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## Tribute

### *Keeping Hope Alive*



Dr. Paulette Yvonne (Moore) Hines  
March 16, 1952 - January 6, 2023  
FPI Board Member of FPI (2014-2022)

Gonzalo Bacigalupe, EdD, MPH  
Family Process Institute Board Member

*We therapists and our clients alike can find guidance regarding how to protect and heal our bruised spirits by turning to the wisdom of our ancestors, through whatever means this knowledge has been preserved. (Hines, P., 2019, p. 131)*

It has taken months to find the courage to write this tribute, which is tremendously difficult because it is about accepting the departure of a unique human being, part of our history. Dr. Paulette (Moore) Hines was family for many of us. She was not just a colleague and friend but a true sister. Paulette was a member of the Family Process Institute board until last year, as part of her long serving voluntary post and several leadership roles she engaged in throughout her life. FPI had the honor of having her among us after a long and committed career as a leader in the field of psychology, family therapy, human services, and the empowerment of families, with a special focus on black families.

On the board of the Family Process Institute, her contribution brought to the forefront the unavoidable task of diversifying and centering equity in research about families, the need to expand our capacity to reach an audience that can shape our field in the direction of equity, and the development of clinical and human services that truly serve the most disadvantaged members of our society. Personally, and as experienced by many colleagues and friends, in any service leadership, Paulette never lost hope about the potential for change, about bringing justice and equity to the world and our responsibilities in doing so.

Dr. Hines was executive director emerita of the Center for Healthy Schools, Families & Communities at the Rutgers University of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ. Paulette was a founding faculty member of the Multicultural Family Institute, and her extensive and significant contributions to the field of family therapy, multicultural counseling, and black families have been extremely influential in the



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education of psychologists, social workers, mental health, and family therapists, as well as human services more generally. The impact of this work was recognized by the American Family Therapy Academy which conferred her with two awards including the *Distinguished Lifetime Contribution Award*, and the *Carol Attneave American Psychological Association Award*. Her distinguished career included serving as the president of the *New Jersey Association of Black Psychologists* and of the *American Family Therapy Academy*. Her contribution as AFTA board member for over a decade included leading the most ambitious strategic plan that AFTA had ever committed to, aiming at diversifying the academy and truly fostering systemic work with social justice as its core.

*With my support as a trained mental health professional, therapy represents an opportunity to slow down, develop an expanded view of 'the problem', understand what happened to block problem resolution to date, renew hope, develop, and implement a roadmap to get where you want to go, and, ultimately, achieve the balance essential to realizing one's full potential.*

Dr. Hines, a licensed psychologist, had extensive experience in family therapy practice, training, and supervision, as well as prevention-oriented program administration, design, implementation, and research. She was the principal investigator of many federal and state research and service grants. She was the author and co-author of numerous publications and presented widely on African American families, families living in poverty, youth, hope, and spirituality. Her writing was not just based on her clinical and research work focusing on black families' intersectional and intergenerational experiences and lives. A cornerstone of her life was the promotion of well-being and equity for vulnerable families and communities through building the capacity of larger systems. Everyone who knew her as a leader could conclude that she was a true change leader and trailblazer with a keen sense of moving us beyond the status quo.

Connecting her numerous endeavors is a dedicated focus on culturally responsive clinical and preventive interventions for historically marginalized populations. Paulette has presented widely and has authored over 40 publications in large part on African American families and related topics, including the family life cycle, economically fragile African American families, hope and hopelessness, healing from trauma exposure, and spirituality in family therapy. Paulette advanced thinking about applications of systemic thinking beyond the therapy room. She successfully championed the design, research, and dissemination of numerous innovative, replicable clinical, and prevention-oriented culturally tailored interventions and partnership models. Dr. Hines' portfolio of social innovations included SANKOFA an evidence-based, culturally tailored violence prevention program primarily but not exclusively for African American youth and parents.

Paulette and Tommy, her husband, opened her home for many family therapists to participate in the Cultural Conferences that the Multicultural Family Therapy Institute organized annually. I will hold on to those moments as well as the many committees and boards we served together for decades, as some of the most meaningful learning gems and expressions of love in my life. We are so proud of having had you with us at the Family Process Institute. Your work and spirit will continue to remind us that social justice is at the core of our practices as clinicians, policymakers, educators, or family process researchers.

#### Reference

Hines, P. (2019). Climbing up the rough side of the mountain: Keeping hope alive. In: McGoldrick, M., & Hardy, K. V. (Eds.). *Re-visioning family therapy: Addressing diversity in clinical practice* (Pp. 123-132). Guilford Publications.