

**Society of Counseling Psychology Division 17**  
AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

# 2023 AWARDS PROGRAM

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023

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## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### **Laura Reid Marks, Ph.D.**

*Dorothy Booz Black Award for Outstanding Contributions in Counseling Health Psychology Award Recipient*

Dr. Marks is an Assistant Professor in the APA-accredited Combined Counseling and School Psychology doctoral program at Florida State University. She is originally from Kingston, Jamaica. She received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology, as well as her Master of Arts in Education and Education Specialist in School Counseling from the University of Florida. She received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Purdue University, after completing her pre-doctoral internship at Arizona State University Counseling Services.

Dr. Marks is the director of the Global Research On Working To ameliorate Health and career disparities (G.R.O.W.T.H.) Research Lab. The G.R.O.W.T.H. Research Lab examines racial discrimination and its effects on mental health and health behaviors, and career development in marginalized groups. Ultimately, the lab conducts research aimed at reducing health and career disparities. Most recently, as PI on a NIH-funded study she is working on a project to increase the engagement of Black college students in mindfulness mobile health to reduce stress and alcohol misuse.



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### **Amanda M. Mitchell, Ph.D.**

*Dorothy Booz Black Award for Outstanding Contributions in Counseling Health Psychology Award Recipient*

Amanda M. Mitchell, Ph.D. (she/her/hers) is an assistant professor in the Department of Counseling and Human Development at the University of Louisville and a licensed psychologist. She has over 30 peer-reviewed publications in the area of stress and health, with a focus on pathways relevant for health among people facing low income and economic marginalization. Her current research uses mixed methods and community-engaged approaches to more fully inform the development of multidimensional and multilevel interventions to dismantle health inequities. Like research, her teaching, clinical, and advocacy efforts center on health equity and honoring multiple dimensions of health and well-being. She is grateful to her mentors for continuing to offer her guidance and support; collaborators and students (special thanks to the SIH lab!) for bringing their energy and passion into her everyday work experience; and her family and friends for all the humor and love they provide each day.



## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

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**Brian TaeHyuk Keum, Ph.D.***Fritz & Linn Kuder Early Career Award for Distinguished Scientific Contributions Award*

Brian TaeHyuk Keum Ph.D. (He/Him/His) is the Buehler Family Sesquicentennial Endowed Assistant Professor of Counseling Psychology in the Department of Counseling, Developmental, and Educational Psychology at Boston College. He was previously an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Welfare at UCLA. He earned his Ph.D. in counseling psychology at the University of Maryland-College Park. Dr. Keum's research focuses on (a) mental and behavioral costs of online oppression (e.g., online racism), (b) intersectional perspectives in mental health and socialization among Asian Americans, (c) multicultural and social justice issues in clinical training, (d) culturally-congruent and culturally-relevant psychological measure development/evaluation, and (e) promotion of cross-racial anti-racism solidarity. In these areas, he has published 70 peer-reviewed articles and made over 80 refereed presentations. His work has been recognized by multiple divisions of APA (17, 45, 51, 29) and he is the recipient of the 2022 Rising Star Award by the National Multicultural Conference Summit which honors the efforts and significant contributions of early career psychologists in multicultural research, teaching, advocacy, policy, and/or clinical care. His work has been covered by various national media outlets such as The Washington Post, LA Times, CEOMOM, VICE, Kaiser Health, MedicalXpress, and NPR subsidiaries. Dr. Keum has received over \$1 million in funding from numerous local and national organizations, including a three-year \$800,000 grant from the State of California's Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program examining the role online racism can have on tobacco product use among racially minoritized emerging adults and ways to mitigate the harmful outcomes.



# 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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## Counselors without Borders

*SCP International Award for the Advancement of Counseling Psychology Values (U.S.-based)*

CWB, a non-profit organization based in the US was founded close to two decades ago in an effort to address the mental health challenges that communities face when dealing with natural disasters (e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes) and human-made ones (e.g., forced separation of families at a national border). CWB has sought to support and supplement the work done by public and private organizations in existence at the location in need.

These supports have proven crucial as the vast majority of the people that CWB members have worked with are part of low income communities which tend to be differentially impacted by disasters of all kinds, and communities where people of color tend to be overrepresented. Counselors Without Borders is committed to providing culturally responsive humanitarian counseling in post-disaster emergency situations. CWB believes that counseling in urgent situations must be culturally sensitive and provide high-quality and relevant counseling.

