

Psychologist Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD, was recently appointed Chief Executive Officer of the American Psychological Association and assumes the post 20 March 2017.

Prior to that, Dr Evans was the Commissioner of Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disability Service (DBHIDS) – a \$1 billion healthcare agency. The DBHIDS underwent a system-wide transformation under his leadership, focusing on recovery for adults, resilience for children and self-determination for people in need of intellectual disability services. This has improved outcomes for people accessing services, resulted in fewer inpatient admissions and visits to crisis centers, and significant cost savings that the City has reinvested into community-based services and supports.

Often hailed as a visionary, Dr. Evans has been recognized nationally for his work in behavioral healthcare policy and the transformation of service delivery systems. In 2015 he was recognized by the White House as an "Advocate for Action" by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. In 2013, he received the American Medical Association's top government service award in health care, the Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service, for his leadership in transforming the Philadelphia behavioral health system, particularly around the adoption of a public health approach.

Dr. Evans has served in several national leadership roles, including: Chair of the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Partners for Recovery Initiative Steering Committee, Co-Chair of the National Action Group on Fostering System Reform for Adults with Serious Mental Illness, Member of SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Advisory Committee, Chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Paths to Recovery Project, and President of the Board of Directors of the New England Institute of Addiction Studies. In 2014, the Melville Charitable Trust, the nation's largest philanthropy focused exclusively on ending homelessness, announced that Dr. Evans has joined its Board of Directors.

Dr Evans lives in Philadelphia with his wife Claudene Pinder Evans; they have three daughters, Salihah, Akilah, and Jamila.