PacWest ITAC Learning Modules

Cultural Crossroads in Disability
Culture and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

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Learning Objectives

1. Identify ways in which cultural diversity may influence an individual or family’s experience of disability screening, diagnosis, and service delivery.

2. Explore family perspectives on culture and disability.

3. Learn strategies for facilitating culturally sensitive services with individuals who experience disabilities and their families.

4. Learn strategies for providing, identifying, clarifying and resolving information related to disability services.
The Developmental Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000

SEC. 102. DEFINITIONS. [42 USC 15002]

The term cultural competence means services, supports or other assistance that are conducted or provided in a manner that is responsive to the beliefs, interpersonal styles, attitudes, language and behaviors of individuals who are receiving services, and in a manner that has the greatest likelihood of ensuring their maximum participation in the program.

Culture

• Culture influences every aspect of life and defines who we are as humans.

• Culture is learned and shared knowledge about our own way of life and that of others.

• Culture includes our values, norms, morals, beliefs, practices, customs, ceremonies, rituals, language and much more.

• We all have multiple cultural identities.
Multiple Cultural Identities

Culture

Language

Community

Religion

Social structures

Family connections

Education
Culture (continued)

• Culture is dynamic.

• We tend to view and understand the world from our own cultural perspective.
  • This makes it difficult to view and understand cultures that are different than our own.

• Programs, organizations, systems of services and supports also have their own culture.
Social Determinants of Health

- Education Access and Quality
- Health Care Access and Quality
- Economic Stability
- Neighborhood and Built Environment
- Social and Community Context

https://www.cdc.gov/socialdeterminants/index.htm
Cultural awareness

- Cultural awareness is the foundation of communication.

- Cultural awareness involves the ability to stand back from ourselves and become aware of our cultural values, beliefs and perceptions.

- Our experiences, our values and our cultural background lead us to see and do things in a certain way. Sometimes we have to step outside of our cultural boundaries in order to realize the impact that our culture has on our behavior.
Cultural competency and cultural humility

• Cultural competency implies that one can function with a thorough knowledge of the values and beliefs of another culture, while cultural humility acknowledges that it’s impossible to be adequately knowledgeable about cultures other than one's own.

• There are many ways to increase our consciousness or self-awareness about cultural diversity and its critical relevance in human relations.
Developing Cultural Humility

• Acknowledge cultural differences
• Understand your own culture
• Engage in self-assessment
• Acquire cultural knowledge and skills
• View behavior with a cultural context
Interview
Thank you for joining us!

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https://www.aucd.org/ITAC