Congratulations to Our 2023 Elected Officers!

Six NCFR members were elected this spring to the NCFR Board of Directors, and many more were voted into other NCFR leadership positions. Here are your incoming NCFR Board representatives, who will take office after the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference in November:

Board of Directors President-elect (2023-2025, President 2025-2027)
Debra L. Berke, Ph.D., CFLE

Board Members-at-Large (2023-2026)
Kari Adamsons, Ph.D.
Christi R. McGeorge, Ph.D.
Ted G. Futris, Ph.D., CFLE

Students and New Professionals Board Representative-elect (2023-2024, Board SNP Representative 2024-2026)
Janeal M. White, Ph.D., CFLE

NCFR elects 9 board members to represent its members.

- 7 positions serve “at large.” They are designated to represent the interests of all members collectively and not any single constituency of members.
- 2 positions serve specific constituencies of NCFR’s membership: 1) students and new professionals; and 2) the NCFR state, regional, and student affiliates.

The NCFR Board represents YOU – the members!

Alisha M. Hardman, Ph.D., CFLE

Turn to page 8 to view other NCFR members who were elected to leadership positions within the organization.

Jessica Oswald Selected as NCFR’s Education Manager

NCFR is pleased to announce that member Jessica Oswald, CFLE, CCLS, has joined NCFR staff as the new education manager. Jessica will manage NCFR’s Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential, along with associated projects such as the CFLE Academic Program Review, Family Life Education Assessment exam, CFLE Conversations, and support other NCFR education programs.

Jessica will take on the management of these responsibilities from Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE, director of Family Life Education, as she transitions to full retirement, later in 2023. Jennifer Crosswhite, Ph.D., CFLE, senior director of research, family, and policy education, will guide the transition and oversee all aspects of NCFR’s education programming, including Family Life Education.

Jessica Oswald continued on page 16
Seeking NCFR Fellows!

Brian G. Ogolsky, Ph.D., and Francesca Adler-Baeder, Ph.D., CFLE, Co-chairs of the NCFR Fellows Committee

Greetings, NCFR Members! The Fellows Committee is seeking nominations for the 2023 Fellows Awards. Please help us by nominating members who have made significant contributions to the organization and the discipline. Below is a description of what it means to be awarded Fellow status in NCFR, the Fellows Award criteria for selection to Fellow status, and the procedure for submitting nominations. The Fellows Committee would greatly appreciate your assistance.

What Is Fellow Status in NCFR?
Fellow status in NCFR is an honor awarded to living members of NCFR on the basis of their outstanding contributions to Family Science. Nominations of all family researchers and professionals who have made contributions to the discipline of Family Science are encouraged. Among the recognized areas of contributions are scholarship, teaching, outreach, practice, and professional service, including service to NCFR. By definition, outstanding contributions are those that have broad impact on the discipline and are enduring over time.

What Are the Criteria for Fellow Status?
A. Nominees must have made outstanding contributions to the discipline and to NCFR as an organization. Satisfying a combination of these criteria is required. Examples of outstanding contributions include:

1. Published, refereed scholarship that has shaped or reshaped the discipline of Family Science
2. A history of innovation in practice or outreach that has transformed the discipline, such as the development and implementation of novel or significant interventions or programs designed to promote healthy family relations.
3. Recognition of teaching excellence through awards and mentoring
4. The development and implementation of innovative curricula for training professionals in the discipline of Family Science
5. The development and implementation of innovative social policy relevant to families
6. A history of innovation and publication about the methods and measurement strategies used in related Family Science arenas
7. Outstanding contributions to NCFR as an organization, which may include a history of organizing conference symposia, editing or guest editing NCFR journals, or developing nationally distributed products or curricula that bridge Family Science and practice

B. Nominees must have at least 10 years of professional experience after the receipt of the appropriate graduate or professional degree.
C. Nominees must have held NCFR membership continuously for the past five years at the time of nomination.

What Is the Procedure for Nominations?
A. Nominees must be nominated by another NCFR member.*
B. Nominees must have the endorsement of two additional individuals, one of whom must be an NCFR member,** describing the outstanding nature of the nominee’s contributions.
C. In general, nominees should not be aware that they are being considered for fellow status. For this reason, the NCFR office will not contact candidates for fellow status at the time of their nominations.
D. Unsuccessful nominees for Fellow status will not be considered eligible again until after a 3-year waiting period.

* Nominations from NCFR members involved in the nominee’s academic preparation (e.g., major adviser, administrative head of the program from which the nominee graduated) or who have possible conflicts of interest are not considered.

Fellows continued on page 3
Show Up, Stand Up, Be Ready

Norma J. Bond Burgess, Ph.D., NCFR President, normaburgess1@gmail.com

As seasons change, there are opportunities to be engaged, involved, establish new routines and reexamine ourselves. These seasons are welcome so that we may adjust our lives or simply regroup, rest, and recuperate. Questions that can be answered on the cusp of new seasons allow us to improve and reprioritize just what is important to us and our families. Some say, “it is just as noble to rest as it is to work,” yet somehow, our time invested in rest is often overshadowed by work.

Academic burnout is a fact of life for some. In many ways, exhaustion has become normalized when rest is really needed. Our families experience it as well as our friends and colleagues. When traditional semester classes are over and summer comes upon you, take the necessary time to refresh and look forward to being the very best you that you can be.

I will admit that I am challenged by my thoughts as our NCFR staff is working diligently — as they always do — to bring us the very best conference experience for fall 2023 in Orlando. My colleagues and I, who were elected to serve you on the NCFR Board of Directors, have been provided with opportunities to put our heads together to develop the best responses to your questions and concerns.

Our decision to keep the conference site in Orlando was a big one. We carefully discussed the pros and cons of in-person attendance for the annual meeting. We are very much aware of the challenges facing the state of Florida, due to harmful and discriminatory policies signed into law. The state has become a center for controversy, conflict, and disagreement.

At this time, the NCFR Board and staff are working on options to facilitate presenters being remote and exploring the feasibility of remote attendance. These efforts are intended to support NCFR members for whom travel to Florida is not possible.

If you are able to travel to Florida, please do so. Your presence in Orlando is valuable and appreciated by your colleagues who live and work in Florida.

I encourage you, as members of NCFR, to play an active role in our conference this year; this means to plan to attend as many sessions, meetings, and receptions as your schedule allows. Come with an open mind, an expectation and intention to learn and engage in discourse. Greet newcomers and make them feel welcome. Spread the word! Invite and bring along as many of your colleagues or students as you can. And if you are able to travel to Florida, please do so.

Hundreds of your colleagues live and work in Florida or in neighboring southeastern U.S. states. For many, this might be their only opportunity to present their work, network with others, and immerse themselves in all the great things an NCFR conference offers at an in-person experience; this is especially true for students! Your presence in Orlando is valuable and appreciated by them.

I know that our membership cares deeply about policies that affect families and academic subject matter in states across the nation, including Florida. There are grave concerns about individual freedoms being taken away and curricula being censored. The question for many is, how does NCFR reconcile having its conference site in a place that may be under siege in these ways?

I think our nation of laws, statutes, and customs expects us to face these challenges with courage and dignity. Do we allow others to make the rules that govern our lives and make decisions on our behalf? Somehow, I think not. I have my own reservations about being in Florida. However, given my historical background, I cannot afford to not show up, stand up, and be ready. People have gone before me and have done the same, effecting change.

What would have happened if people had not taken a stand during the Civil Rights era and demanded their equal right to ride at the front of the bus, eat at restaurants, and have the same opportunities to present their work, network with others, and immerse themselves in all the great things an NCFR conference offers? What would have happened if people had not done the same, effecting change.

I think our nation of laws, statutes, and customs expects us to face these challenges with courage and dignity. Do we allow others to make the rules that govern our lives and make decisions on our behalf? Somehow, I think not. I have my own reservations about being in Florida. However, given my historical background, I cannot afford to not show up, stand up, and be ready. People have gone before me and have done the same, effecting change.

What would have happened if people had not taken a stand during the Civil Rights era and demanded their equal right to ride at the front of the bus, eat at restaurants, and receive lodging at hotels? Simply imagine (or remember) when laws were passed in the 1960s and certain groups could not do certain things. Because we have not learned from our history, I fear we are destined to repeat it.

Moving forward is important and I truly hope that you will join me in supporting our colleagues and families in Florida in whatever way you can. My very best to you this summer and I hope to see you at this year’s conference, in-person or online.

NCFR Fellows continued from page 2

(e.g., partner or family member) will not be accepted.

**Endorsements from NCFR members with a potential conflict of interest may be included with the nomination packet but cannot be used to satisfy the requirement for endorsement by an NCFR member.


Please send your nomination materials to NCFR at janereilly@ncfr.org. The deadline for nominations is September 15, 2023.

We are building this special recognition to further the legacy of outstanding members of NCFR. Let us hear from you! Thank you very much for your consideration. ❧
NCFR’s Impact Upon the World Begins with its Global Ends

Diane Cushman, NCFR Executive Director, dianeecushman@ncfr.org

NCFR’s Board of Directors is charged with providing strategic directions to the organization based on a series of policy statements known as the Global Ends.

The key actor who receives the strategic direction of the NCFR Board is the executive director (ED), who guides the NCFR staff in developing programming that results in the fulfillment of the stated Global Ends. For instance, if the ED believes providing a Family Life Education Summit will encourage and facilitate the use of research-and theory-based family practice (Global End #2 A), then it is within the ED’s scope to charge the staff with developing such programing. Each year, the board reviews and, if needed, amends these statements to reflect changes to the organization’s strategic direction. For example, if the board wanted NCFR to shape the training of and thereby the expertise held by physicians who practice family medicine, the board could amend the Global Ends Policy #3 to include scholars and professionals in medicine. NCFR programs would then be altered to achieve that end. Similarly, if it was determined that any existing NCFR program was no longer fulfilling a global end, that program could be eliminated. While this is how global ends and governance works in theory, it would be unwise for an executive director to eliminate a deeply embedded traditional program without first seeking board input. The most recent change to the Global Ends occurred during the Board’s meeting at the 2022 NCFR Annual Conference in Minneapolis. Under Global End #2.C, NCFR will raise the visibility of family research, theory, and practice to policymakers and the general public, the Board replaced one of the six criteria for advocacy (criteria for organizational actions). After years of struggling with how to determine whether there was “…a high level of member consensus regarding the research to the issue,” the board eliminated this criterion and replaced it with “…Members will be given an opportunity to provide guidance through broad membership engagement.” What this revision means is that the board intends to seek input from NCFR members when it deliberates on issues. If you receive an invitation from the board to complete a survey in the future — take the survey! Your thoughts on the matter at hand will be considered and assist the Board in its decision making.

NCFR’s Global Ends, the NCFR bylaws, and the policies to which the executive director is accountable are available on the NCFR website. For your convenience, the Global Ends are reprinted here.

**Global Ends Policy #1**

NCFR will provide opportunities for professional development and knowledge development in the areas of family research, theory, education, policy, and practice. A. NCFR will provide ongoing education and training in scientific methods to understand families. B. NCFR will provide opportunities for members to be on the forefront of research, theory, and practice on families. C. NCFR will facilitate networking among members in ways that enhance interdisciplinary dialogues, strategic partnerships, and mentoring relationships. D. NCFR will provide information about the policymaking process and the impact of public policies on families.

**Global Ends Policy #2**

NCFR will support the dissemination and application of research- and theory-based information about the well-being of families. A. NCFR will encourage and facilitate the use of research-and theory-based family practice. B. NCFR will encourage and facilitate the use of research- and theory-based family pedagogy. C. NCFR will raise the visibility of family research, theory, and practice to policymakers and the general public.

**Criteria for Advocacy (Criteria for Organizational Actions)**

- The issue is important for families and/or NCFR members.
- The issue is informed by research and member expertise.
- Members will be given an opportunity to provide guidance through broad membership engagement.
- There is the potential for NCFR to make a timely contribution to the issue as a result of the proposed activity.
- There are resources currently available within NCFR to support the proposed activity.
- The proposed activity must not jeopardize our 501(c)(3) status, or non-profit classification.

**Global Ends Policy #3**

NCFR will represent the scholars and professionals in Family Science by establishing standards for research, education, and practice and by advocating for the development and advancement of the discipline and the professions of Family Science. A. NCFR will develop and monitor standards for Family Science programs and Family Life Educators. B. NCFR will infuse inclusion and diversity and international perspectives into all aspects of its mission, governance, programming, and professional practices. C. NCFR will advocate for Family Practice professionals. D. NCFR will provide information and resources on career options and opportunities to its members.
"I Wish I Could Find an Association That Worked With Families"

Dawn Cassidy, M.Ed., CFLE, Director of Family Life Education, dawn Cassidy@ncfr.org

I grew up in a dysfunctional family with alcoholism and domestic violence. In this same place, fraught with anger and sadness, I felt loved, special, and secure. Families are complicated.

My parents divorced when I was 1 and my brother was 4. Our father was only peripherally involved in our lives (though my brother lived with him as a teenager). My mother struggled as a single mother, but our early home life was happy, and I never had any idea that we didn’t have a lot of money. My mother loved music — the stereo was always playing Frank Sinatra, Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Byrd, and others — and art — the family regularly visited Minneapolis Institute of Arts. We had so many adventures including sneaking into the nearby motel swimming pool, my mother directing us to make order so we would “pass inspection.” I have fond memories of her tucking me into bed and covering me with kisses.

When I was 9, she married a charming man who looked like Cary Grant. My older brother and I were thrilled to have a dad and soon we had a little brother. But the marriage was troubled as my stepfather was an angry drunk who would pick on my brother (the reason he later went to live with our dad) and yell at my mother. For some reason, he was never mean to me. Eventually, he later went to live with our dad and yell at my mother. For some reason, he was never mean to me. Eventually, I felt the value and damage that a family can bring. I am grateful to my mother for always telling me that what I saw in their relationship was not normal. It was not good, and it was not how it was supposed to be. That was important for me to know.

Although it was uncomfortable, I was fascinated by the processes carried out in my family’s counseling experiences. I recall thinking that I wanted to be a family therapist. Although my parents did not quit drinking entirely, our family benefited from each counseling experience. I went on to obtain a bachelor’s degree in psychology with the intent of getting a master’s degree in family therapy; however, I took a break before graduate school and found myself working for the Minnesota Multi Housing Association (MHA). I worked there for seven years where I administered a certification program for apartment managers and maintenance technicians. I loved association work. Even though I recognized the value and importance of providing quality rental housing, I recall saying to my husband, “I wish I could find an association that worked with families.” A few weeks later, I saw an ad in the newspaper for a certification director for the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). This was MY job.

And so, it has been for the past 34 years. I am grateful to Dr. Mary Jo Czaplewski, NCFR then-executive director, who saw something in me and hired me for the position. I truly could not have asked for a better job. People have commented “Wow, you are still in the same job?” But I haven’t been. As you can imagine with anything carried out over the course of 30+ years, things were constantly changing. When I started at NCFR in 1989, computers were only beginning. There was no internet, websites, databases, or cellphones smaller than a liter bottle of pop. I managed the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential program, almost from its beginning, as a portfolio review process that required the shipment of inches-thick paper applications to the NCFR office and then out again to each of three reviewers. I was involved in the creation of the Academic Program Review in 1996, which resulted in the CFLE-approved program application (abbreviated) process, as well as the development and launch of the CFLE exam in 2007. I worked with other NCFR staff to move the entire CFLE application process online in 2018 and launch the Family Life Education (FLE) assessment exam in that same year. I am so proud to have seen the Family Life Education Virtual Summit become a reality and represent a successful event specifically focused on FLE practitioners.
State Legislation Affects Organizations and People Beyond Their Borders

Jennifer Crosswhite, Ph.D., CFLE, Director of Research and Policy Education, jennifercrosswhite@ncfr.org

2023 has seen a busy legislative season with states introducing bills that could:
- impact the Certified Family Life Education (CFLE) credential;
- impose bans in higher education that affect academic freedom; and
- negatively affects the students and families you serve.

I am often asked why NCFR monitors the legislative sessions across all U.S. states. The answer is because it matters. What happens in one state can affect NCFR, the CFLE credential, and the membership.

NCFR remains a member of the Professional Certification Coalition (PCC) because legislators across the country continue to introduce bills that affect private certifications, like the CFLE credential. The PCC monitored approximately 60 bills during the 2023 legislative session ranging from low to high priority (i.e., risk level). High priority bills have the most potential to negatively impact private certifications. The PCC provides suggested language to the sponsors of these bills to help protect private certifications or offset potential damage. The PCC has been largely successful over the years, and only a few harmful bills have been signed into law. In those cases, the PCC will work with legislative staff during the rulemaking process to lessen the law’s potential negative impact on private certifications. To learn more about NCFR’s involvement with the PCC, see an article I previously wrote in summer 2019 at ncfr.org/pcc.

A New Legislative Challenge

2023 brought about a new challenge directed at private certifications when some states (e.g., Florida) introduced bills that would restrict the first amendment rights of organizations to establish and define their credentials. Bills were also introduced across states (e.g., Missouri, North Carolina) that included “viewpoint restrictions.” Bills identified as restricting viewpoints or as violating the first amendment rights of organizations offering private certification restrict faculty from teaching content on diversity, equity, and inclusion and on human sexual and gender development.

Laws with these kinds of restrictions can negatively affect academic freedom and the CFLE credential. The CFLE credential demonstrates that the certified professional has knowledge, skills, and abilities in ten content areas, three of which include Families and Individuals in Societal Contexts; Human Growth and Development Across the Lifespan; and Human Sexuality Across the Lifespan.

In other cases, the bills introduced ban state funds from being spent on diversity, equity, and inclusion education and training. Depending on how content is taught within individual CFLE-approved programs, a bill passed containing this language could potentially ban CFLE-approved programs from paying their APR Annual Fee.

As the 2023 legislative sessions continued, several other states introduced similar viewpoint restriction bills, although they did not specifically mention private certifications. However, these viewpoint restriction bills would have the same impact on the CFLE-approved and Family Science programs across the United States. Should these bills be signed into law, academic freedom could be infringed upon, and the content of approved programs could be negatively affected, putting these programs at risk.

One State’s Legislation Can Affect Other States’ Legislation

Bills introduced in one state may impact other states and entities outside of the state boundaries. When bills are introduced that affect academic freedom or the CFLE credential, NCFR views these types of bills as negatively impacting the professions of Family Science.

NCFR Global Ends 3.B. says that NCFR will advocate for Family Science professionals. Given this global end, NCFR signed on to three statements condemning the introduction of Florida House Bill 999. Florida passed the companion bill, Senate Bill 266 which was signed into law on May 15, 2023 (see https://laws.flrules.org/2023/82).

- Florida Bill Would Destroy Higher Education as We Know It — American Association of University Professors
- AHA Statement Opposing Florida House Bill 999 — American Historical Association
The Effort to Undermine Academic Freedom in Florida House Bill 999 —
American Council of Learned Societies

We also released a new Policy Advocacy Toolkit (see https://www.ncfr.org/policy/advocacy-toolkit) to help you, our members, get started on policy advocacy or lobbying in your U.S. state or at the federal level. The toolkit can be used with any issue for which you would like to advocate.

The toolkit includes information on how to:
- Learn About Policy & the Legislative Process
- Track Legislation
- Find Your Legislator
- Write Letters to Legislators
- Get Family Policy Recommendations to Share
- Communicate Effectively to Policymakers & the Public
- Find More Policy Information & NCFR Board of Directors’ Statements

The resources provided in the policy toolkit come in a variety of learning methods: articles, policy briefs, webinars, interactive legislative trackers, and more. Also included in the policy toolkit is an interactive map that can be used to track state-level legislation on academic freedom. Individuals can click on any state to have a closer look at the legislation being introduced.

Keep NCFR Posted
We would love to know what you, our members, are doing in relation to policy, advocacy, or lobbying. Feel free to share with us at policy@ncfr.org what you are doing, your challenges, and most importantly, your successes. Let’s hear and learn from one another.

Every session I attended was packed full of useful information and resources!
— Summit attendee comment

The 2023 Family Life Education Virtual Summit on June 23 was another resounding success. Attendees enjoyed the variety of session topics, interactive presentations, and opportunities to connect and share their experiences with other practitioners.

Recordings from all 21 sessions are now available to access online. If you were unable to attend on June 23 or just want to catch presentations you missed, now is your chance to soak in all of the great resources and information from these sessions. Recordings are available for purchase online and classroom licenses are available! If you registered to attend the Summit, access to these recordings is included with your registration.

Don’t miss this affordable and dynamic opportunity to gain skills to apply to your work immediately.

Session topics include:
- marketing your practice and building your brand,
- supporting military families,
- working with at-risk youth,
- working with immigrant families,
- trauma-informed practices
- diversity, equity, and inclusion,
- and more!

