



American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training

2023 Peter Henderson MD Memorial Award

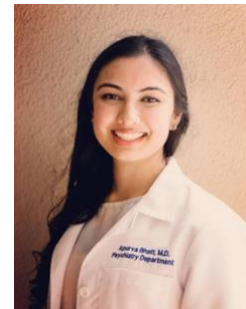
Chair: Oliver Stroeh, MD

The late Peter Henderson, MD served as an active member on numerous AADPRT committees and was the first child and adolescent psychiatrist to serve as President of AADPRT (1983-1984). Dr. Henderson was specifically interested in nurturing and developing an effective link between child psychiatry and general psychiatry. Thanks to initiatives developed by Dr. Henderson, the vast majority of child and adolescent psychiatry programs are now represented in AADPRT, enhancing and expanding the areas of interest within graduate psychiatric education.

Apruva Bhatt, MD

Paper Title: *Association of Changes in Missouri Firearm Laws with Adolescent and Young Adult Suicides by Firearms*

Apruva Bhatt, M.D. is a second year Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow at the University of California, Davis in Sacramento, CA. She graduated from the 6-year combined BA/MD program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City where she was recognized for her leadership and commitment towards the medical school's student-run free health clinic, the Sojourner Health Clinic. As Executive Director of the clinic, she developed a novel interprofessional program integrating physician assistant students to work alongside medical students and participated in quality improvement research. During medical school, she was a recipient of the American Psychiatric Association's Summer Mentor Fellowship Award and volunteered as a Bridge Advocate, offering support and advocating for victims of domestic violence presenting to local emergency departments. As a medical student, Dr. Bhatt frequently witnessed the physical and mental impacts of gun violence on Missouri children and adults. Dr. Bhatt went on to complete her Adult Psychiatry Residency training at the University of Missouri-Kansas City/Center for Behavioral Medicine, and during residency, she studied trends in Missouri youth suicide by firearms following sequential weakening of Missouri firearm laws. Her research poster on this topic won first place at the American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting and was recognized by the Missouri Psychiatric Physicians Association. During fellowship, Dr. Bhatt has had the incredible opportunity to work at the UC Davis EDAPT clinic which has furthered her interest in pediatric psychosis. Dr. Bhatt is a member of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Adolescent Psychiatry Committee and is co-chair of the AACAP Early Psychosis work group. She recently received the UC Davis Tupin Resident Research Scholars award for a systematic review project on pediatric psychosis measurement instruments.



Dr. Bhatt's research paper titled "Association of Changes in Missouri Firearm Laws with Adolescent and Young Adult Suicides by Firearms" published in JAMA Network Open is the recipient of the 2023 Peter Henderson M.D. Memorial Award for the best published work in child and adolescent psychiatry. Dr. Bhatt is incredibly proud of the team of individuals that worked on this paper and recognizes its importance in legislative advocacy; this paper has been used by several advocacy groups for gun safety and youth suicide prevention around the nation. She hopes this work will improve the lives and safety of young Missourians.

Dr. Bhatt's future plans include working with youth with psychosis and their families. She is interested in pursuing a career in academic medicine that would combine her interest in teaching, clinical, and research interests. She feels incredibly grateful to have a supportive family and husband who have always encouraged her to reach her full potential.

Training Director: Anne McBride, MD