Enhancing Engagement through Culturally Responsive Services for Latinx Populations

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Yes I Earned a Ph.D., CPS, CADCII, LADCI

And I Earned a GED in Prison!
Culture is...........

“For me culture is a way of life. It impacts the way I think, what I do, and how I see the world. My culture enables me to relate to many different people. Sometimes people that are not from my culture don’t understand me and they view me as foreign. I can sense it and I have experienced discrimination. What they don’t understand that is that we have many things in common.”

Client, 2018
Siloes

Punitive Approaches

Mass Incarceration

People Incarcerated in the USA

1970
200,000
2019
2.3 Million

SOMETHING IS HAPPENING HERE
Deliberate Policies

- War On Drugs
- Criminalization of Behaviors
- Powder vs. Crack Cocaine
- Mandatory Minimums
- Voting Rights
- Schools Zones
- 3 Strikes and You’re Out
- Massive Prison Construction
- Privatization of Prisons/Jails
- Criminal Offender Records

YOUNG MALE INCARCERATION RATES, 2010
(Number of people 25-29 years old incarcerated per 100,000 people in that group)

- WHITE: 1,487
- LATINO: 2,872
- BLACK: 8,972

Prisons and jails have become the largest and most utilized mental health institutions across the United States.
Opioid Overdose Deaths

- Everyday more than 130 people die in the US (NIDA)
- More than 70,200 Americans died in 2017 (CDC)
- Approximately 350,000 people have died in the US thus far (CDC)
- In Massachusetts approximately 2,000 people died in 2018 (MDPH)
Why Declare a Crisis Now?

Disproportionate Impacts in MA

- In 2017 there was a **8.3% decrease** in opioid overdose deaths
- In 2018 there was a **4% decrease** in opioid overdose deaths
- Between 2015-2017 opioid overdose **deaths increased 83% for African Americans and 100% for Latinos/Hispanics**

MA Legislation, Policies, Regulations and Their Impacts at the Community Level
Hampden County
Unhealthiest County in MA

Majority People of Color!!!

Middlesex County Ranks 3

Massachusetts
 Welcomes you

Immigration and Migration
Strategies, Techniques and Solutions
**Fund and Support a True Public Health Approach**

Multiple Strategies Over Multiple Domains

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**Cultural Humility**

“Cultural Humility incorporates a **lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and self critique** to **redressing the power imbalances** in the **patient-physician** dynamic and to developing **mutually beneficial and non-paternalistic** clinical and **advocacy partnerships with communities** on behalf of individuals and the defined population.”

(Tervalon and Murry-Garcia, 1998)

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**Cultural Intelligence**

“Cultural Intelligence is the **capability to relate and work effectively** in culturally diverse situations. It **goes beyond existing notions of cultural sensitivity and awareness** to highlight a theoretically-based set of capabilities needed to **successfully and respectfully accomplish** your objectives in culturally diverse settings.”

(Cultural Intelligence Center, 2019)
Common Cultural Themes

- Family or Familia (Familismo)
- Respect or Respeto
- Personal Relationships or Personalismo
- Trust or Confianza
- Religion
- Spirituality or Espiritualidad
- Marianismo
- Machismo

Source: Falicov, 1998; Santiago-Rivera et al., 2002; Pijawski & Enriquez, 1996 & Bracero, 1998
Trauma Informed

..... Social Justice Informed!

Multiple Pathways

MY WAY OR THE HIGHWAY

As long as everything is exactly the way I want it, I am totally flexible.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM
"The most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed." Steve Biko

"Aquel que no esta orgulloso de su origen, no valdrá nunca nada, pues comienza a despreciarse a sí mismo."

Don Pedro Albizu Campos