

# Let's join together and overcome interpersonal violence!



We understand that we cannot accomplish this goal alone. We want to create a conversation across our Commonwealth about the importance of overcoming interpersonal violence and are seeking community partners!

During 2016, the Pennsylvania Psychological Association (PPA), intends to establish strategies to help our communities move from cultures of violence to cultures of peacefulness and non-violence. In doing so, we will highlight psychology's value in homes, schools, workplaces and our communities at large. We, as psychologists, can become change agents by working with other professionals and agencies to identify causes that fuel violence and develop concrete tools that address and remedy these issues. Non-violence can be promoted through advocacy and the dissemination of educational tools that reinforce an evolving view of cultural differences, self-awareness, violence and trauma responses.

- Dr. Beatrice R. Salter, PPA President

## Background:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has also identified violence as a central issue impeding physical health, mental health and economic viability. (GROVP, 2014, p.6) Violence is truly epidemic in its frequency and tragic consequences.
- In 2014, the American Psychological Association (APA) participated in a United Nations sponsored conference entitled "Global violence: Psychological perspectives, prevention, intervention and future trends." This platform highlighted for the first time the significant contributions that psychologists can make in addressing the global problem of violence. (APA Website, Psychology International, October 2014)

Interpersonal violence includes, but is not limited to, child abuse, domestic violence, intimate partner abuse, school violence including bullying, workplace violence, elder abuse, abuse of the disabled, and sexual abuse across the lifespan. Interpersonal violence is responsible for a myriad of societal ills that negatively impact psychological development, mental health and physical health. Violence and trauma are not single events. Instead, violent events have enduring consequences that shape how an individual is able to achieve developmental milestones, navigate life's challenges and attain the social and emotional skills that promote the development of a positive self-image and establish healthy relationships with family, peers and one's community.

## How You Can Help!

- Make a presentation at an upcoming PPA event
- Become a community partner on our website
- Sponsor a PPA event related to overcoming interpersonal violence
- Help us to spread the word to your constituents about this initiative



If your organization is interested in partnering with PPA in this effort, please email Justin Fleming at [justin@psychologycanhelp.com](mailto:justin@psychologycanhelp.com) for more information. Thank you for your interest in psychology and its powerful impact on families and communities!

Pennsylvania Psychological Association  
5925 Stevenson Avenue, Suite H  
Harrisburg PA 17112  
717-232-3817  
[www.papsy.org](http://www.papsy.org)



PENNSYLVANIA  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION