAP John F. McDermott, MD, Assistant Editor-in-Residence for the *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry***

**David C. Saunders, MD, PhD**



Dr. Saunders speaks in  
Workshop 26: "How to Get  
Published: Tips, Strategies, and  
Consultation from JAACAP  
and JAACAP Connect" on  
Friday, October 24, from  
9:00 am–12:00 pm.

*The John F. McDermott, MD, Assistant Editor-in-Residence position provides the opportunity for an early-career child and adolescent psychiatrist to join the editorial team of the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (JAACAP) for two years. Working closely with the editor-in-chief, the assistant editor-in-residence acquires an intimate understanding of the editorial processes behind the production of the Journal. The long-term goal of this position is to foster the professional growth of child and adolescent psychiatrists interested in the editorial process. The award was established in 2006 in honor of the late John F. McDermott, Jr., MD, JAACAP Editor-in-Chief, 1988–1997.*

David C. Saunders, MD, PhD, is an assistant professor of psychiatry at Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute. He completed his medical degree at Weill Cornell Medicine, his PhD in religion at Emory University, and adult psychiatry residency and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at Yale University in the Solnit Integrated Research Training Program. His Child and Adolescent Mindfulness and Spirituality Lab is part of the Center for Intergenerational Psychiatry at Columbia University, where his research focuses on mindfulness-based interventions in child and adolescent psychiatry, as well as religiosity and spirituality in child and adolescent mental health. He is particularly interested in substance use disorder and substance use prevention, as well as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. His work has been supported by AACAP, including the AACAP Pilot Research Award and the K12 Physician Scientist Program in Substance Use Career Development Award.

*Following in the footsteps of prior awardees, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue as the John F. McDermott, MD, Assistant Editor-in-Residence. I am thrilled to contribute to JAACAP and JAACAP Connect by sharing my passion for research, writing, and education. I extend a special thank you to the McDermott family for this wonderful opportunity, and another special thank you to Doug Novins, J. Corey Williams, Mary Billingsley, Mariel Gambino, and all the staff at JAACAP and AACAP for making this opportunity possible.*

## AACAP Jerry M. Wiener, MD, Resident Member of Council Jad Hilal, MD

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*The AACAP Jerry M. Wiener, MD, Resident Member of Council honors former AACAP President Jerry M. Wiener, MD (1987–1989) and author of the Textbook of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The resident participates in the governance of AACAP by attending Council meetings for two years (2025–2027). This position encourages those new to the field of child and adolescent psychiatry to become familiar with how AACAP functions as well as the overall governance of the association and in turn gives resident members of AACAP a voice on Council.*

Dr. Jad Hilal is a child psychiatry fellow at Boston Children's Hospital and an American Psychiatric Association Foundation child psychiatry fellow. He completed adult psychiatry residency at the Brigham & Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School program after earning his MD at the University of Pittsburgh, where he also served as a social medicine fellow working on curriculum reform and healthcare equity initiatives. His research focuses on care for unhoused persons with substance use disorders, and he is leading efforts to integrate harm reduction education into the Harvard Medical School curriculum. His past roles include positions with the Pittsburgh City Council, local government, and the Obama Foundation.



Nationally, Dr. Hilal chairs an AACAP trainee advocacy subcommittee and was named a 2024 AACAP Resident Advocacy Scholar, advancing trainee engagement in advocacy at the federal level. He has presented widely on advocacy and systems of care, particularly regarding trainee involvement. Outside of medicine, he has been a violinist since age four, and enjoys rock climbing, cycling, and cooking.

