



Dr. Nora J. Baladerian to Receive an Award from the American Psychological Association

The American Psychological Association has [announced](#) that Dr. Nora J. Baladerian is the recipient of this year's Distinguished Contributions Award from the APA Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology. The award will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the APA in San Francisco on August 9, 2018.

This [award](#) recognizes an APA member who has made a significant contribution to people with disabilities through promoting inclusion, advancing knowledge and research, participating in advocacy, and fostering empowerment of people with disabilities in society.

Dr. Baladerian was [nominated](#) for the award by John Drimmer, Psy.D., a clinical psychologist who has known and worked with Dr. Baladerian for many years. A [letter](#) of support was submitted by attorney Thomas F. Coleman, legal director of Spectrum Institute. Another [letter](#) was submitted by Dr. Gil Freitag, a psychologist who has known Dr. Baladerian for more than 30 years as an employer, clinical supervisor, colleague and friend.

The mission of the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology is to: (1) promote the psychological welfare of people with disabilities; (2) promote the development and implementation of psychological service delivery models responsive to the needs of people with disabilities; (3) promote the awareness of disability issues in psychological research as well as specific research activity in disability areas; and (4) promote inclusion of knowledge about disabilities and disability issues in education, training programs and professional development of psychologists.



Nora J. Baladerian, Ph.D. has been working for several decades conducting research, education, and therapy for and about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Her [professional services](#) include: therapy for clients in Southern California; lectures throughout the nation on disability and abuse issues; and expert evaluations in legal cases involving abuse of people with developmental disabilities. Dr. Baladerian is the director of the [Disability and Abuse Project](#) of Spectrum Institute.