WVPA 2025

We have a lot planned in the year ahead!

Our Mission:

- Advance the science and practice of psychology.
- Promote psychological well-being for all West Virginians.
- Improve access to quality care for all West Virginians.
- Provide professional development and networking for members.
- Educate the public about psychology
- Collaborate with other psychological associations

In this newsletter

- **Meet our new Executive Team**
- **Learn about upcoming events**

  Upcoming workshops, advocacy events, and conferences
- **Meet our 2025 Board of Directors**

WVPA | Wvpsychology.org | Info@wvpsychology.org

Welcome

Please join us in welcoming our new Executive Team!

Ms. Nikki Feldhaus

Executive Director

I'm looking forward to serving as your new Executive Director of WVPA this year. I am proud to work and support my psychologist team here at CAMC Behavioral Medicine as I partner with them on our daily operations and patient care as the Ambulatory Manger over the department. I look forward to expanding that support outside of our organizations and out in our community. In my downtime, I enjoy spending summers with my husband watching my daughter play travel softball & love all things Italian. You are welcome to reach me by email: nichole.feldhaus@gmail.com

Mr. Ashton Gambill

Administrative Consultant

My name is Ashton Gambill, and I appreciate the opportunity to introduce myself! I am looking forward to serving as the Administrative Consultant for the WVPA! Currently I work as the Ambulatory Department Coordinator at a Behavioral Medicine Outpatient Clinic. Over the past 5 years, I have had the privilege of working directly with Mental Health professionals, and I have worked in the healthcare field for over 6 years now. While I have no prior involvement with WVPA, I am fortunate to work closely with our Psychology Faculty on a daily basis, collaborating both within our department and across other areas. I am always happy to assist in any way I can! Outside of work, I enjoy camping and traveling with my partner and our dog, entertaining friends and family, and exploring technology—whether it's helping others learn about their tech or troubleshooting issues.

Feel free to reach out via email at- ashton.gambill@outlook.com

Upcoming Events

FEB 20	**Virtual CE Workshop** Building Culturally Responsive Psychological Practices for BIPOC Communities in Rural Contexts
FEB 12 TO APR 12	**WV Legislative Session** info@wvpsychology.org to learn more about advocacy and outreach
MAY 31	**Nomination Deadline** WVPA-APA Citizen Psychologist Awards
JUNE 30	**Workshop Submission Deadline** Fall Conference
JULY 31	**Election Nomination Deadline** More info to follow on available positions and how to nominate
SEPT 1	**Poster Submission Deadline** Fall Conference
SEP 25-27	**Fall Conference 2025** Charleston, WV or virtual

WVPA PRESENTS:

WINTER DIVERSITY CE WEBINAR

Building Culturally Responsive Psychological Practices for BIPOC Communities in Rural Contexts

BY: LAUREN HARPER, PHD

FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025

12:00-1:00PM

WVPA Members, Non-Members, & Graduate Students Are Welcome to Attend

FREE REGISTRATION

1.0 PSYCHOLOGY CE AVAILABLE
FREE CE FOR WVPA MEMBERS
$25 CE FOR NON-MEMBERS

SCAN TO REGISTER

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Understand the challenges faced by BIPOC individuals in predominantly white, rural areas, including systemic barriers, practitioner microaggressions, and culturally un-responsive therapeutic approaches.
- Explore best practices for culturally responsive and inclusive psychological care.
- Develop actionable strategies to foster trust, empowerment, and resilience in BIPOC clients.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

DR. LAUREN HARPER IS A LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST, AND FOUNDER OF HARPER & CO. LLC, A MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS FIRM. SHE HAS OBTAINED A PH.D. IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY AND A QUALITATIVE RESEARCH CERTIFICATE, BOTH FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA AND CURRENTLY LIVES IN PORTLAND, OREGON. DR. HARPER'S WORK HAS INCLUDED INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP THERAPY, LEADER DEVELOPMENT, WELLNESS/WORKFORCE VITALITY AND TRANSLATING TRENDS FROM SURVEY DATA INTO NEW DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION (DEI) INITIATIVES AND POLICY CHANGES. SHE IS AN EXPERIENCED FACILITATOR AND IS PASSIONATE ABOUT CREATING PROGRAMMING THAT PROMOTES LASTING INDIVIDUAL GROWTH AND CULTURE CHANGE.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

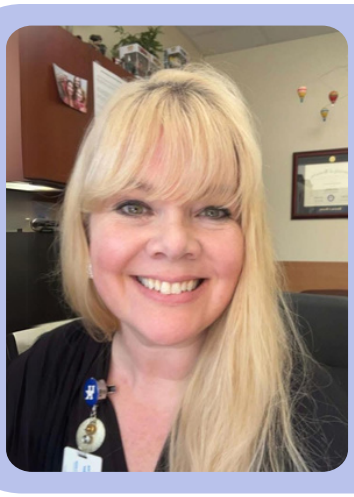
We’re looking for WVPA members to join our committees - folks at all career stages are welcome!!!

Membership
Government Affairs
State Assistance

If you're interested in volunteering with us, please contact us!

info@wvpsychology.org

Meet Our 2025 Board



Chantel Weisenmuller, PhD

2025 President

I'm delighted to serve as President of WVPA this year. Before this, I was honored to represent WVPA in the APA Council of Representatives for six years. I am proud of the work WVPA does to support psychologists throughout the state and the communities they serve through advocacy, outreach, and professional development. In my downtime, I enjoy painting, fiber arts, and NY Rangers hockey. You are welcome to reach me at cweisenmullerphd@gmail.com.