*It is a true honor to serve as the 2025–2027 Jerry M. Wiener Resident of Council and to build upon the excellent work of my predecessor, Megan Single, MD. Now more than ever, it is vital for trainees to recognize their capacity to effect systemic change, and I am committed to fostering that vision through this role.*

## AACAP Emerging Leaders Fellow—*Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*

Diab A. Ali, MD

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*The AACAP Emerging Leaders Fellowship aims to support AACAP in strengthening its leadership and workforce development efforts across the organization and the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (JAACAP). This two-year fellowship will offer mentorship and leadership experience, allowing the fellow to become familiar with JAACAP, complete a project of their choosing, and be a voice on JAACAP's Editorial Board.*

Diab A. Ali, MD, is a child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. Ali's clinical and research interests include early childhood and perinatal mental health, how trauma, violence, and psychiatric risk manifest across generations, and how to break these cycles. Dr. Ali focuses on parent-child autonomic and genomic markers, executive functioning, and population cultural contexts—particularly in relation to collective exposure, migration histories, and how culture interacts with such experiences across contexts and generations. He has been the Principal Investigator to two community-partnered projects with Lebanese and Afghan migrant families, supported by the AACAP Pilot Research Award, and is currently engaged in global mental health research in the United States, Sierra Leone, and Lebanon. Dr. Ali is planning on applying for an NIH K award, with continued anticipated focus in the research areas of family intergenerational dynamics among diverse populations.

*Thank you so much to the Academy for this incredible honor. Supporting children and families means investing in the health and strength of generations to come.*

## AACAP Emerging Leaders Fellow—AACAP Council

### Taiwo P. Alonge, MD, MPH

*The AACAP Emerging Leaders Fellowship aims to support AACAP in strengthening its leadership and workforce development efforts across the organization and the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (JAACAP). This two-year fellowship will offer mentorship and leadership experience, allowing the fellow to become familiar with the AACAP Council, complete a project of their choosing, and be a voice on the Council.*

Taiwo P. Alonge, MD, MPH, is a second-year child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at NewYork Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine and Columbia University. He received his BS in biology from the University of Florida and his MD and MPH at Columbia University. At the center of Dr. Alonge's efforts lies the perspective that love, relationships, and community shape our mental health and that as psychiatrists, our primary role is to use our unique expertise and skills to affect positive change on these domains to address challenges impacting mental health and, more importantly, prevent crises. Dr. Alonge's background and experience include research, writing, public speaking, and community organizing. In a world where there are growing concerns about several existential matters, Dr. Alonge remains steadfast in the work required to meet the challenges and crises of today as a community psychiatrist specializing in child and adolescent psychiatry.



*Thank you so much to the Academy for the opportunity to be one of this year's Emerging Leaders Fellows. This work is so important and knowing the Academy's commitment to it means the world not just to me but to the children of the world.*

## AACAP Emerging Leaders Fellow—AACAP Program Committee

Alayna J. Freeman, MD



*The AACAP Emerging Leaders Fellowship aims to support AACAP in strengthening its leadership and workforce development efforts across the organization and the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (JAACAP). This two-year fellowship will offer mentorship and leadership experience, allowing the fellow to become familiar with the AACAP Program Committee and complete a project of their choosing.*

Alayna J. Freeman, MD, is a second-year child and adolescent psychiatry fellow and chief fellow of the New Haven track at the Yale Child Study Center. She completed her residency at UT Health San Antonio; medical school at the Uniformed Services University; and her bachelor's degree at Xavier University of Louisiana. An active-duty U.S. Air Force officer, she has collaborated with the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress on recommendations for caring for military children after parental death, led child psychiatry groups in Spain, and partnered with organizations in Ghana to integrate mental health screening into a medical mission. Her interests include global and community-based mental health education, supporting military youth, and trauma-informed care for underserved youth and families.

