



Upcoming CE Events:

- **Wednesday, May 21st**
Improving Outcomes Through Awareness
Kristen Davis-Coelho Ph.D.
Live, virtual webinar
1 Cultural Competency CE credits
- **Friday, September 19th**
Navigating Social Media Relationships
Erika Dawkins Psy.D.
Live, virtual webinar
3 CE credits
- **Friday, October 17th**
Treating Disruptive Behaviors
Michelle Grimes, Ph.D.
Live, virtual webinar
3 CE credits

See back cover for full schedule

It's Time to Renew Your NPA Dues for 2025/2026!

Scan QR Code below:



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Nevada Psychological Association

NPA News

The Voice of Psychology in Nevada

2025 Spring Newsletter

~~~~~ A Message from our President ~~~~~



Hello, Nevada Psychological Association.

I hope this message finds you all well! While I am excited to continue serving as your President of the Nevada Psychological Association

(NPA) for our 2025-2026 year, I am even more thrilled and eager to continue progressing on organizational goals we have been addressing and evolving to better serve our members at every membership level.

Before I address the objectives and goals that our Executive Board and I have over the next year for NPA, let us do a bit of a recap of what we have accomplished over the past year.

The past year...

As many of you may know, NPA is considered a "small" State, Provincial, and Territorial Association (SPTA) due to our number of mental health clinicians and providers serving Nevadans, including psychologists. Since I began serving in a leadership role within NPA, it has always been a goal of mine to grow our membership base and have more opportunities to be more engaged with each other, such as with social and networking events and opportunities.

I am proud to share that during the past year we have grown to over 300 members for the first time in our history. Let me say that again: NPA has more than 300 members for the first time in our long history! That is a huge accomplishment for a "small" SPTA, which would not have been possible without your support and involvement. Another goal related to membership engagement that we have begun to address is learning about how we can engage more with our local communities outside of NPA, including other mental health professionals and specialties. Recently, we joined the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce so that we can connect with local businesses and groups that we may be able to support and receive support from, such as with advocacy efforts and psycho-educating the public. Also, we continue to assess our organizational strengths, weaknesses, and areas of improvement. activities more, so that our committee chairs and

members have more opportunities to engage and network with one another. This includes supporting our committees and activities more, so that our committee chairs and members have more opportunities to engage and network with one another.

Other accomplishments we have achieved include having the most profitable year as an organization, providing more Continuing Education (CE) opportunities, and strongly advocating for psychology as a profession within Nevada, so that we can better serve the individuals, populations, and communities that work and engage with. These are all things that we will continue to build on and strengthen as we move forward.

I have said this numerous times in many ways because I believe it: NPA would not be where it is today without you. There is no NPA without all your support. We would not have accomplished what we have and grown into what we are without you. And because of you, we will continue to evolve and support you all however we can.

Moving forward...

This leads me to address some of the main objectives and goals I have for our organization over the next year. The start of 2025 has been a remarkably interesting and challenging time for many of us with all the proposed and enacted policy changes that have created extraordinary challenges for individuals who provide and support mental health services, research, and education. These changes have affected us and contested our professional ideals and principles.

One of my central goals over the next year is to learn more about how NPA can support you, our members. I will be encouraging our leadership and committee chairs to engage with you at our events to learn more about how we can better support you and learn more about what types of activities you would like to see NPA participate more in moving forward. As I stated last spring, I want to know what you think, and I want to hear

Christopher Shewbarran Psy.D.
2024/2026 President
Nevada Psychological Association

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Thank You

**To the Practice Directorate,
the Committee of State Leaders
and the Board of Professional Affairs**

for awarding a Small State Operational Grant of \$5,000 to NPA.

This subsidy helps cover NPA's central office operations. CSL and BPA continue to recognize the need of assistance by very small State Associations in maintaining central office operations, which is greatly appreciated by NPA.

We also thank the Committee of State Leaders for awarding a Legislative Grant of \$7,000 to NPA. The grant funds are being used to support three advocacy bills to strengthen mental health parity in Nevada by 1) making regulatory changes that will reinforce NQTL compliance data reporting by insurance companies, 2) support a study of the challenges to mental health parity in the state that will be used to develop remedial policies and 3) recommending issuing provisional licensure to supervised psychological trainees to allow their services to be covered through insurance.

These grants, made possible from funds collected through the practice assessment of licensed psychologists, is awarded in the spirit of resource sharing to support projects aimed at promoting the practice of psychology. **NPA encourages all of its members to join APA.**



AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Updates from Our Legislative Committee and Lobbyist

How Recent Legislative Developments Directly Impact Your Practice...

In the ever-evolving landscape of our profession, staying informed about the latest advancements is crucial. Recent developments at federal and state levels are bringing significant changes that directly impact our work and the behavioral health workforce. Both NPA's advocacy in Nevada and APA's advocacy at the federal level are more important than ever and we encourage you to get involved, write to your lawmakers, let us know what matters to you!

We are more than halfway through the 83rd Legislative Session that began Feb 6th - monitoring more than 20 bills that directly impact mental healthcare in Nevada. NPA's two priority bills, AB207 (Assemblymember Cole) regarding MH Parity enforcement and SB251 (Senator Scheible) regarding provisional licensure for psych interns and post-docs, continue moving forward. The recent announcement that the Trump Administration will not continue the Biden Administration's MH Parity enforcement efforts make the work we do at the state level even more important. Bills involving behavioral health board consolidation appear to be on hold. We continue monitoring expansion of screenings and evaluations for behavioral health conditions, EHR record requirements, behavioral health provider workforce expansion, and coverage for behavioral health services in schools. Funding remains a critical issue as the state works to offset shortfalls and concerns about potential Medicaid cuts.

We want to say "thank you" to all the new members to the legislative team, not only do you make our advocacy stronger but you also remind us of the impact we can have! NPA's representation at Behavioral Health Day in February was the strongest ever with opportunities to meet with legislators and share information about our profession. Additional thanks to the team at TriStrategies who continue to support our growing advocacy outreach and influence.

It has never been more important to weigh in with your opinion about legislation and it is easier than ever to do so. Click on the QR code to go to the website for the Nevada Legislature, look up a bill you are interested in and register your response in the public opinion section. Currently among the top 10 bills with the most feedback are SB171 (transgender shield law) and SB 78 (board consolidation).



Laurie Drucker, Psy.D. & Michelle McGuire, Psy.D.
2025/2026 NPA Legislative Committee Co-Chairs



We've officially passed the first house passage deadline at the Nevada Legislature, and with that, the committee hearing process starts all over again in the second house. So, what are our takeaways from the first half of the session? First, if your bill has a fiscal note, you're in trouble. Nevada is facing an even bigger budget shortfall than expected. The Economic Forum met last Thursday and confirmed that we're now looking at nearly a \$200 million hole. Both the Speaker and the Majority Leader have made it clear they are not entertaining any new spending bills. If it costs money, it's likely not moving.

One of the most talked-about bills this session remains SB 78, the board consolidation bill. Many are frustrated by the direction it's heading—especially since SB 425, another consolidation proposal, is now essentially being absorbed into SB 78.

With the updated revenue projections now in hand, lawmakers will be operating under even tighter constraints for the remainder of the session. There's very little room to maneuver, and every fiscal ask will face steep scrutiny.