This is a great way for CFLEs to earn continuing education credits. You can earn up to 18 hours when you watch recordings of sessions. See full details at ncfr.org/fle-2023.
Meet Our 2023 Elected Officers

continued from page 1

The membership of the National Council on Family Relations voted in February 2023 and elected NCFR members that will serve them in various leadership positions officer to take beginning in November 2023, following the annual conference.

Further, an amendment to the NCFR Section Bylaws was approved. Article IV, Section 3 had previously stated that: “Candidates for the section office of students and new professionals representative(s) shall have been members of NCFR and the section for a minimum of one year.”

The revised amendment now states (revisions in bold): “Candidates for the section office of students and new professionals representative(s) shall have been members of NCFR and the section for a minimum of six months.”

Thank you to everyone who voted, and congratulations to these members!

National Officers
NCFR Board of Directors
Debra L. Berke, Ph.D., CFLE, Board President-elect

Dr. Berke is director of psychology programs and professor in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Wilmington University, where she also is director of the Center for Prevention Science. She specializes in trauma-informed approaches. Dr. Berke is a leader in bringing recognition to trauma-informed approaches and played a key role in designing and implementing training to develop Delaware as a trauma-informed state. She has also served as a consultant to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

Dr. Berke is a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) who earned her doctorate in family studies from the University of Delaware. She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor’s degree in sociology and a master’s degree in human development and family studies.

At NCFR, she has served in various leadership roles, including program chair for the 2022 NCFR Annual Conference; at-large member of the NCFR Board of Directors; chair of the Family and Community Education Section; chair of the Family Policy Section; and vice president of the Mid-Atlantic Council on Family Relations. Dr. Berke has also served on numerous committees including the CFLE Application Review Committee and the Public Policy Committee.

With her interests in teaching, research, policy, and Family Life Education, Dr. Berke plans to bring her expertise in translational research and practice to the position of board president-elect and represent a variety of interests within NCFR.

Kari L. Adamsons, Ph.D., Member-at-Large

Dr. Adamsons is an associate professor of human development and Family Sciences at the University of Connecticut. She is a nationally recognized expert on fathers, including father-child relationships, co-parenting, shared parenting, and couple relationships. In addition to fathering, her research also focuses on family theory and couple relationships. Dr. Adamsons is a co-author of *Family Theories: An Introduction*, a widely used university textbook. She was also selected as a co-editor of the 2022 edition of the *Sourcebook on Family Theories and Methodologies*.

At NCFR, she has served in various leadership roles, including program chair for the 2022 NCFR Annual Conference; at-large member of the NCFR Board of Directors; chair of the Family and Community Education Section; chair of the Family Policy Section; and vice president of the Mid-Atlantic Council on Family Relations. Dr. Berke has also served on numerous committees including the CFLE Application Review Committee and the Public Policy Committee.

With her interests in teaching, research, policy, and Family Life Education, Dr. Berke plans to bring her expertise in translational research and practice to the position of board president-elect and represent a variety of interests within NCFR.

Kari L. Adamsons

Kari L. Adamsons

Christi R. McGeorge, Ph.D., Member-at-Large

Dr. McGeorge is a professor of human development and Family Science (HDFS) at North Dakota State University. Her research interests include the influence of heterosexism, cissexism, and sexual and gender minority prejudice on clinical practice and training, gender equity in therapy, promoting LGBTQ ally behavior in collegiate athletics, gender equity in higher education, and societal perceptions of single parents.

She earned her doctorate in family social science at the University of Minnesota, her master’s in HDFS at Colorado State University, and her bachelor’s in family studies from the University of Arizona.

At NCFR, Dr. McGeorge has served as the chair of the Family Therapy Section, and a member of the Inclusion and Diversity Committee. She is an active member of the
Ted G. Futris, Ph.D., CFLE, Member-at-Large

Dr. Futris is professor of Human Development and Family Science (HDFS) and state extension family life specialist at the University of Georgia. He is a Certified Family Life Educator and an NCFR Fellow. Since earning his Ph.D. in HDFS from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 2000, Dr. Futris has provided statewide and national leadership in creating resources to inform best practices in relationship education program development and implementation. As the director of the Couples and Relationship Enrichment (CARE) laboratory at UGA, his current work is focused on community capacity building to support healthy couple and marital relationships, youth-focused relationship education, and evaluating the efficacy of educational programming on couple, parenting, and child well-being. Dr. Futris’ work, which integrates research with outreach programming, has been funded in excess of $27 million from federal and state grants.

At NCFR, Dr. Futris has served as editor of the Family Focus section of member magazine, NCFR Report since 2020. He has made outstanding contributions to NCFR and the discipline of Family Science through a long history of published scholarship in NCFR journals, presentations at the annual conference, and organizing symposia for NCFR. Dr. Futris is notably collaborative in his approach and his work has resulted in nationally distributed products and curricula that bridge family research, teaching, and practice.

As a board member, Dr. Futris will commit to advance NCFR’s mission to provide a forum for family researchers, educators, and practitioners to share in the discovery and translation of research that makes a meaningful difference in the lives of its members and the families we serve.

Janeal M. White, Ph.D., CFLE, Students and New Professionals Board Representative-elect

Dr. White earned her doctorate from the Louisiana State University School of Social Work. Following eight years on faculty at McNeese State University, Dr. White is now the incoming internship coordinator and assistant professor in the Family Studies program at Lamar University. As an educator, Janeal equips students to become professionals who strengthen families through education, service, and advocacy.

Dr. White is a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) and has conducted award-winning research on homelessness, resilience, and dignity for more than 15 years. As the coordinator for her local homeless coalition, she brings community members together to strengthen the network of service providers and services for her neighbors experiencing homelessness throughout her 3-county region. Dr. White also advocates on the state level through involvement with the Texas Homeless Network’s Advocacy Academy. Dr. White has an extensive history of leadership and service within NCFR at the university, state, regional, and national levels including chairing two academic conferences, serving as regional president of the Southeastern Council on Family Relations, NCFR Mentoring Academy Steering Committee, Digital Scholarship Board of the Journal of Family Theory and Review, incoming Student and New Professional (SNP) Representative for the Family Policy Section, and former SNP Rep for the Affiliate Councils Board.

Her professional leadership focuses on removing barriers, creating pathways, and inviting my students and future colleagues into fellowship as they prepare for work strengthening families. Through NCFR’s national Mentoring Academy Steering Committee, the TxCFR MENTORganization, and her institution’s endowed professorship program, she has worked to create opportunities for students and emerging family professionals to connect with mentors and to strengthen their professional networks. A priority of her work as a board member is to remove barriers to full participation in the life of NCFR for minoritized and marginalized students and new professionals.

Alisha M. Hardman, Ph.D., CFLE, Affiliate Councils President-elect

Dr. Hardman is associate professor in the School of Human Sciences as well as an Extension Specialist in Family Life and Program Evaluation at Mississippi State University. She has been involved in the evaluation of family life and Extension programming for the past 12 years. She is a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) and particularly...
interested in using evaluation to inform program development and adaptation as well as using evaluation to identify effective principles of practice that inform Family Life Education methodology.

