

**Biographical Statement for Brian Bumbarger, Ph.D.**

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Dr. Brian K. Bumbarger is a recognized leader in prevention science, with nearly three decades of experience advancing evidence-based strategies to promote healthy development in children and adolescents. He serves as Associate Director for Implementation Science and Strategy at ADAPT (A Division for Advancing Prevention and Treatment), at the University

of Baltimore's Center for Public Safety Innovation. In this role, he leads efforts to integrate prevention strategies, grounded in the best available evidence, into policy and practice throughout the country. His work emphasizes the importance of relational approaches and family strengthening as foundational elements in effective prevention efforts. As Founding Director and Principal Investigator of the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center ([www.EPISCenter.psu.edu](http://www.EPISCenter.psu.edu)) Dr. Bumbarger led statewide initiatives to scale proven programs that support child and youth well-being. Under his leadership, Pennsylvania became a national and international model for prevention infrastructure, facilitating the replication of evidence-based interventions across diverse communities and embedded within and across multiple public systems.

Dr. Bumbarger's research advocates for interventions that not only target individual behaviors but also enhance family functioning and adult-child relationships, recognizing the pivotal role of connection in a child's development. A long-standing member and former board member of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR), Dr. Bumbarger has contributed to advancing the field's focus on translational research and real-world impact, supporting efforts to bridge the gap between research and practice in promoting strategies that strengthen family systems and community supports. Dr. Bumbarger's international collaborations have focused on adapting and implementing evidence-based programs to diverse contexts to promote child and adolescent development worldwide.

He serves as adjunct research faculty at both Colorado State University and Penn State University Prevention Research Centers, as well as the REACH Institute at Arizona State University. Dr. Bumbarger earned his doctorate in developmental, life-course criminology at Griffith University, focusing on evidence-based delinquency prevention at scale, and his Masters of Education in Youth- and Family-focused Prevention from Penn State University. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Society for Prevention Research (SPR) from 2012-2015, and was recipient of the Society's 2014 Translational Science Award and 2020 Service to Society Award. He is a founding member of both the Global Implementation Society and the Society for Implementation Research Collaboration. Through his research, policy leadership, and thought partnership with universities, philanthropy, communities and practitioners, Dr. Bumbarger continues to champion relational and evidence-based approaches in prevention science, aiming to create environments where all children and youth can thrive.

Presentation Title: Early Relational Health and Child/Adolescent Well-Being: A Developmental, Lifecourse Perspective on the Power of Relationships