



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH NURSES

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ACAPN

Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nurses (ACAPN) Division

The Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nurses (ACAPN), formerly Advocates for Child Psychiatric Nursing, was founded in 1971. ACAPN was, and is, dedicated to offering an association of support, networking, advocacy and education for children, adolescents and their families and the nurses who provide care for them. Members range from the psychiatric staff nurse generalist in the secure inpatient unit, to the advanced practice Clinical Nurse Specialist or Nurse Practitioner who provides psychotherapy, consultation, and psychopharmacological interventions in various settings including schools and inpatient, outpatient or community-based health settings. Members also include doctorally prepared PhD and DNP nurses who teach in university settings and or who conduct research.



ACAPN Core Activities

- Serve as a model for ethical, competent, innovative and autonomous practice, education and research
- Represent generalist and advanced practice nurses in the specialty

ACAPN Goals

- Foster networking, communication and knowledge development among child and adolescent psychiatric-mental health nurses
- Support child, adolescent and family mental health promotion through policy development and advocacy, knowledge dissemination, and adherence to best practice treatment standards
- Establish intra and interprofessional collaborative research and practice partnerships to improve the mental health care of children, adolescents and families
- Advance the health literacy of the public on evidence-informed child, adolescent and family mental health care.

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