Dr. Hardman holds a B.S. and M.S. in family studies and human services from Kansas State University and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of Minnesota. At NCFR, she has been particularly active with the CFLE credential program and has served on the CFLE Advisory Board, and CFLE Exam Item Writing Committee. As an NCFR affiliates leader, she has been a board member of the Minnesota Council of Family Relations, and a faculty adviser of the Mississippi State University’s student affiliate. She has also served as the secretary/treasurer and student and new professional representative of NCFR’s Family and Community Education Section.

In her candidate statement, Dr. Hardman wrote that “the affiliate councils make a valuable contribution to NCFR through their efforts to fulfill the mission of NCFR at the state, regional, and college/university levels. My goal is to continue strengthening the connection between affiliates. There are opportunities for representatives of affiliates to connect at the conference annually.”

Elections Council Member-at-Large (2023-2026)
Shann Hwa (Abraham) Hwang, Ph.D.
Elizabeth G. Olson, Ph.D.

Fellows Committee Member-at-Large

Congratulations to NCFR’s Honors Graduates – Spring 2023
NCFR awarded honors to 24 college and university students who completed their academic programs in spring 2023. Thank you to our members who reviewed applications!

NCFR Honors Student Recognition is awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding achievements in academics, leadership, and community service in the discipline of Family Science.

Graduating soon? The deadline to apply for honors for fall 2023 graduates is Oct. 1.

Colorado State University
Stephanie Rayburn
McNeese State University
Johnathan Ryan Mason
Angelika Salazar
Anna Christine Weikel
Messiah University
Blair Grove
Lynnsi Fulks
Sierra Ann Weaver
Karla Zima-Doyle
Northern Illinois University
Breanna Terry
Ohio State University
Morgan J. Hamilton
Hailey J. Stroup
Samford University
Christa Chery
Heaven Colquitt
Mary Gilbert
Faith Jones
University of Iowa
Alexus Hamilton
Jacob Sandoval
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Kendall Diggs
University of Minnesota
Samantha LeBouef
University of Nebraska at Kearney
Claire Nelson
University of Nevada, Reno
Cristina Lopez
Virginia Tech
Caroline Begley
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Dane Rivas-Koehl, M.S., Students and New Professionals Representative

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Calvin Bradley Jr., M.Div., Students and New Professionals Representative

*
In Memoriam: Michael Sporakowski

NCFR Past President Michael J. Sporakowski, Ph.D., CFLE, passed on June 9, 2023, at the age of 82. Dr. Sporakowski was NCFR’s 53rd president from 1995-96, an NCFR Fellow, and a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) for 34 years. He was an NCFR member for 60 years and served as editor of Family Relations (FR) from 1982-86. Dr. Sporakowski held several positions on the FR Board and also supported the CFLE credential program. He served NCFR at the state and regional levels as president of the Virginia Council on Family Relations, 1972-76, as well as president of the Southeastern Council on Family Relations, 1979-81.

Dr. Sporakowski earned his bachelor’s and master’s degree from Penn State University, his doctorate in sociology from Florida State University, and a postdoc at the University of Minnesota as NIMH-post doctoral trainee in marriage counseling. He was an approved supervisor of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). He was assistant professor, family relationships in home economics at the University of Illinois. He then joined Virginia Tech in 1970, as a professor in the Department of Family and Child Development. He chaired several committees and departments, including the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies, as well as graduate studies, and was a Virginia Cooperative Extension Specialist for family and child development. Dr. Sporakowski was named a professor emeritus of Human Development, Virginia Tech.

Dr. Sporakowski was a leader in Family Science and family therapy with a particular interest in the intersection of financial counseling and family therapy, as well as lessons from longtime marital unions. In addition to his dedicated efforts toward NCFR, he was a prolific author of articles, extension curricula, and edited several books. For several consecutive years, he published the Family Life Education Teachers Kit, which focused on the 10 content areas of Family Life Education.

Dr. Sporakowski will be eulogized during the annual memorial service at the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference.
Promoting Literacy, Diversity, & Intergenerational Reading to Create Paths to Children’s Success

Member Q&A With Jacklyn Milton

*Family Science Impact* highlights how NCFR members are making a difference through their Family Science career and showcases their career journeys. See more about the many careers and professions of Family Science at ncfr.org/family-science-careers

**Name:**
Jacklyn Milton, M.A., CFLE

**Current Job Titles:**
- Administrative Director and Co-Founder, Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institute (PPGJLI)

Tell us a bit about your current work and why it’s important.

I oversee day-to-day operations and support curriculum development for the Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institute (PPGJLI), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in St. Paul, Minnesota, that works to plant seeds of social change through education, training, and community outreach, specifically by promoting literacy and diversity in children’s books.

This has helped to define our organizational goals and develop a strategic action plan. In partnership with our local community, we decided to take action when we saw the nation’s reading crisis continue to expand. In the U.S., more than 1/3 of fourth graders were reading below a basic level in 2022 (National Assessment of Educational Progress, 2022). Children who are not reading at grade level by fourth grade are 4 times more likely to drop out of high school (U.S. Department of Education, 2016). Children who drop out of high school are 3.5 times more likely to be arrested during their lifetime (National Dropout Prevention Center, n.d.).

PPGJLI seeks to end the school-to-prison pipeline and create new paths for success for all children. We achieve this goal by promoting literacy and diversity in books. To date, we have donated 17,000 diverse books and reached over 5,000 children through our school visits.

**What was your path to your current role? What shaped or influenced that path?**

This is my encore career. It was a natural progression after decades of service in early childhood education and K-12. It provided a holistic approach to reaching the entire family through the transformative power of reading, literacy, and intercultural dialogue. We are creating intergenerational reading circles where we help the entire family discover joy in reading.

**How do you use Family Science/Family Life Education knowledge or skills in your current work?**

I use my Family Life Education knowledge to develop the curriculum and programming at PPGJLI.

This led to the development of our nationally recognized, Leaders are Readers program (ppgjli.org/leaders-are-readers). We bring diverse authors into schools to share about their books, promote literacy, and spark interest in reading.

**What is most rewarding or makes you proudest about the impact of your work?**

I am proudest when I see children reading books that they enjoy. Reading can be a joyful hobby and a family activity. Yet oftentimes parents state that their children do not like to read. I challenge them to help their children find the books that they want to read.

For instance, my youngest daughter preferred nonfiction books while growing up. This ignited her passion for learning more about history and the leaders who inspire her today. My son enjoyed comic books and books about his favorite baseball heroes. My eldest daughter read every book about beauty and fashion, which supported her future career journey.

If you cannot find the books your child likes to read, this may be an invitation for your children to begin writing. One of my proudest PPGJLI moments was when we honored our first youth writing competition honoree, 10-year-old Zephaniah Martin. He wrote a wonderful book about the history of Kwanzaa (Jaheem’s First Kwanzaa). His book has inspired countless other children to learn more about Kwanzaa and celebrate cultural traditions.

**What do you wish you would have known along your education or career path?**

I wish I would have known the importance of following your passion. This is what led to the creation of PPGJLI. We founded the organization in my living room, and our leadership team brought together other passionate community members who were determined to end the school-to-prison pipeline by planting seeds of social change.