*Thank you AACAP for this incredible honor! I am grateful to serve through the Emerging Leaders Program Committee Fellowship, and I aim to pay it forward with continuing to make the world a better place and bringing the village to the children.*

## AACAP Junior Investigator Award, supported by AACAP and Industry Supporters

Jessica E. Becker, MD, MPH

*The AACAP Junior Investigator Award, supported by AACAP and Industry Supporters\*, offers an award of up to \$30,000 a year for two years for child and adolescent psychiatry junior faculty. Beginning in 2009, this program is intended to facilitate basic or clinical research relevant to our understanding, treatment, and prevention of child and adolescent mental health disorders.*

Jessica E. Becker, MD, MPH, is a child and adolescent psychiatrist focused on the intersection of physical and mental health conditions in youth, and a decision science researcher. She is currently the associate chief of Intensive Psychiatry Services in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Franciscan Children's site of Boston Children's Hospital, as well as a member of faculty in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard University. She graduated with an AB from Harvard College and an MD from Yale University. She completed her clinical training in the combined Adult-Child and Adolescent Psychiatry program at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH)/McLean Hospital and stayed on at MGH as faculty on the pediatric-consultation liaison psychiatry service while completing the Harvard-wide Pediatric Health Services Research Fellowship and a Master in Public Health degree at Harvard University.



Dr. Becker's research focuses on the implementation and evaluation of policies impacting the delivery of care, using the tools of mathematical simulation modeling, cost-effectiveness, and health services methods. Her Junior Investigator Award project focused on the development of a novel simulation model of pediatric depression, which can be used to examine the population-level impact of a variety of mental health interventions for children. She has utilized this new model to assess the clinical benefits and cost-effectiveness of the collaborative care model for depression treatment in pediatric primary care. Her work has been recognized with several awards including most recently the Early Career Researcher Mentee Award from the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry.

*\*The Junior Investigator Award program was supported by Supernus Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (2021), Sunovion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (2021–2022), and Tris Pharma (2024)*

*I am immensely grateful to AACAP for supporting my research and career development over the last several years. This support has allowed me to develop the simulation model I had been wanting to build for several years, which will allow for a host of evaluation studies to assess the benefits and costs of population-level mental health interventions. Through the support of this Award and the greater AACAP community, I have been able to help build the evidence base for innovations in pediatric mental health; have gained mentors and colleagues; and have built a network of research-minded child psychiatrists across the country with whom I am partnering on further enriching the data behind our work. In addition to AACAP, I am thankful for the support of my mentors, Dr. Ken Freedberg and Dr. Anne Neilan, as well as my research associate, Jane Yang.*

# AACAP Physician Scientist Program in Substance Use Career Development Award, supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

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*The AACAP Physician Scientist Program in Substance Use Career Development Award, supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, provides early career faculty with \$50,000 research support per year, and up to \$100,000 per year salary support for a five-year mentored research project in substance use and youth mental health.*

## 2020–2025 Cohort:



### **Colin Burke, MD**

Harvard University/Massachusetts General Hospital

Project: *Toward Enhancing Resiliency: The Role of Stress in Cannabis Use Disorder Among Homeless Transitional Age Youth*

Mentor: Timothy Wilens, MD



### **Jesse Hinckley, MD, PhD**

University of Colorado Denver

Project: *Characterization of Biomarkers of Regular Cannabis Use in Adolescence*

Mentor: Christian Hopfer, MD



### **Aviva K. Olsavsky, MD**

University of Colorado Denver

Project: *Maternal Brain on Cannabis: Implications for Mother-Infant Relationships*

Mentor: Kent Hutchison, PhD



### **Natalia Ramos, MD, MPH**

University of California, Los Angeles

Project: *Family-Focused Therapy for Transgender and Gender Diverse Youth at Risk of Substance Use and Co-occurring Mood Disorders*

Mentor: David Miklowitz, PhD



### **David C. Saunders, MD, PhD**

Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute

Project: *Mindfulness-Based Substance Use Prevention (Mind-UP) Program: Feasibility, Neural Mechanisms, and Preliminary Efficacy*

Mentor: Cristiane Duarte, PhD, MPH

## AACAP Physician Scientist Program in Substance Use Career Development Award, supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (continued)

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### **Kevin M. Simon, MD, MPH**