 TriStrategies

On our end, the Tri-Strategies lobbying team is actively meeting with members of the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee to push forward our two priority bills: AB 207 and SB 251. We're excited to share that AB 207 is scheduled to be heard next Wednesday in Senate Commerce and Labor. We're working to get both bills moving to the floor and, ultimately, to the Governor's desk.

NPA-PAC 2025 Fundraising Drive is Underway!

The Nevada Psychological Association's Political Action Campaign (NPA-PAC) needs your support!

Your donation can help NPA make a difference in the mental health care of all Nevadans! **Donate Today!**

**NPA-PAC
Needs
Your
Help!**

Why Donate to the NPA-PAC?

- Help elect individuals to the Nevada Legislature who are advocates for mental health
- Improve access to mental health care by holding insurance companies accountable for meeting mental health parity requirements
- Every dollar you give helps mental health advocates have a voice in the policies and regulations that affect our client's lives (and our livelihoods)
- Support NPA's relationships with state and federal legislators

Who Do NPA-PAC Donations Support?

- Candidates to both houses of the Legislature (Senate and Assembly)
- Candidates from both parties
- Caucuses of both parties

IF EVERY PSYCHOLOGIST IN THE STATE OF NEVADA DONATES BETWEEN \$25—\$50, WE WILL EXCEED OUR FUNDRAISING GOAL!

- **Donate \$25** to be listed as a Friend of NPA in the Fall Newsletter
- **Donate \$50** to be listed as a Leader of NPA in our Fall Newsletter, and also be entered into a raffle to win an NPA logoed stress ball brain. Five total swag bags will be raffled off
- **Donate \$100** to be listed as an Advocate of NPA in our Fall Newsletter and entered in a raffle for a free pass to an NPA CE event (\$100 value)
- **Donate \$500** or more to be listed as a Mental Health Champion in Nevada (name will be displayed on NPA website, social media and marketing materials, receive free CE event pass and NPA swag bag)
- **Donate \$1,000** to become a Mental Health Ambassador in Nevada, receive free entry and special recognition at our 36th Annual Conference in Reno (name prominently displayed on NPA website, social media and marketing, receive NPA pin and NPA swag bag)

Donating is easy....

Donate via our website: www.NVpsychology.org/donate

OR scan the NPA website QR code

OR donate by Venmo QR code

Help NPA make a difference in the mental health care of all Nevadans! **Donate today!**

Laura Drucker Psy.D. and Michelle McGuire, Psy.D.
NPA Legislative Committee Co-Chairs





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2025 Annual Strategic Planning Meeting—Saturday, April 26th, 2025

This year's Strategic Planning Meeting was held in person and virtually in Las Vegas, NV on Saturday, April 26th, 2025. During the morning session, we welcomed our incoming 2025/2026 officers, provided an overview of NPA's organizational structure and mission, discussed the 2025 Legislative Session and bills we are following closely. We then reviewed our six Strategic Business Objectives before breaking out into small groups to perform a SWOT Analysis of each SBO (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats), then returned as a group to discuss ideas that were generated to strengthen and improve each SBO.

During the afternoon session, NPA leadership reviewed each SBO and developed a 1-year Strategic Plan implementation process, identifying translators (action items) that can be accomplished over this next year.



Our 2025-2026 Strategic Plan is:

- SBO#1: Improve Financial Stability**
 Expand NPA merch store, solicit presenters for 2026 CE calendar, increase our social media presence.
- SBO#2: Provide High Quality Services to Members**
 Increase our social media presence, expand live conferences in licensure renewal years, create a CE package for licensure renewals (discounted rate, automatic registration), create a monthly Member Spotlight, identify attorneys in Reno/LV to offer free legal consult, hold Practicum & Internship Fairs
- SBO#3: Develop and Support Leadership**
 Continue support of Committees, expand student representation, promote Committee involvement at socials/regional events, fill open positions, increase membership recruitment efforts
- SBO#4: Advocate for Psychology as a Science and Profession**
 Presidential initiatives to accomplish in interim session, increase Legislative outreach, solicit ideas from NPA membership
- SBO#5: Embed Diversity and Inclusion into NPA culture**
 Identify a DEI co-chair in the north, participate in Reno & LV PRIDE parades, schedule quarterly 1-hour Cultural Competency lunch and learns, Support DEI Committee efforts
- SBO#6: Recruitment and Retention of Eligible Psychologists and Psychologists-in-Training**
 Recruit Masters Level CE presenters, distribute member/non-member lists to regions for recruitment and retention of members.



An Update from Nevada's APA Council Representative

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm writing to share updates from the APA Council of Representatives, where I continue to serve as your elected voice for Nevada psychologists. At our most recent meeting in **February 2025**, the Council approved several key actions that I want to bring to your attention.

Highlights from the February 2025 Council Meeting:

APA's Continued Commitment to Justice, Human Rights, Fairness and Dignity

Acknowledging concern raised by recent policy changes, the Council voted (156-4 with 1 abstention) to adopt a statement reaffirming APA's commitment to justice, human rights, fairness, and dignity for all, recognizing these values as central to psychology.

The statement recognizes that research shows that discrimination and systemic barriers contribute to health disparities and harm mental health among marginalized populations. It also notes that psychologists are integral to addressing systemic inequities and creating inclusive systems and that "psychologists engaged in these efforts are at the forefront of combating disparities and advocating for historically disadvantaged racial and ethnic groups, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people with disabilities."

It also calls on legislators to support programs promoting fairness and inclusion; to promote culturally responsive mental health services; to prioritize grants and research initiatives that focus on addressing mental health disparities faced by underserved and marginalized communities; to safeguard the role of psychology in public policy; and increase public awareness and education on inclusivity in psychology.

Protecting psychological test data

The Council passed (150-14 with 1 abstention) a resolution calling for securing psychological test data. Such data includes tests used in psychological assessments, evaluations in child custody disputes and competency to stand trial, identification of educational disabilities or qualification for educational programs, fitness for duty and presurgical evaluations.

"The focus of this resolution is to establish policy on APA's position and role in protecting the validity of psychological testing so that public safety is upheld and access to services for marginalized communities is bolstered," the resolution states. It was developed to address legal proceedings in which psychologists have been pressured to divulge test materials and data, at times contrary to the policies of APA and state laws that protect test security.

Calling for Stronger Privacy Protections for Neural and Cognitive Data

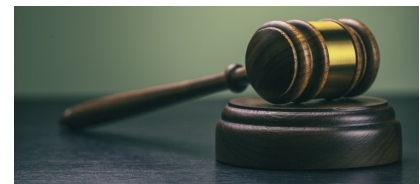
Recognizing the increasing use of devices that collect and analyze personal biometric data, the Council adopted a policy aimed at safeguarding the privacy of people's neural and cognitive data.

The *Resolution on the Protection of Neural and Cognitive Data*, which was approved unanimously, addresses the need for ethical collection, storage and use of data gathered from direct-to-consumer software and wearable devices. These technologies, ranging from smartwatches to virtual reality systems and eye gaze technology, are capable of collecting biometric and neurophysiological data that can provide insights into an individual's mental state, cognitive processes, and even attitudes and thoughts. Though this technology has enormous potential to benefit humanity, the resolution highlights the 2

Council Policy Manual: Revisions to Doctoral and Master's Degrees

The Council passed two motions to approve revisions to policies to better align APA's efforts to support and integrate master's degree psychology professionals into the profession. These revisions aim to protect the title "psychologist" and who can use it (doctoral-trained professionals) while creating opportunities for master's-trained psychology professionals to provide psychological services.