It is tempting to wait and believe change will come at the wheels of inevitability, but what if the change in the world begins with you? I learned this important lesson as we founded PPGJLI. I could no longer afford to wait on the sidelines as the nation’s reading crisis persisted. I had to be the change that I wanted to see in the world.
What do you want the world to know about your work or about Family Science?

Many know me as the “Literary Leader.” This title was earned through my commitment to promoting early childhood education and literacy over the past 30 years.

Our work will continue to grow in partnership with others in the community. Anyone who is interested in working to plant seeds of social change is invited to share knowledge about the reading crisis, or to follow or get involved with PPGJLI (ppgjli.org) through our mailing list, social media, book drive events, and more.

References


Welcome to the Newest Members of NCFR

Please join us in welcoming these members who joined between January 1 and March 31, 2023.

Kpoti Senam Accoh
Robert Ackley
Nichole Allen
Lorena Laparra Arredondo
Brooke Balbinot
Jodi L. Baldwin
Laura Beazer
Raana Bell
Kayla Biggs
Faith Nicole Boudloche
Caroline Burns
Kristin Nicole Butler
Melaina Callahan
Laura Calvillo
Robriana Jeffricia Clark
Yamonte Cooper
Brigitte S. Cypress
Kristi Lynn Dalley
Tonja K. Davenport
Rochelle Renere Davidson
Mhome
Virginia Myrick Elder
Meaghan Ranz Ellenburg
Jo Evans
Aaron Thomas Fife
Sonya Lynn Fox
Katherine Freeman
Hilary Ann Gallegos
Jessie Gentilella
Doreen A. Georgeson
Mary Armor Gilbert
Blair Grove
Minel Guler
Katey Halcomb
Soojin Han
Brian Hannigan
Anna Beth Harman
Michael B. Harrison
Shannon Elora Hart
Chelsey Eileen Hawkes
Anarita Ibarra
Rhonda Jackson
Alexis Jackson
Amanda Jahnke
Meghan Elizabeth Jones
Destiny D. Jones
Tyler Karges
Paige Kean
Monica King
Tammya T. LaFrance
Cherlyn Lane
Sadie Virginia Olsen Leidel
Johnathan Ryan Mason
Abigail J. McBride
Reason Meredith Meyer
Ashlee N. Moore
Nicole Muhs
Lauren Musselman
Kelly Oliver
Chioma Veronica Opara
Christopher Stephen Ownby
Ava Pauly
Tanawan Pitakkochakorn
Megan Broussard Pitalo
Dale Pracht
Symionne Alexandra Quarles
Martha D. Ravola
Mary Jo Reynolds
Rachel Rineman
Jazlyn N. Robinson
Barbara A. Ruth-Williams
Kimberly Ruiz
Kayla Sellers
Linda Siebert Rapoport
Lawrence Smith
Aimee M. Snow
Kristin Stinson
Hailey Jean Stroup
Sisi Maw Takaki
Rashida Taylor
Joshua Taylor
Laura Tharman
Jill Trumbell
Ashley Sue Tudor
Mariana Lippert Vignoli

NCFR Report: A Member Forum

NCFR Report is a quarterly magazine for members designed to encourage member-to-member dialogue, to inform colleagues about our research, and to discuss research application for practitioners and policy professionals. Through Report, NCFR also builds our community by reporting on people, events, and organizational news.

Unlike the content of our scholarly journals, the articles in NCFR Report have not been peer-reviewed. In the spirit of open debate and academic freedom, NCFR Report is a member forum for exchanging ideas. The opinions or findings expressed are those of the author(s), which may or may not represent the official position of NCFR as an organization nor the prevailing scientific consensus on the topic. Author email addresses are provided to encourage readers to offer comment to writers.*
Greetings, NCFR members and families and health scholars! We would like to share some information about Families and Health Section awards and about some special sessions to keep in mind for the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference.

We invite you to nominate yourself or a colleague for one of our Section awards. Each year we give awards for a professional paper, a student paper, student poster awards, and a professional/practice award. Paper and professional/clinical practice award nominations were due by June 1st. Student poster nominations are due before October 1. Award winners receive a cash prize, a certificate (and a ribbon in the case of poster awards) and are recognized in the Families and Health Section meeting. See the NCFR website for more details: https://www.ncfr.org/awards/section-awards/families-and-health

Below are the names of the 2022 Families and Health Section awardees:

- Outstanding Professional Paper/Publications Award
  Name: Christy R. Rogers, Ph.D., Texas Tech University
  Project: The Role of Early Attachment and Parental Presence in Adolescent Behavioral and Neurological Regulation

- Outstanding Doctoral Student and New Professional Paper/Publication Award
  Name: M. Rosie Shrout, Ph.D., Purdue University
  Project: The Health Consequences of Stress in Couples: A Review and New Integrated Dyadic Biobehavioral Stress Model

Invited Sessions at the 2023 NCFR Conference
The Families and Health Section is excited to co-organize a special session for the 2023 NCFR conference with the Advancing Family Science and Family Therapy Sections.

You Cannot Serve from an Empty Vessel: Trauma Informed Wellness for Faculty and Practitioner Support
Presenter: Julia Bernard, LMFT, Ph.D., CFLE, Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Norwich University

When Merrill Singer called attention to the synergistic connection of health problems and social problems in the 1990s, I imagine he could have predicted our current predicament of the Great Resignation and the massive losses our universities and practices have had to endure over the last years of recovery post Covid 19. But I think that our very field may be what has the capacity to help in the healing process and realign health and work/life priorities. In teaching trauma informed care principles over the last decade, I have learned that an environment where wellness and safety are a priority can make the difference in the levels of burnout and effort of faculty and practitioners. Principles like peer support, voice, and choice become critical in the retention of a quality workforce who has the compassion to do this work. These principles build resilience and provide a framework for rebuilding our social capital, both individually and professionally. In this workshop-like special session, we will use these principles to ask ourselves what we need to prioritize in our lives to stay “healthy.”

The Families and Health Section is also excited to co-sponsor an invited special session at the 2023 NCFR conference with Issues in Aging Focus Group.

Custodial Grandfamilies Navigating the Syndemic: Risk, Resilience, and Future Directions
Presenter: Megan L. Dolbin-MacNab, Ph.D., LMFT, Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America, Associate Professor, Department of Human Development & Family Science Virginia Tech

Custodial grandparents, or families in which grandparents are raising their grandchildren,
Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families (REDF)

Shardé McNeil Smith, Ph.D., Section Chair, sns smith@illinois.edu

Reflecting on REDF Section in Orlando, Florida

It is not lost on me that we are holding the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference in Florida – a state with a legislative agenda aimed at ignoring, erasing, and blocking racial history and truth. In particular, the Stop W.O.K.E Act mischaracterizes and challenges critical race theory and silences race and gender issues in classrooms and businesses, including book bans, divesting in diversity programs, and the rejection of AP African American Studies curriculum. Florida HB 1557, which has become known as the “Don’t Say Gay” law, bans instruction of gender and sexual orientation thereby undermining the experiences of LGBTQ families and communities of color. The Anti-Rioting legislation (Florida HB 1) was introduced in response to demonstrations after the murder of George Floyd, attempts to censor the right to protest injustices such as the unarmed police killings of Black people.