Harvard University/Boston Children's Hospital

Project: *Family-based Intervention to Improve Justice-Involved Adolescent Psychiatric and Substance Use Service Engagement and Retention*

Mentor: Sharon Levy, MD, MPH



### **Ryan Sultán, MD**

Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute

Project: *Natural Language Processing of Electronic Health Records to Characterize ADHD Youth Who Use Electronic Nicotine Device Systems*

Mentor: Frances Levin, MD



### **Carol Vidal, MD, MPH**

Johns Hopkins University

Project: *Short-term and Residual Effects of Cannabis Use on Adolescents' Affect and Suicidal Ideation Using Ecological Momentary Assessment*

Mentor: Carl Latkin, PhD, MS

## AACAP Pilot Research Award for Early Career Faculty and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows, supported by AACAP

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*The AACAP Pilot Research Award aims to reduce the shortage of pediatric mental health researchers, support early career investigators at a critical stage, and encourage future careers in child and adolescent psychiatry research by providing up to \$15,000 to support a mentored pilot research project.*

### 2021 Recipient

**Amandeep Jutla, MD**

Columbia University

Project: *Investigating the Risk of Mental Health Problems in Gender-Variant Autistic Adolescents*

Mentor: Jeremy Veenstra-VanderWeele, MD

## AACAP Pilot Research Award for General Psychiatry Residents, supported by the Klingenstein Third Generation Foundation and Industry Supporters

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*The AACAP Pilot Research Award encourages general psychiatry residents to pursue research careers in pediatric mental health research, aim to reduce the shortage of pediatric mental health researchers, and support early career investigators at a critical stage by providing up to \$15,000 to support a mentored pilot research project.*

### 2023 Recipient:



**Diab A. Ali, MD**

Boston Children's Hospital

Project: *The Afghan Refugee Mother-Child Study: Intergenerational Stressors, Strengths, and Synchrony*

Mentor: Aviva K. Olsavsky, MD

### 2024 Recipient:



**Ryan T. Dosumu-Johnson, MD, PhD\***

Columbia University

Project: *Revealing a Hidden Player: Dynamic Microtubule Dysfunction in a Neurodevelopmental Risk Model and Implications for Treatment*

Mentor: David Sulzer, PhD

*\*The Pilot Research Award for General Psychiatry Residents was supported by the Klingenstein Third Generation Foundation (2024) and Tris Pharma (2024)*

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for General Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP's Endowment Fund

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*The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for general psychiatry residents to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP's Annual Meeting. Supported by AACAP's Endowment Fund, recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to experience AACAP's Annual Meeting.*

**Faiza Ahmad, MD**—University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**Sydnee Akubuiro, MS, MD**—Emory University

**Jamie S. Baik, MD, MEd**—Cambridge Health Alliance

**Seo Yeon "Ester" Choi, MD**—Temple University Hospital

**Ayse Kubra Coskun, MD, MA**—Creighton University

**Melita D'Almeida, MBBS**—Baptist Health—University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

**Nurhak Dogan, MD**—University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**Chesley R. Ekelem, MD**—Stanford University

**Anushree M. Jagtap, MD**—Central Michigan University/CMU Medical Education Partners

**Himani S. Jani, DO, MBA**—Inspira Health Network/Inspira Medical Center Vineland

**Jeun Jun, DO**—Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

**Mindy M. Kim, MD**—University of California, San Diego

**Minseo Kwak, MD, PharmD**—Rutgers Health/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**Jasmine Liu-Zarzuela, MD, MPH**—University of Texas Southwestern

**Sand G. Mastrangelo, MD**—Mass General Brigham/Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard University

**Austin Nguy, MD**—University of California, Riverside

**Azma Parhin, MD**—Lakeland Regional Health

**Monica Perdomo, MD**—NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute

**Thien-Huong M. Pham, MD**—Louisiana State University/Ochsner Clinic Foundation

**Michelle F. Qiu, MD**—Prisma Health/University of South Carolina, Columbia

**Stephanie A. Quainoo, MD**—Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell at Zucker Hillside Hospital

**Matthew S. Rios, MD**—UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine/UCLA Medical Center

**Muhammad Saad, MBBS**—Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Permian Basin

**Daniela Sanchez, MD**—Baylor College of Medicine

**Arpit Singh, MD**—University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for General Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP's Endowment Fund (*continued*)

