

# AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2020

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.)

## Interest Network:

Family Interest Network

## Lead Contact Person:

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## Annual Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used. The Family Interest Network continued building upon previous collaborations with the Social Work Interest Network in the development, submission, and acceptance of a pre-Conference session about Guardianship in light of celebrating 30 years of ADA. The conference has since been postponed but efforts are underway to translate at least part of this planned session into short videos for AAIDD's Instagram page.

The Network met 3 times since the last Annual meeting. Plans to meet over spring have largely been delayed due to a shift of focus on COVID-related matters. A meeting for late July or August is anticipated. Co-chair leadership is needed to sustain this Network to be productive and active but no one has expressed interest to date.

The group has brainstormed a mission statement and discussed an interest in surveying the AAIDD network to determine what type of webinars would be most helpful. Our interest network didn't have any additional formal activities in the 2019 FY. We did not, therefore, use any funds.

## Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

Members of the Families Interest Network would like to explore the following topics in the coming year:

- Systemic racism in family support services
- Underrepresented and underserved family types and family members (i.e. siblings, single parents of only children, disabled parents, LGTQ families, etc.)
- Ableism within family support services
- Collaboration with other Interest Networks
- Distrust and disempowerment of family members/Strategies for empowerment

The Family Interest Network would like to collaborate with other Interest Networks to host or co-host a webinar and a Twitter chat on one or more of these topics. The Network is also interested in surveying AAIDD membership to see what areas of Family Support could benefit from capacity building and/or technical assistance. Some of our initiatives are carrying over from last year while others are new. We aim for more activity now that some COVID-19-related efforts have become more long-term instead of all-encompassing.