As a reminder, the Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families (REDF) Section unites those members of NCFR who are concerned with issues pertaining to racial and ethnic diversity in families, to help increase their participation in the organization and annual programs of NCFR, and to help create a better understanding of the variations in families from diverse ethnic groups. Although the future is uncertain, the reality is clear - our section's values are in direct opposition to the racial ideology found in Florida's policies. The content we research and teach, the families we serve, and our very identities, are threatened by these current practices.

As chair of REDF, I want to hear from you about how we can best navigate this reality. As a part of the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference Program Planning Committee, I am committed to bringing ideas and suggestions to the committee to help ensure that we are safe to show up as our whole selves and that our commitment to research, theory, policies, and praxis for racial and ethnic families are not compromised. I look forward to working with you to brainstorm ways that the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference, The Way We Are Now: Families and Communities at the Center of the Syndemic, can be a positive, transformative experience for you and the communities you serve. Please e-mail me at sns smith@illinois.edu with any thoughts, questions, or concerns.

Special Session on Radical Healing for BIPOC Families and Communities

To give you a preview of what is in store, I am excited to announce that REDF will be hosting a special session with Dr. Hector A. Adames in collaboration with the Feminism and Family Science and Religion, Spirituality, and Family Sections. Dr. Adames will introduce and describe the psychology of the radical healing framework and invite participants to explore how radical healing can shift our collective thinking in research, theory, and praxis with families and communities of color. We hope that you can attend! 🌟

are critical sources of support for their families, communities, and society (Administration for Community Living, 2022). Yet, grandfamilies continue to experience significant challenges and limited resources and supports (Hayslip et al., 2017). Informed by the perspective of intersectionality (Dolbin-MacNab & Few-Demo, 2018) and conceptualized within the context of the syndemic, the first goal of this presentation is to critically examine the challenges experienced by custodial grandfamilies. In fact, the very formation of this presentation is to critically examine the context of the syndemic, the first goal of this presentation is to consolidate existing research to identify key individual, relational, and contextual factors that shape well-being in custodial grandfamilies and could serve as potential targets for intervention. Finally, to facilitate improving outcomes for custodial grandfamilies, the presentation will conclude by examining promising psychoeducational interventions and public policy initiatives designed to promote the health and well-being of grandfamilies, particularly those that are the most marginalized and vulnerable (Dolbin-MacNab, 2020a; Dolbin-MacNab, 2020b). Recommendations for future research, practice, and policy will provide, in hopes of providing an action plan that can be used to benefit all members of the grandfamily system. 🌟
**Sibling Relationships Focus Group**

Are you interested in research about sibling relationships? Join the Sibling Relationships Focus Group! Check out our website at ncfr.org/sibling to learn more about sibling relations and get involved in related research! We facilitate networking and mentoring opportunities, provide access to data, and promote student research and development. Our group is made up of a diverse group of researchers at different professional stages and research expertise. Check out our leadership team’s brief biographies below.

**Dr. Gabrielle Kline, Current Co-Chair**
Dr. Kline is an assistant professor in the School of Counseling and Well-Being at West Virginia University. Her research focuses on sibling and parent-child relationships during adolescence and young adulthood using family systems and cultural-ecological perspectives. Her recent work focuses on how sibling caregiving may impact individual development and family relationships.

**Dr. Christy Rogers, Current Co-Chair**
Dr. Rogers is an assistant professor in Human Development and Family Sciences at Texas Tech University. They use an interdisciplinary approach to identify how siblings and parents support adolescent development through perceptual, behavioral, and neural processes. Of note, Dr. Rogers received the Professional Paper Award for the Families and Health Section at the 2022 NCFR Conference for their paper titled, “The role of early attachment and parental presence in adolescent behavioral and neurobiological regulation.”

**Derek Morgan, Current Social Media and Communications Specialist**
Mr. Morgan is a doctoral student in Human Development and Family Sciences at Texas Tech University. His research focuses on the effect that sibling and parent-child relationships have on psychopathology and externalizing behaviors during adolescence and emerging adulthood. Of note, Mr. Morgan received the Sibling Relationships Focus Group Student Poster Award at the 2022 NCFR Conference based on his research titled, “Younger sibling warmth as a buffer between emerging adult prospective uncertainty and substance use.”

**Dr. Sarah Killoren, Previous Chair**
Dr. Killoren is an associate professor in Human Development and Family Relationships. Her research interests include the processes of sibling influence and associations between interpersonal relationships, and adolescent and young adult well-being. Her work specializes in Latina/o/x families, and the role and influence of sisters on development.

Be on the lookout for great sibling research at NCFR 2023! ✨

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**Jessica Oswald continued from page 1**

Jessica earned her bachelor’s degree in human development and family studies from Bowling Green State University, is a Certified Child Life Specialist, and has been a CFLE since 2016. She has a thorough understanding of Family Life Education, its content areas, and the pathways to becoming certified through NCFR. Jessica has experience working as a CFLE in the community, where she worked directly with families and developed a child life program. She previously worked at the Association of Child Life Professionals as a manager of program operations, in a role similar to her new NCFR position.

Jessica’s background experience as a practicing CFLE and in association work makes her ideal for this position. She comes with an understanding of association work, including the database and software that NCFR uses. As a practicing CFLE, she understands the needs of those who work as CFLEs immediately after achieving their college degree.

We are excited to leverage Jessica’s expertise to bolster CFLE benefits, especially for those working in the community. We hope to further increase the number of CFLEs practicing in the community. Please join us in welcoming Jessica to NCFR. She will be at the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference where you can meet her in person. ✨

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**Latest NCFR Policy Brief**

**Tackling Housing Concerns at the State-Level: Lessons From Family Impact Seminars**

*Nayantara Nair, Ph.D., Lauren Bellamy, B.A., B.S., Robert Duncan, Ph.D., Richard A. Settersten, Jr., Ph.D., Heidi Normandin, M.P.A., and Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth, Ph.D.*

Suboptimal housing severely interferes with individual and family well-being, including children and caregivers. This is of concern because housing instability among families with children in the United States has risen since the 2008 recession, and it increased markedly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Oregon, Wisconsin, and Indiana, housing legislation that affects families who are homeless, who are renters, or who are buying homes has demonstrated that states can create affordable housing options, protect low-income renters and homeowners, and prevent homelessness through housing trust funds and tax credits for individuals and developers, local fair housing laws, and permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing programs.

This brief includes several promising policy options at the state and local levels that can help to address housing instability concerns for families.

A two-page executive summary and an eight-page policy brief are available for you to download and share with your legislators and networks. Find all NCFR Policy Briefs at ncfr.org/policy-briefs.
Journal Editor Position
*Journal of Marriage and Family*

The National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) is seeking nominations and applications for the position of editor of Journal of Marriage and Family (JMF). The application deadline is August 1, 2023. The JMF Editor Search Committee anticipates selecting the new editor by Oct. 1, 2023, and the new editor will be announced at the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference in November in Orlando, Florida.

The five-year term of the new editor will begin in January 2024. During the first year, the editorship will transfer from the current editor to the incoming editor. The editor of record during 2024 will be Liana Sayer, whose term will be completed with the publication of the December 2024 issue. The first issue in which the incoming editor will be the editor of record will be the February 2025 issue.

To obtain a detailed description of the editor’s responsibilities as well as a description of the application supporting materials, please email Jane Reilly, NCFR’s Manager of Governance and Board Operations and staff liaison to the search committee, at janereilly@ncfr.org.

Nominations with a curriculum vitae and completed applications may be mailed to National Council on Family Relations, 661 LaSalle Street, Suite 200, St. Paul, MN, 55114, or emailed to janereilly@ncfr.org. The JMF Search Committee will review application materials beginning August 1, 2023. Nominees and applicants must be members of NCFR.

**Application Deadline**
Review begins August 1, 2023
In Memoriam: Gladys J. Hildreth

Gladys Hildreth, Ph.D., CFLE, passed away on April 15, 2023. She was NCFR fellow, held membership for 50 years, a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) for 33 years, and CFLE Emeritus.

Dr. Hildreth authored *Leaving No One Behind: How Education Moved an African American Family from the Fields of Poverty to Living the American Dream*. In this book, Dr. Hildreth highlights the value of family relationships and good interpersonal family communication when identifying resources to fund college education, how successful African American families can aid struggling students, and the worth of obtaining a college education in overcoming poverty. Additionally, she authored several articles that focused on interpersonal family dynamics in business, family experience, stress and resilience in disasters, family bereavement and unresolved grief, and many others.

She earned her bachelor’s degree at Southern University, her master’s degree at University of Wisconsin, and her doctorate in child and human development from Michigan State University. In 2000, she was named an NCFR Fellow, and she later earned CFLE Emeritus status. She was also a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta.

Dr. Hildreth’s professorate included more than 65 years of family development and human relations scholarship. She served as department chair of the School of Human Ecology at Louisiana State University (Professor Emeritus), chairperson of the Department of Family Studies at University of Kentucky, faculty at Texas Woman’s University, and lecturer at University of North Texas, while also mentoring others throughout her esteemed career.

She championed projects to the development and/or restructuring of academic programs and graduate admissions, co-spearheaded movements to strengthen child wellbeing through fostering parental relationship and optimal family structure, Family Life Education, parenting, and sexuality. Up to her retirement from the University of Kentucky in the Department of Family Studies, she was a mentor to many graduate students and colleagues.

She received the Marie F. Peters Award in 1994 from the NCFR Ethnic Minorities Section (now the Racial and Ethnic Diversity in Families Section). Additionally, Dr. Hildreth served on the following NCFR committees: Local Arrangements Committee, Elections Council, Fellow Committee, and Inclusion and Diversity Committee.

Dr. Hildreth will be eulogized during the annual memorial service at the 2023 NCFR Annual Conference.

Thank You, NCFR Donors

Donations made to NCFR from January 1 to March 31, 2023

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Grant Writing Webinars On Demand

Looking to learn more about grant funding and how to apply for and manage grants? NCFR now has 4 webinar recordings on demand that cover various aspects of the grant writing process.

- **Introduction to Writing Grants for the National Science Foundation**
  Presented by Chalandra M. Bryant, Ph.D.
  *FREE for NCFR members and CFLEs*

- **NIH Grant Writing: Tools for Family Scientists**
  Presented by Joseph G. Grzywacz, Ph.D.
  FREE for NCFR members and CFLEs

- **Strategies for Practitioners to Receive Grant Funding**
  Presented by Michael Fleming, Ph.D., CFLE

- **How to Implement Awarded Grants**
  Presented by Marissa Heim, CFLE

Purchase and Access Webinar Recordings at ncfr.org/on-demand

These webinars are all available for individual purchase or for department/classroom use.

All webinars approved for CFLE continuing education credit. ✿
Congratulations to Our New Certified Family Life Educators

The following is a list of Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs) designated between January 1 and March 31, 2023.

Provisional unless otherwise noted.

Nyíregyháza, Hungary
Anna Olsen

Alabama
Katie Newton

Arkansas
Madison Juarez

Arizona
Neesie Grace Cieslak
Andee Marie Murphy
Karin L. Waters

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Florida
Tyler Karges

Iowa
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Jordyn H. Jondle

Idaho
Kristen Doolhoff
Erika R. Svedin

Illinois
Abbygail Gangloff
Anna Grace Hansen

Kentucky
Heather Sampson Toombs

Louisiana
Leah Renee LaGrange
Marlena Thomas

Maryland
Amanda Jahnke
Casey Snelick

Michigan
Sadarra Fields
Julie Marie Moomaw (Marshall)
Emma Elisabeth Shafer Youngs

Minnesota
Beth Maddock Magistad
Kasey Nimmerfroh
Carrie Yeager

Missouri
Stephanie Diane Holcombe
Leah R. Jones
Makenzie Lee Vogelsmeier

Mississippi
Cecilia Brooks
Summer Renee Jackson
Mary Sue Jones
Megan Broussard Pitalo
Desiree Tucker

New Hampshire
Tyler Jamison

New Jersey
Alisia Maliborski

Nevada
Maria Claribel Jake

New York
Leslie Rusoff
Caroline Mary Schmidt

Ohio
Lisa Mortensen

Oklahoma
Kristen Henry
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Rebecca Hoffman
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Washington
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Letters to the Editor
You may submit letters to the editor to NCFR Report on topics and activities relevant to NCFR member interests. The following guidelines apply:

- Only letters submitted by members will be accepted.
- Length is limited to 250 words; letters may be edited for space and clarity.
- Letters must be signed and include author contact information; submissions are verified.
- Letters that are deemed libelous, malicious, or otherwise inappropriate will not be published.

Email letters to the editor to: tripsullivan@ncfr.org
Or mail to:
NCFR, Attn: NCFR Report
661 LaSalle Street, Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55114

Upcoming NCFR Webinars in 2023

All webinars approved for continuing education credit for the Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential.

Request a classroom license for any webinar to use with your students!

How to Implement Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Practices
September 13, 2023 / 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. CT
Presented by: Cynthia B. Wilson, Ph.D., CFLE, and Kaley de Leon, CFLE

Introduction to LinkedIn for Faculty Professors and Student Advisers
September 26, 2023 / 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. CT
Presented by: Amanda Barnett, Ph.D.; and Bethanne Shriner, Ph.D., CFLE

Integrating Indigenous Voices when Developing and Implementing Family Life Education Programs
October 25, 2023 / 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. CT
Presented by: Sarah Allen, Ph.D.; Vanessa Simonds, Sc.D.; Roni Knows Gun, M.S.; Alma McCormick, B.S.
in this issue:

- Marginalized Families
- 2023 Elected Officers
- Meet Jessica Oswald
- Call for Fellows

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M. Elise Radina, Ph.D., CFLE
Conference Program Chair, Miami University-Ohio