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**Abigail T. Tarasewicz, DO**—Mayo Clinic, Rochester

**Quy L. Tat, MD**—University of Colorado

**Justina Toma, DO**—West Virginia University

**Julia L. Versel, MD, MSc**—Mass General Brigham/Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard University

**Aria D. Vitale, MD**—MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for General Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund

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*The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for general psychiatry residents to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP's Annual Meeting. Supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund, recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to experience AACAP's Annual Meeting.*

**Thoasin Bari, MD**—Maimonides Medical Center

**Abrar Ebady, MD**—Rutgers Health/New Jersey Medical School

**Molly D. Forlines, DO**—Jefferson Health Medical Education/Jefferson Einstein Philadelphia Hospital

**Fernanda Gushken, MD, MS, MPH**—University of Miami/Jackson Health System

**Sean J. Hollebeck, DO**—Hennepin Healthcare/Regions Hospital

**Vybhav Jagannath, MD**—Meharry Medical College

**Kyung Moo Kim, MD**—University of Hawai'i

**Evelyn J. Lee, MD**—University of California, Irvine

**Catherine F. Lowenthal, MD**—NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University/New York State Psychiatric Institute

**Joseph M. Piks, MD**—Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

**Abiba Salahou, MD**—Yale-New Haven Medical Center

**Omolade Bolanle Tunde-Alli, MD, MRCPsych**—University of Mississippi Medical Center

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids

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*The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for child and adolescent psychiatry residents to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP's Annual Meeting. Supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to attend AACAP's Annual Meeting and must obtain a minimum of \$300 of shared funding from a regional organization or institution.*

**Rosa Y. Ahn-Horst, MD, MPH**—Stanford University

**Katherine A. Amano, MD\***—University of Utah

**Rimsha Arif, MD**—University of Texas at Austin

**Muhammad U. Azam, MD**—BronxCare Health System

**Alayna S. Buzzetta, MD**—University of Florida, Gainesville

**Pooja Chaudhary, MD, MPH**—University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

**Kelly S. Chen, MD**—University of Michigan

**Samantha G. DeSilva, MD**—Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

**Khady Diack, MD**—Children's National Hospital/George Washington University

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**Fadi J. Hamati, MD**—NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University

**Frances Hessel, MD**—NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University

**Tammy Hua, MD**—University of Washington/Seattle Children's Hospital

**Stephen Irwin, MD**—Washington University/Barnes Jewish Hospital/St. Louis Children's Hospital Consortium

**Aisha S. Julakanti, MD\***—University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

**Carly Kawanishi, MD**—University of Colorado

**Marga Kempner, MD**—University of Vermont

**Jessica Kuo, DO\***—University of California, San Diego

**Raul N. Lara, MD\***—Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

**Helen M. Liljenwall, MD**—University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

**Alex C. Lucci, MD**—University of Miami/Jackson Health System

**Alexis G. McCathern, MD**—University of Pittsburgh Medical Center/Western Psychiatric Hospital

**Christian Morfaw, MD**—University of Minnesota

**Grace N. Mueller, MD**—MaineHealth

**Sue D. Muggar, MD**—Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

**Beenish Safdar, MD**—Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell at Zucker Hillside Hospital

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids (continued)

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**Bharat B. Sanders, MD\***—University of Utah

**Megan P. Single, MD**—Duke University Medical Center

**Dustin Wong, DO**—Kaiser Permanente Southern California

**Whitney Anne Worsham, MD**—Mass General Brigham/Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital

**Margaret Y. Yau, MD, MS**—University of California, Riverside

*\*Triple Board/Post Pediatric Portal Resident*

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents, supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund

