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CLBB News A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

August 9, 2021

CLBB Highlights



<u>CLBB Signs Onto Advocacy Supporting the Establishment of a</u> <u>Neuroscience Center of Excellence at the Food and Drug</u> <u>Administration (FDA)</u>

CLBB recently signed onto an American Brain Coalition proposal to establish a Neuroscience Center of Excellence at the FDA. As the number of Americans diagnosed with chronic brain disorders continues to grow, the creation and funding of this initiative would spur critical biomedical research and innovation needed to advance treatment and cures for brain diseases.



CLBB Signs Onto Federal Initiative for Children and Youth

CLBB signed onto an advocacy letter calling the Biden-Harris Administration to increase support for federal policies that focus on security and equity for children and youth. Included in the sign-on letter are recommendations for establishing a leadership structure within the White House that is dedicated to ensuring that the unique needs of children and youth are a major consideration throughout the development of new policies and legislation.

For more information on this initiative, see here.

Faculty and Board Member News



Massachusetts Judge Laments Recent Supreme Court Ruling That Juveniles Can Be Sentenced To Life Without Parole WBUR NEWS | May 3, 2021

CLBB Faculty Member Judge Jay Blitzman (Ret.) was featured on WBUR where he discusses the possible ramifications of the recent *Jones v. Mississippi* decision that gives judges discretion to sentence juveniles to life without parole (LWOP).

Highlight: "The lack of more guidance is concerning because otherwise, we live in a world of justice by geography. And why should where you live affect such a consequential determination?...[The ruling] says we'll leave it to each of the states to do what they think is appropriate. And I think it is a derogation of responsibility. . . . Discretionary sentencing without guidelines will fuel greater racial and ethnic disparity."

See <u>here</u> to listen to the full segment.



Left Behind: 1.5 million Kids May Have Lost Parent, Caregiver to COVID-19

University of Minnesota | July 21, 2021

In this article, **CLBB Faculty Member Charles A. Nelson** comments on the impact that COVID-19 has had on children who have lost a parent or caregiver to COVID-19.

Highlight: "In a National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) news release, cosenior author Charles Nelson, III, PhD, of Boston Children's Hospital, said that caregiver loss can upend children's lives and affect their development. 'If we take into consideration variants of concern or possible severity of illness among youth, we must not forget that the pandemic continues to pose a threat to parents and caregivers—and their children,' he said."

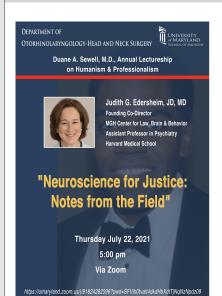


McLean Hospital and GrayMatters Health Awarded a BIRD Foundation Grant to Develop a Digital Therapy for Major Depression Disorder with Anhedonia Symptoms PR Newswire | July 29, 2021

CLBB Faculty Member Kerry Ressler will be co-leading a new research initiative to develop a novel solution for the therapy of Major Depression Disorder (MDD) at McLean Hospital. The initiative will be funded by the BIRD Israel-U.S. Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation and provide treatment to individuals with MDD who do not have the ability to feel pleasure in order to teach them how to control and modulate their reward system.

Highlight: "In a National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) news release, cosenior author Charles Nelson, III, PhD, of Boston Children's Hospital, said that caregiver loss can upend children's lives and affect their development. 'If we take into consideration variants of concern or possible severity of illness among youth, we must not forget that the pandemic continues to pose a threat to parents and caregivers—and their children,' he said."

Past Events



Annual Sewell Lectureship

University of Maryland | July 22, 2021

On July 22, **CLBB co-founder and co-director Judith Edersheim, JD, MD** was the lecturer during the Annual Sewell Lectureship. The virtual event was hosted by the University of Maryland and honored the late Duane Sewell M.D., a surgeon-scientist who stood for everything good about Medicine. He was also a phenomenal educator, father, scientist and role model.

In the News

General

Snapchat Can Be Sued Over Role In Fatal Car Crash, Court Rules GPB News | May 5, 2021

Harvard Law School Launches First-Ever Research Initiative on Psychedelics and the Law The Crimson | July 2, 2021

Biden Says 'Long Covid' Could Qualify as a Disability Under Federal Law NBC News | July 26, 2021

What Pandemic Nostalgia Tells Us About How Memory Works Freethink | July 28, 2021

Activists: Reducing Parole Violations Will Better Life After Prison and Cut Prison Costs Amsterdam News | July 29, 2021

Juvenile Justice

Investigate the Prevalence of Food Insecurity and Insufficiency Among Emerging Adults News Medical | June 26, 2021

<u>New Bill Would Update Decades-Old Law Governing Children's Privacy Online, Add Protection for Teens</u> Washington Post | July 29, 2021

Troubling Treatment: Efforts Are Underway to Reform Teen Behavioral Programs ABA Journal | August 1, 2021

Elder Justice

<u>Collins, Gillibrand Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Protect Seniors and Caregivers Against Financial Fraud</u> Senator Susan Collins Press Release | July 7, 2021

AAN Position Statement 'Timely and Welcome' Update on Ethical Considerations in Dementia Healio | July 12, 2021

How Deceptive Campaign Fund-Raising Ensnares Older People New York Times | July 19, 2021

Elder Justice Hotline Launched in Connecticut CTBY | July 29, 2021

Trauma and Immigration Justice

<u>'Traumatizing and Abusive': Immigrants Reveal Personal Toll of Ankle Monitors</u> The Guardian |July 12, 2021

Years Ago, the World Made a Pact to Protect Refugees. Too Many of Our Leaders Are Failing to Uphold That <u>Promise</u> Time | July 26, 2021

ICE Violated Its Own Healthcare Standards VeryWell Health | July 27, 2021

Physicians Group Documents 'Severe' Health and Human Rights Impacts of US Expulsion Policy Common Dreams | July 28, 2021 <u>#Welcomewithdignity: Expedited Removal Is a Fast Track To Danger</u> Amnesty USA | July 28, 2021

Children in U.S. Tent Camp Faced Depression and Filthy Conditions, Whistleblowers Say CBS | July 28, 2021

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