



THE CONNECTICUT PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Dear Friends:

Are you aware of the ongoing crisis related to the availability of culturally competent mental health services? There is a shortage of mental health providers of color, particularly psychologists, to serve the increasing ethnic minority population in Connecticut. It is critical that the unique needs of clients from various ethnicities and cultures be addressed by ensuring future mental health providers are culturally competent.

The Ethnic Diversity Task Force (EDTF) of the Connecticut Psychological Association (CPA) recognizes how important it is to develop strategies to recruit, mentor and retain students of color in preparation for the future. For the ninth year, the EDTF is offering a significant mentoring and networking opportunity to psychology students of color. High school and undergraduate students as well as pre-doctoral interns are recruited to attend the annual CPA Convention. In 2001, EDTF awarded nine recipients scholarships. Last year, 21 students received scholarships, which include attendance to the CPA Convention and a one-year CPA membership. The response from students has been overwhelmingly positive.

While CPA sponsors some of the scholarships, other funding sources are needed, especially from the community. This year, it is also our goal to provide transportation for our "Dare to Dream" mentoring program. This is where you or your organization can provide support to this very worthwhile cause. By partnering with us, you can be instrumental in providing mentoring opportunities for psychology students of color. This year's CPA Convention is scheduled for November 12, 2010.

In keeping the mentoring dream a reality, we urge you to make a donation in the amount of \$110.00 by October 15, 2010. Kindly make your tax-deductible check or money order payable to: **CPA Educational Foundation, Memo: EDTF Scholarship.** Mail to: CPA, P.O. Box 915, North Haven, CT 06473. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Dinneen Priebe at (860) 404-0333 or tricia@grassrootsct.com.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Ree LeBlanc Gunter, Ph.D.
Chair, Ethnic Diversity Task Force