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# Virtual Workshop: Children's Mental Health and the Life Course Model

Hosted by the [National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education](#)

[Register for the webcast](#)

**September 16, 2019, 1:30-3:00 (Eastern)**

This webinar series – co-organized by the MCH Life Course Intervention Research Network and the National Academy of Science’s Forum for Children’s Well-Being – will focus on understanding how mental health disorders develop over the life span, with a special emphasis on prenatal, early, middle, and later childhood development. This series will focus on identifying gaps in our knowledge, exploring new strategies for using existing data to enhance our understanding of the developmental origins of mental disorders, reviewing potential approaches to prevention and optimization, and proposing new ways of framing how we understand, address, and prevent these disorders from a life course development perspective.

With rapidly rising rates, changing patterns of occurrence, and increasing levels of morbidity, a better understanding of the developmental origins and influence of mental health on children’s behavioral health outcomes is both timely and critical. This includes a better understanding of the growing prevalence of mental health disorders and greater appreciation of the role and impact of neurodevelopmental pathways in their onset and expression. This series will raise awareness about developmental origins of these alarming mental health trends and will consider appropriate strategies to implement effective change.

Neal Halfon, MD, MPH (Director, UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities) and Kimberly E. Hoagwood, PhD (Cathy and Stephen Graham Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, School of Medicine, New York University) will kick off this series on September 16, 1:30-3p EST with a discussion on trends of mental health disorders in children and youth.

This series is ongoing, and announcements about future topics will be sent on a regular basis. We look forward to your participation and engagement throughout this series.

**[Forum Website](#)**