The Council voted 133-24 with 5 abstentions to accept revisions to "Doctorate as the Minimum Entry into the Professional Practice of Psychology" (2006) and voted 126-34 with 7 abstentions to accept revisions to "Policy on Challenges to the Doctoral Standard for Psychology" (2002).



(continued on Page 8)



AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

An Update from Nevada's APA Council Representative

Advancing Population Health and Health Equity

The Council unanimously adopted as APA policy a statement elevating APA's ongoing work to advance population health and health equity. The policy statement, entitled "Advancing Evidence-Based Prevention Across the Lifespan," acknowledges the social determinants of health and urges support for prevention and early intervention, as well as training and research in health promotion and the promotion of community-based and community-led programs. It also calls on payors to allow reimbursement of health care practitioners for addressing social and structural determinants of health and implementing interventions to advance population health.

Guidelines Adopted on PTSD, Measurement-Based Care and Practice in Health Care Delivery Systems

The Council adopted three sets of guidelines:

The Council voted 142-12 with 4 abstentions to adopt revised *Clinical Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder in Adults*, with an expiration date of December 2035. The guideline addresses the efficacy of treatments, as well as the comparative effectiveness of approaches for treatment of PTSD and complex PTSD in adults. It is an update to the original clinical practice guideline for PTSD in adults issued in 2017.

The Council unanimously adopted the first ever *Professional Practice Guidelines on Measurement-Based Care*. These guidelines aim to educate psychologists on competencies for conducting measurement-based care, "a clinical process in which data are used to monitor treatment progress and processes to enhance communication and inform treatment planning during the provision of psychological intervention." MBS is an evidence-based practice that has been shown to improve symptom outcomes and reduce treatment dropout.

The Council unanimously adopted revised *Guidelines for Psychological Practice in Health Care Delivery Systems*, with an expiration date of December 2035. These guidelines note the expanding role of psychologists as an integral part of interdisciplinary teams in health care systems in the U.S. and offer recommendations on how to practice psychology in evolving health care delivery systems.

These decisions reflect our shared commitment to promoting excellence in psychological science and practice, while addressing emerging needs in a rapidly evolving world.

Let's Connect

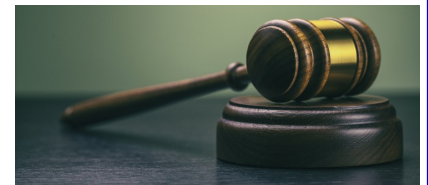
I would love to hear from you—whether you have questions about these recent updates, want to get involved in APA governance, or simply wish to stay informed. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Thank you for the important work you do every day for the people of Nevada. I am honored to represent our state and welcome any opportunity to advocate on your behalf.

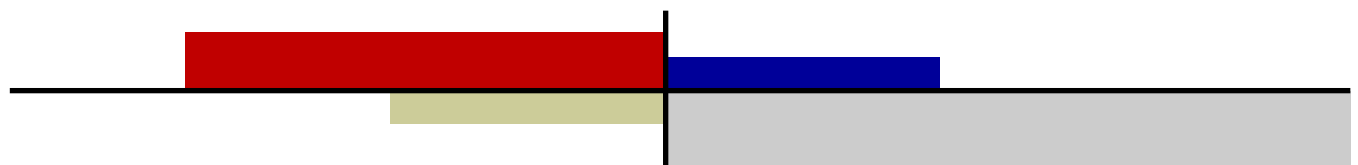
Warmly,

Lauren Chapple-Love, Ph.D.

Nevada Representative, APA Council of Representatives



AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



Want to get more Involved with NPA? Join one of our Committees!

Legislative: Advocates for psychology and psychologists by participating in the development of legislation and policies relating to mental and behavioral health services in Nevada. The Legislative Committee advises the Board of Directors of suggested legislative actions, and carries out such actions as approved by the board with the assistance of the NPA lobbyist. This may include proposing legislation to be introduced to the Nevada State Legislature, meeting with legislators, arranging for educational meetings about legislative matters for members and legislators, building relationships with others interested in mental health issues which are of common interest with psychologists, developing relationships with state agencies to further mental health services and facilitate the status and role of psychologists within the state. NPA's advocacy efforts are supported by your membership in NPA. NPA's advocacy benefits all psychologists, NOT just those who belong to our organization.

Continuing Education (CE): CE Committee's mission is to develop high-quality, regionally distributed, CE workshops for professional psychologists covering the full range of specialty practice and professional services and settings. We are responsible for the planning and execution of 4-5 continuing education trainings each year, including the Annual Conference. Courses presented are timely, relevant and culturally sensitive to the diverse population served by our members, and satisfy the requirements for licensure by the NV Board of Psychological Examiners. NPA is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor CEs for psychologists.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI): The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee is dedicated to promoting diversity statewide in Nevada. This includes welcoming psychologists from diverse backgrounds as well as promoting culturally sensitive services and practices to the community. NPA has developed a Diversity Mission statement, which includes scientific and evidence-based information about working with diverse populations in our CE trainings. We strongly support full equity and inclusion of individuals of different genders, ethnicities, ages, backgrounds, sexual orientations, abilities, national origin, immigration status, and so on, within our organization and throughout our communities across the world.

Early Career Psychologists (ECPs): NPA is committed to supporting the needs of early career psychologists. Accordingly, NPA offers discounts on membership, opportunities to participate in monthly support group meetings, and extends a special welcome to newly licensed psychologists every fall at annual social events, held in both Las Vegas and Reno. We are active in recruiting ECP's to participate in committees and leadership positions in the state, and offer mentorship opportunities to interested psychologists.

Ethics Committee: The fundamental objectives of the NPA Ethics Committee shall be to promote ethical conduct by members at the highest professional level, to educate members concerning ethical standards; to thereby contribute to the protection of the public against harmful conduct by all members(hereafter referred to as members); and to aid the Association in achieving its objectives as reflected in its Bylaws.

Membership Committee: The Membership Committee is responsible for overseeing the recruitment, retention and engagement of its members. It works to ensure that the organization attracts a diverse and active membership base that aligns with the organization's mission and values.

Communications Committee: The Communications Committee is responsible for gathering and distributing information to NPA members that is pertinent and relevant to advance the science and professional discipline of the field of psychology through various methods, including the NPA website, NPA listserv, and NPA social media platforms. The committee

Want more Info?

Contact our Executive Director at admin@nvpsychology.org
or (888) 654-0050



IN MEMORY OF

*Judy Phoenix, Ph.D.*

A clinical psychologist in Reno for over 30 years, Judy was a passionate advocate for our profession and a dedicated volunteer leader within our organization. She generously served in many roles, including as NPA's Executive Director, President, and a long-standing member of the Legislative Committee. Judy represented and supported psychology at both the state and national levels, consistently lending her voice, time, and expertise to advance the field. Her tireless commitment and leadership left a meaningful and lasting impact on our professional community.

December 16, 1944 - April 3, 2025

IN MEMORY OF

*Roberta Ferguson, Ph.D.*

A dedicated clinical psychologist in Reno for more than 30 years, Roberta was a committed advocate for psychology and a valued leader within NPA. She made history as NPA's first Federal Advocacy Coordinator, paving the way for stronger representation of our profession at the national level. A Lifetime Member of NPA, she was honored with the NPA Outstanding Advocacy Award in 2006.

