

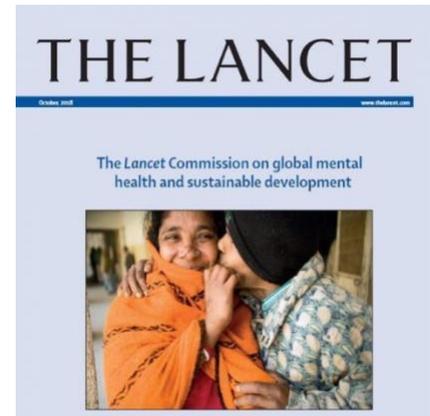
Resolution to Support the Lancet Commission on Global Mental Health and Sustainable Development

An official statement from the Global Alliance on Behavioral Health and Social Justice (formerly the American Orthopsychiatric Association)

As a behavioral health organization that embeds its work in principles of human rights and social justice and is global in scope, we are committed to raising awareness and seeking solutions regarding the crisis in mental health and substance use disorders.

Indeed, the numbers are staggering:

- 1 in 4 people will be affected by mental or neurological disorders at some point in their lives.
- About 450 million people are now struggling with mental health disorders and/or addictions.
- Mental health disorders are among the world's leading causes of disability and ill-health.
- The treatment gap between those who need care and those who actually receive it is estimated at 76-85% for low- and middle-income countries and 35-50% for high-income countries.



In keeping with our values and our approach, we advocate for a focus on prevention and greater investment in treating individuals struggling with mental health and substance use concerns to address these challenges. We support prevention efforts that include addressing social and environmental factors that make individuals vulnerable (e.g., poverty; exclusion; violence) and implementing initiatives and policies that improve human rights protections. We further support treatment efforts that recognize that all people should be treated with dignity, that enable individuals to function in the least restrictive environment possible, that are culturally sensitive and responsive, that are easily accessible, and that involve consumers, families, and communities.

Additional Resources

World Federation for Mental Health. www.wfmh.global

Movement for Global Mental Health.
www.globalmentalhealth.org

WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme.
www.who.int/mental_health/mhgap/en/

Mental Health Atlas 2014.
www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/atlas/mental_health_atlas_2014/en/

Grand Challenges in Global Mental Health.
bit.ly/2q2qPco and bit.ly/2qIMjam

Mental Health Innovation Network.
www.mhinnovation.net

Canadian Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.
www.camh.ca

Relevant Articles in the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*

Sánchez-Sandoval, Y., & Melero, S. (2018). Psychological adjustment in Spanish young adult domestic adoptees: Mental health and licit substance consumption.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000324>

Miller, A., Hess, J.M., Bybee, D., & Goodkind, J.R. (2018). Understanding the mental health consequences of family separation for refugees: Implications for policy and practice. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000272>

McLeigh, J. D., & Sianko, N. (2010). What should be done to promote mental health around the world? doi:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1939-0025.2010.01074.x>

Gil-Rivas, V., Handrup, C., Tanner, E., & Walker, D. (2019). Global mental health: A call to action.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ort0000373>

How You Can Help

- Join our Global Mental Health Task Force. Learn more at www.bhjustice.org/global-mental-health.
- Raise awareness! Show that you are #IntoMentalHealth on social media and help #stopthestigma.
- Donate to an organization that advocates for or provides behavioral health services.
- Join an international coalition focused on mental health, such as the Movement for Global Mental Health.