The primary aim of Counselors Without Borders is to either develop or work collaboratively with existing mental health, social service, public health, and educational infrastructures and provide services for those in need of mental health and psychosocial support who are in emergency situations and not receiving counseling support.



**Fred Bemak, Ph.D.**



**Rita Chi-Ying Chung, Ph.D.**

# 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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## Médecins Sans Frontières

*SCP International Award for the Advancement of Counseling Psychology Values (Internationally-based)*

MSF, known in English as Doctors without Borders, was founded in 1971 in Paris by a small group of medical personnel and journalists following the war and famine in Biafra, Nigeria. Their aim was to establish an independent organization that focused on delivering emergency medical humanitarian aid quickly, effectively, and impartially. It has now extended its organizations into 25 associations around the world, including the US.

MSF not only provides international crisis and emergency responses, but also continue to improve medical practice, including behavioral health care. MSF members have been providing medical care in precarious environments for people suffering due to natural disasters, epidemics and pandemics, social violence and exclusion, as well as war and conflicts. MSF health professionals and staff are mostly hired locally. Thus, they can respond to the situation with actions that meet international and local professional ethics, as well as cultural and linguistic competencies. The work by MSF has been recognized with many awards and accolades, including the 1999 Nobel Peace Prize.



**Avril Benoît**  
Executive Director



**Africa Stewart, Ph.D.**  
President, Board of Directors

## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### **Valene Whittaker, Ph.D.**

#### *Early Career Award For Distinguished Professional Contributions To Counseling Psychology Award*

Valene Whittaker, Ph.D. (she/her/hers) is the Military Sexual Trauma Services Coordinator and Women's Health Clinic Psychologist at the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center. In these roles she provides care coordination and consultation to Veterans and Former Service Members of all genders who have experienced military sexual trauma; psychotherapy to Women Veterans; and education and consultation to medical center providers on the impact of sexual violence in military communities, as well as on specialized women's mental health concerns. Dr. Whittaker also facilitates a Race-based Stress and Trauma Group for BIPOC Veterans at the medical center, and is actively involved in education and training as a member of the Psychology Service's training program. Dr. Whittaker obtained her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and a Graduate Minor in African American Studies from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2013. She completed her predoctoral internship at University of California Berkeley's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), and a postdoctoral fellowship in Interprofessional Education and Program Development at the VA Bedford Healthcare System. Her clinical and research interests include the psychological well-being of women of color, and people of color broadly; Black racial identity; racism, race-related stress, and racial trauma; culturally responsive and affirming training and supervision; and trauma recovery and resilience within Veteran, Active Duty, and Military communities.

Dr. Whittaker is active in national and local leadership within the field of psychology as a current member of the APA Council of Representatives for Division 18 and the APA Ethics Committee. Her past leadership roles within SCP have included Vice President for Communications and former Chair for the Section on Professional Practice. At the local level, she served on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Psychological Association, and as a former chair for the MPA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs.

She is deeply grateful to her mentor, Dr. Helen Neville, her (academic) sisters, Drs. Jioni Lewis, Bryana French, and Alexis Clarke, and her community of counseling psychology mentors and friends for their steadfast encouragement; as well as to her given and chosen family members for their unwavering love and support.



## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA AWARD RECIPIENTS

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### **Matthew Diemer, Ph.D.**

#### *John Holland Award for Outstanding Achievement in Career or Personality Research*

Matthew A. Diemer examines how young people analyze, negotiate, and challenge racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and other constraints in school, college, work, and civic/political institutions. He is particularly interested in how marginalized people develop critical consciousness, which is a careful analysis of societal inequalities, the motivation to produce social change, and participation in social or political action to challenge inequality. His research has been or is currently funded by grants from the Institute for Education Sciences, the National Institute of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, and the William T. Grant Foundation. Diemer received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Boston College in 2003, under the guidance of Dr. David L. Blustein.



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### **Raquel Rose, M. Phil**

#### *Social Justice Award in Counseling Psychology*

Raquel Rose's research, clinical praxis and activism seeks to understand the impact of systemic trauma, resource precarity, and deficit-based narratives around racial/ethnic minority and SOGIE diverse youth on psychosocial outcomes particularly in the mental health, education and legal fields. As a first-generation, Caribbean immigrant, her scholarship is deeply rooted in her identity as a queer, black woman of the diaspora.