November 9, 1944 - April 5, 2025

Nevada Psychological Association: 2025-2026 Executive Board Members

President: Christopher Shewbarran, Psy.D. is a Clinical Psychologist at his own private practice, All Mind Matters, PLLC. He is a graduate of the American School of Professional Psychology, San Francisco Bay Area, and he is originally from Tampa, Florida, home of the 2020 and 2021 Stanley Cup Champions Tampa Bay Lightning, and the 2020 Super Bowl Champions Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Prior to serving as President of NPA, Dr. Shewbarran served two years on the NPA Southern Regional Board as Treasurer and Regional President. Dr. Shewbarran is also chair of the Membership Committee and Communications Committee. He is very excited about continuing to work actively with NPA members, our Executive Board, and our Executive Committee as his Presidential term ends in 2026.



President-Elect/ Treasurer: Marquez, Wilson, Psy.D. (they/them) is a graduate of Adler University of Chicago. They completed their internship and post-doc at the University of Nevada, Reno Counseling Services. They have a passion of working with underserved and under-research populations. Additionally, advocating for access to mental health and the ethical, equitable practice of psychology within the state of Nevada



Secretary/CE Committee Chair: Claudia Mejia, Psy.D. (she/her/ella), is a bicultural-bilingual (Spanish-English) licensed psychologist in Nevada and an independent contractor for non-profit community agencies. She provides direct clinical services to clients, develops behavioral health programming, provides mental health literacy workshops, and supervises graduate trainees and interns. She serves as the Membership Chair for Division 35 (the Society for the Psychology of Women) of the American Psychological Association. Dr. Mejia centers her lived experience as a Latina psychologist navigating systemic barriers and her experience of over 10 years as a mental health provider to help elevate mental health and wellbeing. She looks forward to continuing these efforts as part of NPA as Past President for the upcoming year.



Southern Regional President/Ethics Committee Chair: Sonia Dhaliwal, Psy.D. is a Licensed Psychologist and currently runs her own private practice, Dhaliwal Psychological Services LLC, in Las Vegas, NV. Dr. Dhaliwal completed an APA-accredited clinical internship at Michigan State University followed by a postdoctoral year of training at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas (UNLV). Dr. Dhaliwal takes an evidence-based and strong multicultural approach to therapy. Identifying as a multiracial immigrant, she has a strong passion and commitment to working with the immigrant population.



Northern Regional President: Kaleb Cusack, Ph.D. was born and raised in Oklahoma where his family owned a dairy farm. He is currently a psychologist for Health Psychology Associates and the University of Nevada, Reno Counseling Services. He obtained his doctorate in Counseling Psychology with an emphasis in Sport Psychology from the University of North Texas and completed his pre-doctoral internship with UNR Counseling Services.



APA Council Rep: Lauren Chapple-Love, Ph.D. Dr. Chapple-Love's clinical experience primarily lies in Forensic and Correctional Psychology. While in the community, she has worked with court-mandated individuals and in sexual health. Dr. Chapple-Love has focused on diverse populations (e.g. LGBTQAI+, People of Color, the Kink community, etc.) and the ways that they process and can excel while living within systems of oppression and majority culture spaces. She has served as NPA's DEI Chair and NPA President. She is the owner of Elle Psychological Services, LLC, a private practice that currently focuses on diversity, equity and inclusion training & consultation.



ECP Co-Chair, North: Persephone Crittendon, Psy.D. is a licensed psychologist specializing in adult neuropsychological services and founder of Peak Neuropsychology in Reno, NV. She is also part of the Stanford University Brain Stimulation Lab and community faculty at UNR School of Medicine. Dr. Crittenden completed her neuropsychology fellowship and clinical internship at Harvard Medical School and earned her doctorate from the PGSP-Stanford Consortium.



Nevada Psychological Association: 2025-2026 Executive Board Members

ECP Co-Chair, South: Rachael Pinkerman, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist currently working at an outpatient clinic within the Las Vegas VA system. Her experience primarily lies in working with individuals with severe and persistent mental illness in inpatient settings, forensic psychology, and group psychotherapy. In her free time, she enjoys going out to eat and probably can recommend a great place to try if you're looking for something new.



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Co-Chair: Lea Caver, Ph.D. Dr. Caver received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Saint Louis University. Her research and clinical interests include, but are not limited to, discrimination, previously incarcerated individuals, veterans, trauma, salient and non-salient identities, and DBT. In her personal life, Dr. Caver is a proud nerd that enjoys anime, comics, and video games.



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Co-Chair: Akiko Hinds, Psy.D. is a Forensic Psychology Postdoctoral Fellow at Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services- Stein Forensic Facility. She has experience working with severe and persistent mental illness, forensic, and correctional populations. She received her Psy.D. in clinical psychology at Adler University in Chicago, Illinois. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at St. Peter Forensic Services, Forensic Mental Health Program. As a postdoctoral fellow, she facilitates groups, completes competency evaluations, and individual therapy with the long-term patients at Stein. Her hobbies include traveling, spending time with friends and family, going to sporting events, and concerts.



Legislative Co-Chair, North: Laura Drucker, Psy.D. has been licensed as a psychologist in Nevada since 2003. She graduated with a degree in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine University in 2001. Dr. Drucker works in private practice providing outpatient psychotherapy services to children, adolescents, and adults. Dr. Drucker provides integrative treatment informed by neuroscience, mindfulness, and insight-oriented therapies.



Legislative Co-Chair, South: Michelle McGuire, Psy.D. is a NV Licensed Psychologist with a comprehensive background in clinical practice, psychological assessment, and advocacy. Dr. McGuire specializes in working with individuals presenting with neurodevelopmental and intellectual disabilities, as well as other mental health presentations. She has provided individual, couples, family, and group therapy to children, adolescents, and adults. In addition to her clinical work, Dr. McGuire serves as the Owner and CEO of McGuire Psychological Services, LLC, a practice dedicated to providing high-quality psychological and neuropsychological evaluations, as well as outpatient therapy services. In her role as Legislative Co-Chair, she is committed to advancing mental health policy and advocating for improved access to psychological services across Nevada.



Northern Region State Advocacy Coordinator: Edwin Jurado, M.S. is a 3rd year doctoral student at the University of Nevada Reno's Clinical Science program. His research interests include developing evidence-based interventions to address mental health disparities among Latines and the dissemination of psychological science to underserved communities. When he is not working on research projects or seeing clients, Edwin enjoys exploring Reno's food scene and landscapes.



Southern Region State Advocacy Coordinator: Rakshitha Mohankumar is a fourth-year student in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program at UNLV. She completed her Master's in Research and Experimental Psychology at San Jose State University in 2022, where her thesis focused on cultural influences of mental health perceptions. Rakshitha has also previously worked at the Palo Alto VA on research projects focusing on substance use and weight management. Currently, she is pursuing research related to improving mental health and access to care for marginalized communities and vulnerable populations with a focus on older adults. In her free time, Rakshitha enjoys traveling, trying out new restaurants and cafes, and exploring Las Vegas.



Nevada Psychological Association: 2025-2026 Regional Board Members

NPA Northern Region Board Members



Northern Regional Vice-President & Treasurer: Marquez, Wilson, Psy.D. (they/them) is a graduate of Adler University of Chicago. They completed their internship and post-doc at the University of Nevada, Reno Counseling Services. They have a passion of working with underserved and under-research populations. Additionally, advocating for access to mental health and the ethical, equitable practice of psychology within the state of Nevada



Northern Region Secretary: Lucas Cylke Ph.D. is currently a private practice psychologist in Reno, NV. He completed his internship at University of Nevada, Reno Counseling Services and completed his graduate education at Wichita State University. He sees himself as a generalist and has an emphasis in treating OCD. In his free time he enjoys worrying about his plants in his garden.



