Name: American Psychiatric Association

Permanent headquarters address:

1000 Wilson Boulevard Suite 1825 Arlington, Virginia 22209-3901

Date of establishment: 1844

Membership: international organization

Number of individual members: 33000

Aims and Purposes:

The American Psychiatric Association, founded in 1844, is the world’s largest psychiatric organization. It is a medical specialty society representing more than 33,000 psychiatric physicians from the United States and around the world. Its physician members work together to ensure humane care and effective treatment for all persons with mental disorders, including intellectual disabilities and substance use disorders. APA is the voice of modern psychiatry.

APA supports education, training and career development of psychiatrists and other physicians. APA offers educational programs that support professional development and performance improvement through annual scientific meetings, online training, and journals and other publications. APA provides support to psychiatric educators, residents, and medical students. The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education provides accreditation for the APA.

The APA promotes the highest quality care for individuals with mental disorders (including intellectual disabilities and substance use disorders) and their families. The APA promotes psychiatric education and research; it advances and represents the profession of psychiatry.

The APA publishes medical journals such as the American Journal of Psychiatry, textbooks of neuroscience, management of traumatic brain injury and the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Psychiatry.

APA hosts two major educational conferences every year: the APA Annual Meeting and the Institute on Psychiatric Services (IPS). Both meetings provide a robust scientific environment featuring new research, patient care strategies, and new treatment choices.
Many members of the APA have participated in the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Social Development. Members of the APA have participated in MDG, UN Women and UNICEF conferences. The APA is an advocacy organization but it also supports education and research. Executive Officers, a Board of Trustees and an Assembly of Representatives administer the governance of the APA. Each state has a state association and/or district branches that contribute representatives to the Assembly. Officers and representatives are elected by the membership. There are components and councils that focus on a particular task or group, such as women, children, or veterans.

Are other organizations affiliated with your organization?

If yes, please provide name(s).