

*Association of*



*Professional  
Behavior Analysts*

*[www.apbahome.net](http://www.apbahome.net)*

**Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice**

June 3, 2020

The Association of Professional Behavior Analysts stands with thousands of behavior analysts and others around the globe in anguishing over the deaths of far too many black people at the hands of law enforcement personnel and the losses of far too many other lives to systemic racism and other forms of bigotry. We condemn all acts of discrimination, violence, hate, and oppression based on race, ethnicity, place of origin, language, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, religion, political persuasion, culture, age, disability, or socioeconomic status.

As practitioners of applied behavior analysis, we are committed to creating environments that arrange positive reinforcement contingencies to enable *all* individuals to have safe, fulfilling, and productive lives. As an organization, we are committed to helping our field improve its efforts to include and support individuals with diverse backgrounds and interests, and to working together to bring about the systemic changes that are necessary to ensure social justice for all. In keeping with our mission of advocating for public policies and supporting and protecting practitioners and consumers, APBA will work to operationalize those commitments by

- encouraging our members to acknowledge systemic bigotry in all forms and educate themselves about its effects on their own behavior, the behavior of others, and societal systems and practices
- advocating for public policies to enhance educational and professional opportunities in behavior analysis for members of diverse communities
- continuing to advocate for public policies that ensure equitable access to ABA services by consumers from diverse communities

- sharing what we have learned in 10 years of advocating for public policies to protect and support the practice of ABA with behavior analysts and behavior analysis associations that are interested in changing laws and regulations to ensure social justice
- increasing opportunities for education, professional development, and discussion on relevant topics at our annual convention, in webinars, and in other forums
- encouraging behavior analysts with diverse racial, gender, sexual, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds to run for open seats on the APBA Board of Directors and to serve on committees and task forces
- continuing to foster the work of our Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- listening to suggestions from our members and others about additional actions the organization and the field might take to enhance diversity, equity, and social justice.