UNR Campus Representative: Sneha Gupta is a second-year clinical psychology doctoral student at UNR. I was previously a corporate lawyer before discovering my passion for psychology—particularly therapy and forensic work. My research focuses on identifying data-driven patterns in serial homicide, and I love finding order in chaos, especially when it comes to human behavior. In my free time, I'm a fitness enthusiast and enjoy long walks through Reno's rugged terrain.

NPA Southern Region Board



Southern Regional Vice-President: Irma Corral, Ph.D. is the Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and an associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV. She is specialized in behavioral medicine/health psychology. Dr. Corral earned her PhD from the San Diego State University - U.C. San Diego's joint doctoral program in Clinical Psychology. Her other areas of clinical specialization include pre-surgical psychological evaluation and behavioral chronic illness management. In addition to clinical care, she is active in teaching, development, and mentoring future physicians and other healthcare workers.



Southern Region Secretary: Angela Lewis, Ph.D. is a counseling psychologist with a strong background in mental health care and psychological assessment. She has worked in a variety of settings, including college counseling centers, community clinics, and telehealth. Angela is especially interested in supporting individuals dealing with trauma, anxiety, and life transitions. She also has experience in teaching, research, and presenting at professional conferences.



UNLV Campus Representative: Maayra Butt is a first-year student in the Clinical Psychology PhD program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She completed her bachelor's in psychology at the University of Pittsburgh and her master's in Biomedical Sciences at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is primarily interested in working with older adult populations. Her research interests include improving access to evidence-based mental health services for older adults through the lens of implementation science and application of psychotherapies for treating late-life depression and anxiety.



UNLV Campus Representative: Lilla Brody is a first-year student in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program at UNLV from Los Angeles. She has her undergraduate degree in Cognitive Science and Theater Studies from Yale University. Lilla's research interests include the development, refinement, and testing of interventions for transdiagnostic depression and anxiety in diverse populations of older adults. She is also interested in implementation science with respect to these interventions. Clinically, Lilla hopes to work with folks covering the entire range of adulthood in mood disorder treatment.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2025 NPA Award Winners!

Every year at our Annual Business Meeting, the Nevada Psychological Association (NPA) recognizes outstanding psychologists for their contributions to both the field of Psychology and our organization. This year's Annual Business Meeting was held on Friday, April 25th in Las Vegas and we are pleased to honor our 2025 NPA Award Winners!



2025 James Mikawa Award *This award honors a psychologist whose work is outstanding in the field*
Norma Ramirez was recognized for her service as the Clinical Director at an immigration non-profit where she has provided free therapy and immigration mental health evaluations and is currently growing her private practice. Dr. Ramirez serves diverse populations and intersectional identities from undocumented immigrant communities to first generation professionals to neurodivergent individuals to the LGBTQ community. In her clinical work, Dr. Ramirez also provides direct services to clients, develops and implements behavioral health programming, provide mental health literacy workshops for minoritized populations, and provide workshops to educators, lawyers, and mental health professionals on improving services for undocumented communities.



2025 Outstanding Advocacy Award
This award honors a psychologist whose advocacy efforts have impacted psychology and psychologists.
Thomas Kinsora, Ph.D. was recognized for his tireless advocacy efforts addressing the need for psychologists to protect test security. For those psychologists who are not neuropsychologists, or who do not primarily do assessment, Dr. Kinsora has consistently gone to bat for all of us who do, and has been diligent in tirelessly advocating both to protect test security, and by extension, to protect the public, at a time when attacks against test security are growing exponentially. Psychologists have all benefitted from his advocacy.



2025 Outstanding Contribution to NPA Award
This award honors a psychologist whose work in our association has been of benefit to the organization.
Christopher Shewbarran, Psy.D. was recognized for his dedicated volunteer efforts in promoting visibility and grown for NPA. Dr. Shewbarran's willingness to serve the extended Presidential term is evidence of his dedication, and his efforts at finding ways to strengthen our organization, increase membership, and connect the community has been apparent over the past year.



2025 Outstanding Contribution in Diversity, Advocacy and Social Justice Award
This award honors a psychologist whose work is characterized by themes of central to the promotion of cultural diversity, social justice, and equity.
Kristen Davis-Coelho, Ph.D. was recognize for her recently published book "The Best Care for Those with the Least" which focuses on care to those in low socioeconomic communities. It is an empowering and compassionate guide for healthcare professionals treating low-income patients that weaves memorable stories, research findings, and the voices of both medical providers and patients in an easy to read guide. In addition to providing expert recommendations based on 25 years of experience, Dr. Davis-Coelho's book offers fresh insights, effective strategies and deep respect for the work that she does every day.

2025 Student Poster Presentations & Winners!

1st Place Winner: Katie Singsank (UNLV)

"Differential Item Functioning in the Neuropsychiatric Inventory - Questionnaire by Ethnoracial group"

2nd Place Winner: Aimee D'Errico & Sara Moore (Fielding)

"Attitudes, Norms, and Control: A Moderated Model of Psychological Well-Being in Childfree Adults"

3rd Place Winner: Lauren Reyes (UNLV)

"Trait Shame and PTSD Symptom Severity Among Sexual Assault Survivors: A Mediation Analysis"



Congratulations!

From left to right: Sara Moore, Aimee D'Errico, Katie Singsank, Sonia Dhaliwal, Chris Shewbarran

THANK YOU to our 2024/2025 NPA Officers!

Thank you to all who served NPA as Officers, Representatives and Committee Chairs!
Your time and energy keeps NPA going!

2024/2025 NPA Board of Directors

President	Dr. Christopher Shewbarran
Past-President	Dr. Claudia Mejia
Treasurer	Dr. Marquez Wilson
No. Region Board President	Dr. Lucas Cylke
So. Region Board President	Dr. Sonia Dhaliwal
No. Region ECP Chair:	Dr. Persephone Crittenden
So. Region ECP Chair:	Dr. Rachael Pinkerman
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Chair:	Dr. Lea Caver
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Chair:	Dr. Akiko Hinds
No. Region Legislative Chair	Dr. Laura Drucker
So. Region Legislative Chair:	Dr. Michelle McGuire
Ethics Chair:	Dr. Sonia Dhaliwal
Membership Chair:	Dr. Christopher Shewbarran
No. Region State Advocacy Coordinator (SAC):	Natalia Duda
So. Region State Advocacy Coordinator (SAC):	Rakshitha Mohankum

2024/2025 Northern Region Board:

Vice-President	Dr. Kaleb Cusack
Treasurer	Dr. Marquez Wilson
Secretary	Dr. Kaleb Cusack
Campus Representative	Brenda Zavalas

2024/2025 Southern Region Board:

Vice-President	Dr. Irma Corral
Treasurer	Dr. Sara Hunt
Secretary	Dr. Angela Lewis
Campus Representative	Jennifer Le

2024/2026 APA Representation:

APA Council Representative	Dr. Lauren Chapple-Love
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Thank you to all who joined/renewed their 2024/2025 NPA membership dues.

DOUBLE Thanks to those who contributed additionally!

Your generosity enables us to continue our programs!