Alissa Caudill, PsyD

2025 President-Elect

I'm excited to transition from my previous role as WVPA Secretary to serve as the current President-Elect. I look forward to working with the WVPA officers and members as we continue to provide valuable resources for West Virginia psychologists. I currently work as an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at the Marshall University School of Medicine, where my clinical focus is on children and adolescents. Outside of work I enjoy time with family and friends, playing piano, and taking road trips with my husband and daughter (only four more states to go!). If you'd like to get in touch, you can contact me by email at harman21@marshall.edu

Chava Urecki, PsyD

2025 Past President

Hello! I am so excited to continue to serve on the WVPA Board as Past President this year! It has been such a joy and honor to be your President-Elect and then President over the past two years. I am so delighted that Dr. Weisenmuller will be stepping into the role as President as I know we will have an amazing year in store. Though I have moved to Ohio, West Virginia will always be my home. I am so glad to be able to serve alongside so many amazing psychologists in the state of WV and ensure that we are advocating for the mental health needs in our community. When I am not working for WVPA, I enjoy long walks with my dog, reading, and knitting. You are welcome to reach me via email at czurecki@gmail.com.

Meet our 2025 Board

Jillian Keener, PsyD

Secretary

I am excited to serve as the secretary of WVPA. What drew me to this position as someone born and raised in WV, is the opportunity to join this organization in providing advocacy, outreach, mentorship, and advancement of psychologists in our state. I have a clowder of cats though more importantly, a ginger cat named Oscar who will be an honorary member as he stomps through meetings making sure his demands are met. I love figure skating but am not a figure skater. Please nerd out on this topic with me if you enjoy it.

Christina Lawrence, PsyD

Treasurer

I am honored to be serving in my second year as the Treasurer for WVPA. I began my involvement with WVPA as a graduate student and was part of the first cohort of the WVPA Emerging Leadership Program. After this, I assisted with the WVPA membership committee prior to transitioning to my role as treasurer. I have so appreciated WVPA's influence throughout my graduate program and early career to keep me connected to other psychologists and learning opportunities through our conferences. Much of the treasurer's work occurs behind the scenes (please ignore the woman behind the curtain) but I am happy to discuss if anyone has questions! You can reach me at christinalawrence@uhswv.com. When not wearing my professional hats, you can find me hanging out with my dog Moose or on the floor doing tummy time with my five-month-old daughter (I can give a rousing rendition of the purple monkey in a bubble gum tree song!).

Liam Condon, PhD, ABPP

Early Career Representative-at-Large

I'm really looking forward to serve as the Early Career rep for WVPA. This is my first role in WVPA other than member. Rapid technological and policy changes by various parties are likely to shape our careers as psychologists, especially for those of us who are early career. I would like to support and help shape the profession of Psychology in the state. I hope to support efforts for professional development including but not limited to networking and collaboration opportunities for early career psychologists in WV. I look forward to hearing from members and other ECP's about how to support our interests and you are encouraged to contact me for further discussion at: dr.liam.condon@gmail.com

Meet Our 2025 Board

Christianne Connelly, PhD

Diversity Representative-at-Large

Hello Everyone! I am grateful to serve as your Diversity-at-Large in WVPA! I am entering the 2nd year of my term as Diversity chair and am excited about upcoming events that will promote equity and inclusivity in the Mountain State. I am passionate about embracing WV communities' rural identity as a factor of diversity that often goes undetected. Since rurality particularly affects individuals with multiple intersecting identities, I hope to continue to build your cultural humility as psychologists and comfort in advocating for minority groups. When I'm not working, I like snuggling with my puppy, socializing with friends, doing yoga, and eating lots of yummy sweets! Please feel free to email me with any questions, suggestions, or needs for change at ChristianneConnelly@gmail.com.

Ally Russell

Student Representative

Hi, I'm Ally Russell and I am serving as the WVPA student representative. I am from the Marshall University Psy. D. Program and I am currently completing my pre-doctoral internship at Cherokee Health Systems in Knoxville, TN. In my downtime, I enjoy reading, playing Stardew Valley, and spending time with my family. Please feel free to reach out to me at hess80@marshall.edu with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Not Pictured:

Dr. Brittany Canady

APA Council Representative

Dr. Jamie Humphrey

Representative at Large

THE RURAL HEALTHCARE LANDSCAPE SURVEY

A NATIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

PARTICIPATE IN OUR STUDY

We are hoping to better understand the experiences of behavioral health providers in rural areas and how to support them.

Participation is voluntary and you can discontinue participation at any time. The survey is expected to take 20 minutes, but you will be presented with an opportunity to answer extra questions.

You must be 18 years old or older and provide behavioral, mental, or psychological services to rural residents.

In exchange for your participation, you will be given a code for a 25% discount at the American Psychological Association (APA). You will also be given the chance to enter a drawing for an APA merchandise package valued a approximately $50.

THIS PROJECT IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE COMMITTEE ON RURAL HEALTH

THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND RURAL EMPOWERMENT LAB

PI: DOUGLAS KNUTSON, PHD, LHSP, ABPP
(DOUGLAS.KNUTSON@OKSTATE.EDU)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMITTEE VISIT:
HTTPS://WWW.APA.ORG/PRACTICE/PROGRAMS/RURAL/COMMITTEE

To Participate or For More Information:
https://okstateches.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a5kf86LRKNaHOHc