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*The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for child and adolescent psychiatry residents to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP's Annual Meeting. Supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund, recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to experience AACAP's Annual Meeting.*

**Katharine D. Andrews, MD, PhD**—Mayo Clinic

**Jordyn H. Feingold, MD**—NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University/New York City Children's Center

**Carolina D. Roddy, DO**—Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

**Michelle J. Won, MD**—University of California, Irvine

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Residents supported by AACAP's John E. Schowalter, MD, Endowment Fund

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*The AACAP Educational Outreach Program, supported by AACAP's John E. Schowalter, MD, Endowment Fund, provides the opportunity for one child and adolescent psychiatry resident to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP's Annual Meeting. The recipient receives \$1,200 of financial assistance to attend AACAP's Annual Meeting. The John E. Schowalter, MD, Endowment Fund was established in 2014 with a generous endowed gift from Frank A. Roberto, MD, to honor his Yale mentor, John E. Schowalter, MD.*

**Kathryn Martin, MD\***—Boston Children's Hospital

*\*Triple Board/Post Pediatric Portal Resident*

## AACAP Educational Outreach Program for Pediatric Residents, supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund

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*The AACAP Educational Outreach Program provides the opportunity for pediatric residents to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience AACAP's Annual Meeting. Supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund, recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to experience AACAP's Annual Meeting.*

**David L. Flores Marin, MD**—University of Massachusetts

**Kendahl R. Servino, MD**—Phoenix Children's Hospital

## AACAP Mentorship Grants for Medical Students, supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund

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*Established in 2011, AACAP's Mentorship Grants for Medical Students, supported by AACAP's Life Members Fund, provide medical students the opportunity to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience the AACAP Annual Meeting. Recipients engage with AACAP Life Members by attending the Life Members Clinical Perspectives and the Life Members Reception. Recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to attend AACAP's Annual Meeting.*

**Debbie CL Burdinski, BS**—Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Harvard University

**Jordan S. Carter, BS**—Medical University of South Carolina

**Shahajahan J. Chowdhury, BE**—San Juan Bautista School of Medicine

**Greta B. Cutts, BS**—University of Minnesota

**Karolina Kalata, BS**—Medical College of Wisconsin

**Andrew R. Kittleson, BA**—Vanderbilt University

**Angela C. Lu, BS**—Touro University California College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Timothy Thompson, BA**—Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Vongai Tizora, BS**—Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

## AACAP Mentorship Grants for Medical Students, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids

---

*The AACAP Mentorship Grants for Medical Students, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, provide the opportunity for medical students to receive a formal overview of child and adolescent psychiatry, establish mentor relationships with child and adolescent psychiatrists, and experience the AACAP Annual Meeting. Recipients receive \$1,200 of financial assistance to attend AACAP's Annual Meeting.*

**Jennifer Agwagom, BS\*\***—Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

**Shukri Ahmed, MPH**—Western Michigan University

**Christian Aka, BS\***—Howard University

**Jayalakshmi Alagar, MPhil**—Temple University

**Alissa Altidor, BS\***—Meharry Medical College

**Nicole C. Anyanwu, BS**—Oregon Health & Science University

**Miranda H. Arakelian, BA**—Case Western Reserve University

**Nu N. Bui, BS**—Kansas City University's College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Andrea Chapa, MS**—Louisiana State University Health New Orleans

**Nimesha Gerlus, BS**—Duke University

**Madalyn A. Grass, BS**—Michigan State University

**Loren S. Hardeman, MS, MBA\***—Morehouse School of Medicine

**Heather Held, BA**—University of Arizona

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**Ethan Jetter, MPH**—University of Florida

**Qingxi Jia, BA**—University of Vermont

**Emma Longmire, MPH**—University of California, San Diego

**Alvin N.K. Mantey, BS**—University of Cincinnati

**Natalie A. Musial, BS\*\***—Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Emily S. Ng, BS\***—Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