Honoring our Sustaining Members: *

John Araza	Gregory Harder	Sharon Simington
Julie Beasley	Michelle McGuire	Cynthia Thorp
Linda Curtis	Jacqueline Panish	
Lewis Etcoff	Brent Ryder	

**Contribution in addition to dues*

Recognizing our Lifetime Members:

David Antonuccio	Martin Gutride
Richard Baldo	Bob Quilitch
Leanne Earnest	

2025 APASI Practice & State Leadership Conference—Feb 6th—9th

NPA President Write-up of 2025 PSLC experience, Dr. Christopher Shewbarran

As your President of the Nevada Psychological Association (NPA) for 2024-2026, I had the privilege of attending the 2025 APA Practice and State Leadership Conference (PSLC) in Washington, D.C. in February, which I also attended last year in 2023 as President-Elect and 2024 as President. Each delegation had members from leadership positions within their SPTA that were to attend an Affinity Group to collaborate and strategize with leaders from other SPTA around the country and Canada about current issues, topics, obstacles, and concerns that our organizations and members have been addressing and facing, which included developing and strengthening membership engagement, supporting our members with current environmental, situational, and circumstantial stress influenced by policy changes, and supporting each other with common goals and advocacy efforts. I was also fortunate to discuss thoughts and ideas to better support NPA moving forward with the Chief Executive Officer of APA, Dr. Arthur Evans.

For the remaining duration of my term as President, I would like to focus on organizational goals influenced by my collaborations with other SPTA delegations and previous interactions with NPA members. Along with our goals of supporting, strengthening, and improving the growth and stability of NPA, a focused goal I have is improving membership engagement within and outside our association, so that we may learn more about how NPA can support you, prospective members, and communities we serve and reside in. From my interactions with you all over the past year, I have observed that many of us share similar perspectives, ideals, and great ideas for the future of NPA. I believe we have an opportunity here to connect and make collective efforts towards creating a more supportive and active organizational environment for all our members. This will include increasing our communicational efforts, our membership outreach, and developing and strengthening committee engagements and interactions with you all, which we will be able to benefit from and learn more about what you want out of NPA.

Along with this goal, I would also like to hear more from our members about what they want out of our organization. I, along with our leadership, will be making more of an effort to connect with our members to assist with getting more feedback from you all. We have great members as part of our leadership and membership base, with great ideas and thoughts about how we can grow and evolve our organization, and it is something that we can tap more into moving forward as we create the future of NPA. I am honored to continue serving as your President for the next year, and I look forward to the progress we'll be reflecting on in our future.

Graduate Student Delegate Write up of 2025 PSLC experience, Natalia Duda

Master's level clinicians and advocacy efforts in the current political climate were among the important topics discussed by students at the PLC conference this year.

During Affinity Group meetings, there was a lively debate about the role of Master's-level (MA) clinicians, whose role in the field is seen as both an opportunity and a challenge. The group discussed how these professionals could be integrated into the field without being perceived as a "problem." While they emphasized the importance of proper training and scope of practice, the group acknowledged that MA-level clinicians could increase diversity in psychology and accessibility of treatment. However, concerns arose about elitism and the gatekeeping of doctoral education, as well as what the specific value of a doctoral degree above MA-level practice. Students also expressed worries about the growing demand for psychological services and spent time pondering how MA-level clinicians could help bridge gaps in areas where doctoral-level professionals may be scarce and whether this could ultimately contribute to a stronger workforce.

Students also emphasized the importance of advocacy, especially at the state level, and called for more accessible and relevant advocacy training. They wanted to understand how advocacy could impact their careers and the field and believed that students could drive change in these efforts. There was also a desire for advocacy to reach beyond lawmakers to educate the public and policymakers about mental health. Students recognized the challenge of adapting to the current political climate while striving for meaningful impact. They expressed a desire for a united voice among psychologists to influence change. However, they voiced frustration about the slow pace of decision-making and APA's non-partisan stance, calling for more intentional advocacy through various methods, including direct action and personal networks. They emphasized the need for clear, accessible communication channels to ensure information flows between members (including students), states, and associations like APA.

Many students expressed frustration at not feeling heard by more senior professionals in the field and called for more active listening and a unified approach to amplify student voices.

**Practice & SPTA
Leadership Conference**



Article: Rebuilding Trust in Science

The Need for an Evidence-Base in the Treatment of Trans-Identified Youth

The relationship between the American public and science has been tested, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic and currently by political controversies over vaccines and climate change. However, as reported in the New York Times, recent Pew Research Center surveys reveal a positive trend: growing public confidence in scientists' commitment to acting in the public's best interests. To maintain and grow this trust, scientists must remain vigilant about biases and ensure their claims are consistently supported by robust evidence. Nowhere is this vigilance more critical—or its absence more consequential—for the behavioral sciences than in the ongoing debate about the medical and social transitioning of gender-dysphoric children and adolescents.

Recent reviews of treatment outcome studies for medically transitioned youth, including those by Cass (2024) and others, have highlighted significant methodological concerns. Issues such as small sample sizes, lack of control groups, selection bias, insufficient long-term data as well as withholding negative findings, manipulating and mis-representing insignificant outcomes raise serious questions about the validity of these studies and the interventions they support (Cass, 2024; Abbruzzese, Levine, & Mason, 2023; Thompson et al., 2023). Despite these limitations and concerns, major organizations like the American Psychological, Psychiatric, and Pediatric Associations continue to endorse these interventions. We urge mental health professionals and healthcare providers to revisit the data and reconsider their blanket support for these treatments with young people.

While many youths report feeling helped by transitioning interventions (Olsen, Raber & Gallagher, 2024), others have expressed regret and reported harm (Littman et al., 2024). These findings underscore the depth, complexity, and emotional weight of the issue. Families often grapple with immense pain as they seek solutions for their children. Thoughtful clinicians face equally difficult decisions. Yet, our understanding of gender dysphoria in youth remains incomplete, not the least of which is our inability to distinguish between transient and enduring forms of gender dysphoria. Research suggests that as many as 80% of gender-nonconforming children come to embrace their birth sex by late adolescence or early adulthood (Cantor, 2018). This highlights the risks of “gender-affirming” care and underscores the importance of cautious, individualized approaches—especially when interventions involve irreversible medical procedures.

Medical interventions such as puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgeries are not without risks. These treatments, while life-changing for some, carry potential side effects ranging from sterility and sexual dysfunction to cardiovascular issues to increased cancer risks. Two retrospective long-term studies with matched controls have found elevated rates of suicide and suicide attempts among post-surgery transgender adults (Dehjne et al., 2011; Straub et al., 2024). These potential risks demand an extraordinary burden of proof—one that, we argue, has not yet been met.

Mental health professionals have a vital role to play in addressing this issue. Psychologists, psychiatrists, and family therapists possess deep knowledge of child and adolescent development, cognitive processes, and family dynamics. They can help identify underlying factors contributing to gender dysphoria, such as anxiety, depression, trauma, or social pressures. Furthermore, they can support families in navigating these complexities without prematurely resorting to invasive medical interventions. For example, understanding how attachment patterns, peer influences, and co-occurring conditions like autism spectrum disorders shape a young person's experience of gender identity.

In the absence of definitive biological markers for gender dysphoria, healthcare providers must rely on
(continued on page 19)

Article: Rebuilding Trust in Science

clinical judgment and evidence-based practices. Any invasive intervention carries an ethical obligation to demonstrate both safety and efficacy. While many transgender individuals seek and deserve compassionate care, all young people deserve interventions guided by the highest scientific standards. Clinical research must take precedence over current practices to ensure we uphold both the rights and well-being of transgender youth.

