

Vision, Mission, Values, and Goals of the American Psychiatric Association

Approved by the Board of Trustees, December 2001

"Policy documents are approved by the APA Assembly and Board of Trustees...These are...position statements that define APA official policy on specific subjects..." – *APA Operations Manual*.

Vision

The American Psychiatric Association is an organization of psychiatrists working together to ensure humane care and effective treatment for all persons with mental disorders, including mental retardation and substance-related disorders. It is the voice and conscience of modern psychiatry. Its vision is a society that has available, accessible quality psychiatric diagnosis and treatment.

Mission

The mission of the American Psychiatric Association is to:

- promote the highest quality care for individuals with mental disorders (including mental retardation and substance-related disorders) and their families;
- promote psychiatric education and research;
- advance and represent the profession of psychiatry; and
- serve the professional needs of its membership.

Values

- Best standards of clinical practice
- Highest ethical standards of professional conduct

- Prevention, access, care and sensitivity for patients and compassion for their families
- Patient-focused treatment decisions
- Scientifically established principles of treatment
- Advocacy for patients
- Leadership
- Lifelong professional learning
- Collegial support
- Respect for diverse views and pluralism within the field and the association
- Respect for other health professionals

Goals

- ✓ To promote the rights and best interests of patients and those actually or potentially making use of psychiatric services for mental disorders, including mental retardation and substance-related disorders.
- ✓ To improve access to and quality of psychiatric services.
- ✓ To improve research into all aspects of mental illness, including causes, prevention, and treatment of psychiatric disorders.
- ✓ To improve psychiatric education and training.
- ✓ To promote optimal conditions for practice and career satisfaction.
- ✓ To foster collaboration among all who are concerned with medical, psychological, socio-cultural and legal aspects of mental health and illness.
- ✓ To improve functioning of the APA in the service of its mission.