**Oreoluwa Odeniyi, BS**—University of Pittsburgh

**Karen Qi, BA**—Johns Hopkins University

**Yael Quiles Ramirez, MSL\***—University of Puerto Rico

**Joanna Shad, BS**—University of Colorado

**Lillibeth C. Snellman, BA, BS**—Baylor College of Medicine

**Shielene Vargas, BS\***—University of Houston

**Winni Yang, MS**—Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

**Jiwon Yi, PhD**—Washington University in St. Louis

*\* Award partially funded through a generous donation from the Hirsch Legacy Fund.*

*\*\*Award partially funded through a generous donation from Muhammad Waqar Azeem, MD, 2023 AACAP Norbert and Charlotte Rieger Service Program Award for Excellence recipient.*

## AACAP Jeanne Spurlock, MD, Research Fellowship in Substance Use Disorders, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids

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*The AACAP Jeanne Spurlock, MD, Research Fellowship in Substance Use Disorders, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, is named in honor of Jeanne Spurlock, MD, in recognition of her lifetime of opening doors for colleagues from diverse backgrounds and fostering career advances. This summer fellowship encourages outstanding minority students to pursue research careers in substance use disorders and child and adolescent psychiatry, or supports students whose research in the aforementioned practice areas focuses on vulnerable populations. The fellowships are administered through AACAP's Department of Research, Grants, and Workforce, AACAP's Substance Use Committee, under the direction of Patrice Malone, MD, and Amy Yule, MD, along with AACAP's Diversity and Culture Committee, under the direction of Brandon Newsome, MD, and Deepika Shaligram, MD.*



### **John M. Imbrie, MPH**

Western University of Health Sciences

Project: *Impacts of Psychopharmacological Treatment on the Development of Substance Use Disorder During COVID-19*

Mentor: Iliyan Ivanov, MD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai



### **Pranav Jayaraman, MPH**

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso

Project: *Brave New Worry: Climate Anxiety and Substance Use in Massachusetts Adolescents*

Mentors: Elizabeth Pinsky, MD, and James McKown, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital



### **Tanusha S. Tholla, BA**

Boston University

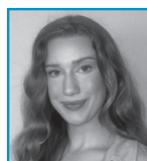
Project: *Acceptability and Feasibility of Meditation and Breathwork in Treating Mental Health Symptoms in Teens With Substance Use Disorder: Literature Review and Study Design*

Mentor: Deepika Shaligram, MD, Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard University

## AACAP Summer Medical Student Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, Break the Cycle Initiative

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*The AACAP Summer Medical Student Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, Break the Cycle Initiative, offers an opportunity for medical students to explore a career in child and adolescent psychiatry, gain valuable work experience, and meet leaders in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. The fellowship opportunity provides up to \$3,500 for 12 weeks of clinical or research training under a child and adolescent psychiatrist mentor. The fellowships are administered through AACAP's Department of Research, Grants, and Workforce, AACAP's Training and Education Committee, under the direction of Isheeta Zalpuri, MD, and Edwin Williamson, MD along with AACAP's Committee on Medical Students and Residents, under the direction of Alyssa Shaffner, MD and Mollie Marr, MD, PhD.*



### **Abigail Bellatti, BS**

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Project: *The Interactive Roles of Family and Sleep Associated with Future Suicide Attempts Among Adolescents in an Intensive Outpatient Program*

Mentor: Graham J. Emslie, MD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center/Children's Medical Center Dallas



### **Sevim B. Bianchi, BS**

California Northstate University

Project: *Long Term Outcomes of Youth at Clinical High Risk for Psychosis: Does Lifetime Substance Use Play a Role?*

Mentor: Kristin S. Cadenhead, MD, University of California, San Diego



### **Montana H. Boone, BA**

Weill Cornell Medicine

Project: *Impact of an Evidence-Based Mobile App Intervention on Adolescent and Young Adult Emotion Regulation and Depressive Symptoms*