The Pew surveys suggest that the public want to believe in science and its scientists. As the number of gender-dysphoric young people seeking care grows, so too must our commitment to rigorous research and multidisciplinary collaboration. Only through careful study, thoughtful debate, and genuine care can we offer these youth and their families the support they need and the future they deserve.

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- Steven Graybar, Ph.D., Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry
University of Arizona, College of Medicine, Tucson, AZ
- David Antonuccio, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science
University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, Reno, NV

Northern Region Board Update

The Northern Region Summer Social will be on Thursday, June 5th from 6:30pm to 9:00pm at The Fox Brewery and Pub in Reno (124 Wonder St.). Join us for free drinks, appetizers and trivia! Trainees and graduate students are welcome. [CLICK HERE](#) to view flyer. RSVP to cylkelj@gmail.com

Other updates from the Northern Region include a change of guard at the regional positions. Lucas Cylke, who has served as the Northern President for three years will step into the secretary position and Kaleb Cusack be the new President of the Northern Region. The Northern region is also proud to announce that Marquez Wilson is the next President-Elect of NPA.

Kaleb Cusack, Ph.D.
2025/2026 Northern Region Board President

Graduate Student Committee Update

The Graduate Student Committee, made up of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from Nevada who are members of the Nevada Psychological Association (NPA), serves as a vital platform for collaboration and advocacy. This committee offers an opportunity for psychology graduates across the state to unite, discuss, and address issues pertinent to their field.

The primary goal of the committee is to enable graduate students to connect and advocate for the interests and needs of their peers within the psychological community. By participating, members can actively engage with the NPA, influence policies, and help shape their future careers as psychologists.

Additionally, the committee fosters networking among students from both universities of Nevada, helping them build a supportive community and professional relationships. This involvement not only empowers future graduates to impact the field of psychology but also prepares them for their professional journeys.

We are currently looking for new members to join our committee! We plan to hold monthly meetings and host one to two social events throughout the year. Come be a part of building community and shaping the future of psychology in Nevada

Rakshitha Mohankumar, Student Advocacy Coordinator South

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee Update

NPA's DEI committee began meeting in March 2025 with active participation and great ideas. We currently meet on the first Friday of each month at 12pm. We are hoping to get more committee members for exciting ideas and advocacy opportunities.

The DEI committee is sending out monthly calendars of cultural events throughout the state. Please look out for the calendars and feel free to send us any events in your area. To view May calendar, [click here](#)

Lastly, we will begin a consultation group in August that will be half didactic and half consultation to help trainees and licensed psychologists with the clients that we serve.

Our DEI committee would like to hear from you! If you have ideas, please do not hesitate to email leacaver@yahoo.com or ahinds0926@gmail.com

Akiko Hinds, Psy.D. and Lea Caver, Ph.D.
NPA DEI Committee Co-Chairs

Southern Region Board Update

For the 2024-2025 year our southern regional board consists of Dr. Irma Corral, Dr. Angela Lewis, and our wonderful student representative, Ms. Jennifer Le. Our new incoming student representatives are Lilla Brody and Maayra Butt, both first year students in the Clinical Psychology doctoral programs. We look forward to welcoming them and having them be part of this board. Our goals continue to be the following: *student advocacy, improving our social media presence, working to support and retain our early career psychologists here in Nevada.* We are doing something different this year by introducing and featuring each of our board members and the many different tasks and projects they are involved with.

Dr. Angela Lewis, Secretary of Southern Regional Board:

Dr. Lewis recently joined the VA as a Clinical Psychologist in Women's Health, where she provides trauma-informed, evidence-based care to women veterans. Her clinical interests include trauma, anxiety, and women's health concerns. She completed her postdoctoral fellowship at Headspace and her predoctoral internship at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) CAPS.

Student Representative, Jennifer Le:

Jennifer has been working on defending her thesis, which is a meta-analysis that examines emotion and sensorimotor gating. She has also been working with Dr. Nicole Short on publishing a manuscript that examines impulsivity, rumination, and cannabis use difficulties within trauma-exposed adults. Regarding clinical work, she has been continuing her practicum at the US Department of Veterans Affairs providing individual and group dialectical behavior therapy to veterans. Recently, she was awarded the Patricia Sastaunik Scholarship which is a merit-based scholarship that provides funding to graduate students.

Dr. Irma Corral, Vice President of Southern Regional Board:

Irma Corral, Ph.D., is the associate dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion and associate professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral health for the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV.

Dr. Corral focuses on sociocultural and structural factors in health behavior and chronic illness, as well as racial/ethnic disparities in physical and mental health. In addition to general psychiatric concerns, Corral's areas of clinical specialization include pre-surgical psychological evaluation and behavioral chronic illness management. Her past work in medical education has focused on contributions to biomedical pipeline programs, medical student and resident success, addressing the physician shortage, and increasing access to care. In her current role, her professional interests include faculty development, learning environment management, medical Spanish programs for future healthcare workers, and mentoring of first-generation students.

Dr. Sonia Dhaliwal, President of the Southern Regional Board:

Dr. Sonia Dhaliwal is a Licensed Psychologist and owner of Dhaliwal Psychological Services LLC in Las Vegas, NV. As a generalist, she has worked with individuals from across the country and has provided expert consultation and advice to therapists and healthcare professionals, both nationally and internationally on issues ranging from diagnosis and assessment, emotion focused techniques, and treatment for anxiety and depression. Dr. Dhaliwal takes an evidence-based and strong multicultural approach to therapy. Identifying as a multiracial immigrant, she has a strong passion and commitment to working with the immigrant population. Dr. Dhaliwal also has training in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Interpersonal Process Therapy and Emotion Focused Therapy. Recently, Dr. Dhaliwal has pursued a graduate level certification in Native American studies as this is a burgeoning area of clinical interest for her. Dr. Dhaliwal currently serves as president of the Southern Regional Board of the Nevada Psychological Association (NPA) and is also the chair of the Ethics committee for NPA.

Incoming student representative, Lilla Brody:

Lilla Brody is a first-year student in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program at UNLV from Los Angeles. She has her undergraduate degree in Cognitive Science and Theater Studies from Yale University. Lilla's research interests include the development, refinement, and testing of interventions for transdiagnostic depression and anxiety in diverse populations of older adults. She is also interested in implementation science with respect to these interventions. Clinically, Lilla hopes to work with folks covering the entire range of adulthood in mood disorder treatment.

Our spring social was held on **May 9th at Dave & Busters** in Summerlin. To meet the current needs of our professional community, we had Dr. Nicole Anders present on "Self-care and Burnout Prevention Strategies for Psychologists."

In summary, I can honestly say that this leadership role continues to be rewarding and impactful. I feel grateful to work with strong and inspiring people who are open to creativity and are committed to moving our efforts forward!

Sonia Dhaliwal, Psy.D.
2025/26 Southern Region Board President



Early Career Psychologist (ECP) Committee Update

We are excited to share several upcoming initiatives for Early Career Psychologists (ECPs) across Nevada! A virtual, statewide peer support and consultation group will be launching in late May. Please stay tuned for the official date and access details. This group will provide a confidential and supportive space for ECPs to discuss professional challenges, share resources, and connect with peers.

In addition to the virtual group, we are planning in-person events in the coming months to further foster community and support among ECPs.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all who participated in the ECP Survey distributed in March. Your feedback was instrumental in shaping this year's programming. Survey results highlighted strong interest in:

- Peer support and consultation opportunities
- Networking events
- Professional development activities
- Social events
- Educational workshops

This year's activities, events, and initiatives will be driven by these identified needs and interests.

