



CASE

MANDEL SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES

DAVID E. BIEGEL, Ph.D.

Faculty Biographical Sketch

David E. Biegel is the Henry L. Zucker Professor of Social Work Practice and Professor of Psychiatry and Sociology at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. He currently serves as Co-Director of the School's Center on Substance Abuse and Mental Illness, and as Consultant to the Ohio Substance Abuse and Mental Illness Coordinating Center of Excellence. Dr. Biegel has been a faculty member at the Mandel School since 1987. In addition to previously serving as Chair of the Doctoral Program, he has served as the founding director/co-director of a number of research centers at the Mandel School including: the Center for Practice Innovations, Alzheimer's Disease Caregiving Institute, and the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Research Institute. Dr. Biegel teaches research and policy courses in both the Mandel School's Masters and Doctoral degree program.

He has been involved in research for the past two decades pertaining to the impact of chronic illnesses on families. Dr. Biegel has been particularly interested in the similarities and differences in the impact of care across chronic illnesses. In this regard, he served as lead editor of a seven volume book series, *The Family Caregiver Applications Series* published by Sage Publications. His own research has examined caregiving in both Alzheimer's disease and severe and persistent mental illness. Dr. Biegel's work as Co-Investigator on an NIA funded longitudinal study of families of persons with Alzheimer's disease was one of the earliest longitudinal studies to examine the impact of Alzheimer's disease on families and resulted in four publications.

Dr. Biegel's more recent research has focused on families of persons with severe and persistent mental illness and families of persons with co-occurring substance and mental disorders. These studies, four cross-sectional surveys and one focus group study, examined three interrelated themes: 1) the predictors of family member distress (i.e., burden, depression); 2) family member's involvement with mental health and substance abuse professionals; and, 3) barriers to families' involvement in the treatment of their ill relative and barriers to the use of services to support their own well-being. Dr. Biegel's research has been supported by grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Ohio Department of Mental Health, and by national and local foundations. He is the author of over one hundred publications primarily focused on family caregiving with frail elderly individuals, and with persons with severe and persistent mental illness.

- Family caregiving
- Substance abuse and mental illness
- Informal and formal care