In particular, she focuses on the effective implementation and evaluation of abolitionist interventions and participatory programs with youth who are legal system-impacted to inform multi-disciplinary efforts to change systems/policy and promote better service delivery and innovation. Raquel's dissertation, *ROSES in the Educational Margins: Analyzing the Impact of Unmet Needs, Trauma, and Stakeholder Perceptions on School Pushout and Sense of Safety for Black and Latine Girls,* explores how the mismatch between the purported aims of institutions and the expressed safety needs of girls leads to negative psychosocial outcomes. This project aims to create change within systems, strengthen community-based partnerships outside of the formal system, and directly collaborate with girls of color to hold contexts accountable.



2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA

# AWARD RECIPIENTS

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**Karen O'Brien, Ph.D.**

*Lifetime Achievement in Mentoring Award*

Dr. Karen M. O'Brien is a professor in the Department of Psychology and faculty ombuds officer at the University of Maryland. Through her research, teaching, and service, Dr. O'Brien strives to generate knowledge to address social concerns, educate and mentor students to achieve their potential, assist faculty in creating equitable, inclusive, and healthy work environments, and contribute to the communities where she lives and works. Dr. O'Brien studies factors related to successful management of work and family, end-of-life issues and dating violence. She teaches courses on intimate partner violence and death, dying and grieving. Dr. O'Brien is a licensed psychologist in the State of Maryland and a fellow of the American Psychological Association.



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**Sandra Bertram Grant, M.Ed.**

*Donald E. Super Fellowship for the Support of  
Dissertation Research on Career Development 2023*



**Rachel L. Dyer, M.S.**

*Barbara A. Kirk Award for Outstanding  
Graduate Student Research 2023*





## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA Early Career Professionals Committee Award Recipients

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### Monica Becerra, Ph.D.

#### *2023 Early Career Mentorship Award*

Dr. Monica Becerra (she/they/ella) is currently serving as a bilingual staff psychologist at the University of California, Berkeley where she also completed her postdoctoral training. She obtained her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She identifies as a bicultural queer Latina and is the proud daughter of immigrant parents from Mexico. She finds meaning in combining her lived experiences and training to support individuals with marginalized identities in their healing from multiple forms of intersecting trauma and pain caused by disconnection, colonialism, oppressive systems, hatred, shame, historic and world events. Dr. Becerra's research has focused on multicultural supervision and training and she enjoys being a source of support and empowerment to other early career professionals. As a first-generation college student, Dr. Becerra relied heavily on mentors to guide her through her academic and professional journey. She believes in the power of community and the importance of being able to pay forward the nurturance she has received. She would like to thank her ancestors and the people who have paved the way for people like her to have access to restricted spaces and resources. She would also like to thank all the mentors who continue to uplift and empower her in the journey. We continue to keep the faith.



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### Sherry Wang, Ph.D.

#### *2023 Early Career Social Justice Advocacy Award*

Sherry C. Wang, PhD (she/her/她) is an Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology at Santa Clara University. She is also a licensed psychologist, anti-racist educator, and researcher. She identifies as a cisgender woman and her worldview is influenced by her bilingual and bicultural background as a Taiwanese immigrant and Asian American. Her scholarship is rooted in advocating for the voices of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) communities and she focuses on the ways in which sociocultural determinants (e.g., access to healthcare services, social support, community attitudes) contribute to ethnic/racial health disparities. She teaches graduate courses in multicultural counseling, developmental psychology, microskills, and feminist multicultural therapy. She provides clinical services one day a week in her private practice. At the national level, she co-chairs the Asian American Psychological Association's (AAPA) Division on Women (DOW). She is a representative to APA Council for Division 45 (Society for the Psychological Study of Culture, Ethnicity, and Race). Since the start of COVID19, she has been featured, cited, and interviewed in the media on the topic of anti-Asian racism, xenophobia, and cross-racial coalition-building.



## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA Early Career Professionals Committee Award Recipients

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### **Sebastian Barr, Ph.D.**

#### *2023 Early Career Clinical Practice Award*

Dr. Sebastian Barr (he/him/his) works as a psychotherapist, researcher, and consultant in independent practice, and is licensed in both Kansas and Massachusetts. He specializes in trans mental health, healing from traumatic stress, and the intersection of these areas. Dr. Barr presents multiple times a year on trans-affirming psychotherapy and trans well-being to diverse audiences, including clinicians, family, and community members. As a part of his clinical practice, he writes pro bono referral letters for gender-affirming healthcare utilizing an approach that centers client autonomy and minimizes gatekeeping, and he has trained organizations and clinicians in developing their own no-cost letter-writing practices. His work can be found in multiple textbooks and he serves on the editorial boards for *Psychotherapy* and *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*. Dr. Barr was previously recognized as a 2020 QLGBTI scholar-in-residence at the Faber-lull residency, which involved collaborating with trans and queer activists, artists, and academics in the Catalan region of Spain. He is grateful for the many mentors and peer-mentors that have shaped his career, particularly his fellow trans psychologists.