If you are interested in joining the Early Career Psychologist Committee, we would love to collaborate with you!

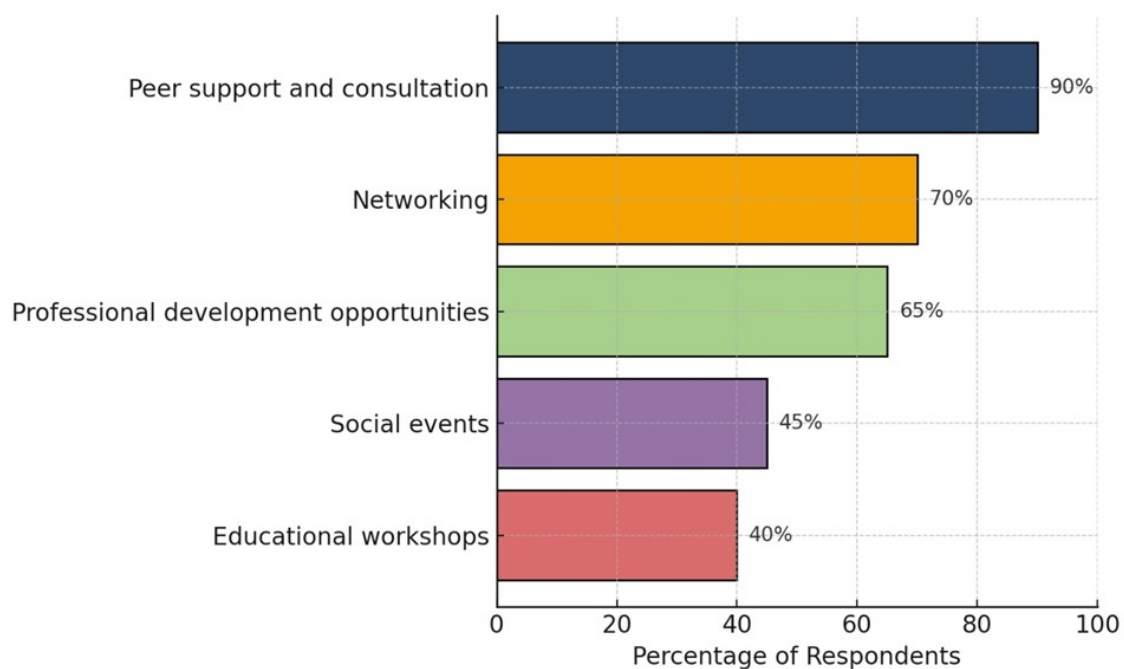
Please also feel free to reach out if you have questions and/or additional suggestions or ideas for content or events that would best serve ECPs in Nevada.

We look forward to connecting with you and building a strong, supportive community together!
Sincerely,

Persephone Crittenden, Psy.D.

2025/26 Early Career Psychologist Committee Co-Chair – Northern Nevada

Priorities Identified by Early Career Psychologists 2025 Survey Results



Ethics Committee Update

Hello NPA Community! Happy spring 2025!

As discussed in our previous edition, the primary function of the NPA Ethics Committee (EC) is to guide, educate, and consult regarding concerns about professional ethics. The services of the EC are offered to both NPA members and non-members. We are in the process of actively recruiting 4 licensed psychologists to be part of our committee, each serving a 2-year term. The committee is scheduled to meet **once every 3 months** for an hour, sometimes longer depending on the cases we have to work through.

The EC is seeking representation for three areas of psychology, which are reflective of current themes within the broad domain of Ethics: *Forensics, Clinical Practice and Business of Providing Services*. If you are an active NPA member interested in serving on this committee, please visit the link below for more information on how to submit your materials:

<https://www.nvpsychology.org/ethics-committee>

How to reach out to the EC Committee:

The first step starts when you visit the website at <https://www.nvpsychology.org/ethics-committee>. You will click on “click here to access our consultation request form.” Once you submit your request, a member from the Ethics Committee will reach out to you within one week to set up a consultation call. To prepare for your Ethics consultation call, it is important that you review the [APA Ethics Code](#) and identify any sections that you believe are relevant to your ethical dilemma; the EC member assigned to your call will do the same. While not required, it is sometimes helpful to do a brief literature review about your specific dilemma.

Often, legal issues may be present in cases discussed. To address the legal aspect of specific cases, we are actively working to partner with attorneys in Las Vegas and Reno areas that can provide a free consultation to NPA members.

In addition to the above, we will have eblasts that go out every couple of months with various ethical tips and advice for practitioners.

Over the past few months, we have actively added different ethics related articles to our online library, accessible to NPA members. The goal is to continue building our online library so that we can use some of the content to create Ethics CEUs for our Nevadan community. More about this coming soon!

We are still looking for graduate students and licensed psychologists to join our team, if you think you might be interested, please reach out!

We look forward to serving our NPA members and non-members!

Sincerely,

The Ethics Committee
Dr. Sonia Dhaliwal
2025/26 Ethics Committee chair



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Hardware

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Easy-to-use and cost effective. We offer a range of tablet-based POS systems to manage inventory, payroll, staff, cash, and more.

Mobile Swiper



A mobile payment processing solution to accept payments on the go. All you need is an iPhone or Android device.

Terminal



Upgrade to an EMV-capable credit card terminal and reduce your business's chance of fraud.

Software

Insights



An analytics tool built for the small business owner. Stay informed on your local market through reputation management and competitive insights.

Virtual Terminal



Enjoy simple, online credit card processing that deposits funds into your bank account within 48 hours. Say goodbye to your outdated, tedious card swipe technology!

Invoicing



Send branded and digitized invoices, automate recurring payments, process credit card payments, and track your hours - all in one versatile platform!

Ecommerce



Seamlessly embed an online shopping cart to your website, blog, Facebook page, and more! Whether you're selling inventory or collecting donations, it's time to upgrade how your online business engages your customers.

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Men's Therapy Groups

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Thursday Evening Group 3 sessions per month 5:30-7:30 pm

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NPA 2025 Continuing Education Calendar

Improving Outcomes Through Awareness: Socioeconomic Status in Psychotherapy

Kristen Davis-Coelho Ph.D.

Wednesday, May 21st 12:00pm—1:00pm

1 Cultural Competency CE Credit

Free to NPA members and student members!

Navigating Social Media Relationships: Parasocial to Self-Image and Everything in Between

Erika Dawkins, Ph.D., MEd

Friday, September 19th, 2024 9:00am—12:15pm

Live, virtual webinar

3 CE Credits

Treating Disruptive Behaviors

Michelle Grimes, Ph.D.

Friday, October 17th, 2024 9:00am—12:15pm

Live, virtual webinar

3 CE Credits

More Details and Registration available

online at: www.NVPsychology.org

click on the LEARN tab or calendar

Or Scan QR code below:



Diversity in Neuropsychology: Integrating Cultural, Socioeconomic, and Physical Differences in Assessment and Diagnosis

Sunshine Colins, Ph.D.

Monday, September 8th 12:00pm—1:00pm

1 Cultural Competency CE Credit

Free to NPA members and student members!

Principles of Building an Inclusive Practice: Intentional strategies to create Welcoming therapeutic spaces for historically marginalized communities

Irma Corral Ph.D.

Monday, October 6th 12:00pm—1:00pm

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