Mentors: Angela M. Rios, MD, and Jennifer Bress, PhD, Weill Cornell Medicine/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital



### **Jefferson "Jeff" K. Chen, PhD**

University of California, Irvine

Project: *Integrating Digital Media to Teach Core Psychiatry Competencies Through a Psychodynamic Lens*

Mentor: Soe Thein, MD, University of California—Davis Health/Downtown Psychiatry



### **Jenny Y. Gan, BA**

Harvard University

Project: *Improving Knowledge and Confidence in Eating Disorder Management Through a Targeted Educational Module for Preclinical Medical Students*

Mentor: Zheala Qayyum, MD, MMSc, Boston Children's Hospital

## AACAP Summer Medical Student Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, Break the Cycle Initiative (continued)

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### **Samir K. Jain, BA**

St. Louis University

Project: *Metabolic Monitoring Practices for Children and Adolescents with Anorexia Nervosa Treated with Atypical Antipsychotics*

Mentor: Jennifer L. Derenne, MD, Stanford University



### **Noah M. Lampl, BA**

University of Massachusetts

Project: *Early Intervention: Understanding Provider Perspectives on Attachment and Attrition*

Mentor: Sarah J. Palmer, MD, Lifeline for Families Center at the UMass Chan Medical School/Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders



### **Grant B. Nelson, BA**

University of Toledo

Project: *Evaluating the ACT Raising Safe Kids (ACT-RSK) Program for Families of Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders*

Mentors: Michele, S. Knox, PhD, and Jamie L. Migliori, MD



### **Matthew N. Nguyen, BS, MED**

University of Colorado

Project: *A Psychometric Exploration of Responses to Ambiguous Social Scenarios in Irritable Youth*

Mentor: Joel Stoddard, MD, MAS



### **Truc P. Nguyen, BS\***

Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine at Seton Hill

Project: *Meta-Analysis: Suicidal Ideation Outcomes in Gender Diverse Individuals Receiving Gender Affirming Care*

Mentor: Courtney Baker, DO



### **Kori A. Quillin, BS, MHS\***

Meharry Medical College

Project: *Bridging Psychiatry and Public Health: Exploring Equity in Pediatric Behavioral Health Policy Through a Justice-Oriented Lens*

Mentor: Kevin M. Simon, MD, MPH, Harvard University/Boston Children's Hospital/Boston Public Health Commission

\*Award partially funded through a generous donation from the Ruth and Peter Metz Family Foundation.

## AACAP Summer Medical Student Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, supported by AACAP's Campaign for America's Kids, Break the Cycle Initiative (*continued*)

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**Haley J. Utendorfer, BS**

University of Utah

Project: *Gap Between Psychiatric Diagnoses and Medication Use in Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Presenting in Crisis*

Mentor: Deborah Bilder, MD, Huntsman Mental Health Institute/University of Utah

## Acknowledgments

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*The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry expresses appreciation to the following individuals, funds, organizations, and companies that have contributed to AACAP's 2025 Annual Meeting:*

AACAP E. James Anthony, MD, Fund  
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AACAP Campaign for America's Kids  
AACAP Drs. Gabrielle and Harold Carlson  
    Psychopharmacology Research Award Fund  
AACAP Endowment Fund  
AACAP Beatrix A. Hamburg, MD, Award  
    Fund  
AACAP Paramjit Toor Joshi, MD, International  
    Scholars Award Fund  
AACAP Leatherman-Drell-Ritvo Fund for the  
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    Adolescent Psychiatry  
AACAP Elaine Schlosser Lewis Award Fund  
AACAP Life Members Fund  
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AACAP Jeanne Spurlock, MD, Award Fund  
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AACAP Simon Wile, MD, Fund

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James C. Harris, MD (in memoriam), and  
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Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
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Professional Risk Management Services  
Riley Children's Health  
Trayt Health  
UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

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