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### **David Zelaya, Ph.D.**

#### *2023 Early Career Teaching Award*

Dr. David G. Zelaya (he/him/él) is an Assistant Professor at Brown University School of Public, a research fellow at Harvard Medical School within the Department of Psychiatry and Cambridge Hospital, and an affiliated scientist at Yale University with the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS. He received his Ph.D. from Georgia State University in counseling psychology. His program of research focuses on examining health disparities, from an intersectionality and minority stress lens, among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and sexual and gender minority communities and links to HIV risk, mental health, and substance use. Clinically, he is interested in providing culturally competent behavioral health services to historically underserved communities (e.g., Spanish-speaking Latinx people; sexual and gender diverse people). He is an APA Minority Fellow alumnus, has been the recipient of numerous social justice awards, his research has been published in the flagship journals of his field, and he serves on the editorial board for the *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity* journal.



## 2023 SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, DIVISION 17, APA Best in Science and Best in Practice Addresses

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### **Hsui-Lan Cheng, Ph.D.**

#### *2023 Best in Science*

Hsui-Lan Cheng, Ph.D., is currently an Associate Professor (Full Professor, effective Fall 2023) in the Department of Counseling Psychology at the University of San Francisco. Cheng's research interests include multicultural contextualization of psychological concerns and help-seeking; Asia/Asian American Mental Health; body image and disordered eating concerns among minoritized individuals; Attachment theory; and positive psychology.

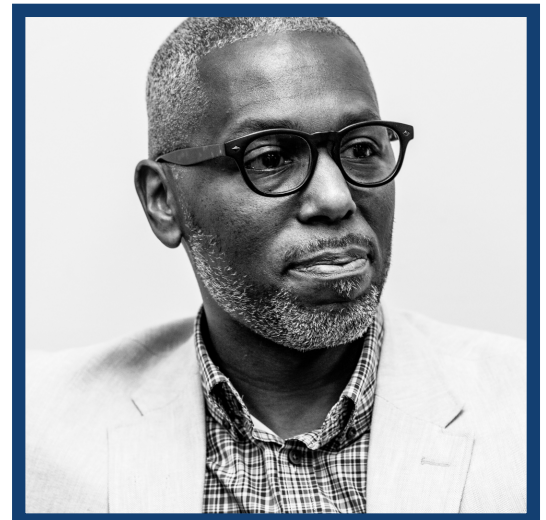


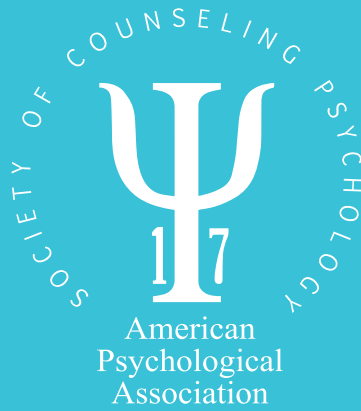
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### **Carlton E. Green, Ph.D.**

#### *2023 Best in Practice*

Carlton E. Green, Ph.D., is an award-winning psychologist with expertise in diversity, equity, and inclusion with an emphasis on race and racial issues. Dr. Green earned a PhD in counseling psychology at Boston College, and for more than 25 years, Dr. Green held various roles in higher education settings. Currently, Dr. Green operates an independent practice providing psychotherapy to diverse populations and supervision to mental health trainees, as well as facilitation, training, consultation, and coaching services to schools, universities, mental health agencies, and businesses. Dr. Green has invested significantly in collaborating with other justice-focused partners to address issues of anti-Black racism in higher education and mental health settings. From providing consultation to executive leaders and boards about the deleterious effects of anti-Blackness to supporting the work of initiatives such as Academics for Black Survival and Wellness, Dr. Green uses challenge and empathy to help individuals and organizations grapple with and change their practices and policies that regard Black people as subhuman and/or superhuman, rather than just human.





# Society of Counseling Psychology Division 17

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



## **CONTACT INFO**

Society of Counseling Psychology  
Division 17, APA  
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