CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS AND EQUITY
SPECIALITY TRACK DISCUSSION GROUP

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Discussion Group Co-Facilitators

2019 Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health
Austin, TX

BACKGROUND

- National Community of Practice

  - History

    - Started in 2004

    - 12 Practice Groups and 16 State Teams

    - National Organizations, TA Centers

    - Five years as SMH and Culturally Diverse Youth PG

    - Model evolved into Specialty Tracks

CONFERENCE SPECIALTY TRACKS

SPECIALITY TRACKS

- Specialty Tracks: issues-focused groups that cut across states, organizations and roles

- Identify/connect activities that contribute to understanding/action

- Work is supported by a range of stakeholders

- Provides an opportunity to connect and stay involved beyond the conference

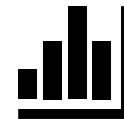# CONFERENCE SPECIALTY TRACKS

Shape the conference

Build connections

Offer opportunities for collaboration, learning, dialogue

Bring various disciplines together

Work at multiple levels of scale

CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS AND EQUITY

- *This track focuses on the application of cultural responsiveness and equity for culturally diverse youth in schools. Specific issues related to cultural and linguistic competence, stigma, cultural adaptations, behavioral health disparities, disproportionality, and social determinants of health are examples of relevant topic areas for this track.*

CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS AND EQUITY

- What does cultural responsiveness and equity mean to you?

- How does it apply to your work/role?

- How does it look in your schools/organizations?

FOCUS OF CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS AND EQUITY (CRE) SPECIALTY TRACK

- Application of cultural responsiveness and equity in schools

- Understand/identify effective strategies

- Address relevant issues related to culturally diverse youth

- Information dissemination

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CRE

- Resource repository

- Issue brief on disproportionality in school suspensions (2014)

- Suggested Dr. Russell Skiba as keynote speaker for 2014 Annual Conference

- Reviewed conference proposals

- Webinars

  - "Meaningfully Engaging Culturally Diverse Families in School Mental Health" by Zewe Serpell, Ph.D.

  - "Providing Culturally Responsive School Mental Health Services: Success Stories from Across the Country"

- Identify and define CRE constructs

DEFINITIONS OF CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS

- Culturally responsive practices support the achievement of all students by providing effective teaching and learning in a "culturally supported, learner-centered context, whereby the strengths students bring to school are identified, nurtured, and utilized to promote student achievement" (Richards, Brown, & Forde, 2006)

- "Cultural responsiveness is the ability to learn from and relate respectfully with people of your own culture as well as those from other cultures." (National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems)

COMPONENTS OF CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS

- Readiness

- Identity Awareness

- Commitment to youth and community voice

- Supportive Environment

- Program expectations and operations reflect the values of the community

- Diverse staff

- Review and analyze data for inequity

EQUITY

- Does not mean equal

- Equality: everyone gets access to the same resources and opportunities

- Equity: everyone gets what they need

CRE OBJECTIVES AND NEXT STEPS

- Recruit presenters to submit to CRE track

- Review Proposals for 25th Annual Conference

- Continue collaboration with University of Washington

- Identify webinar topics/presenters for upcoming year

LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Cultural Responsiveness and Equity Yahoo Group

To join: culturalresponsivenessandequity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To post:
culturalresponsivenessandequity@yahoogroups.com

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

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DISCUSSION

- What barriers exist with regard to obtaining mental health equity and implementing culturally responsive practices for youth in your schools/communities/organizations?

  - If your school/organization has/is working to effectively address this issue, what has been implemented to support that process? If nothing has been implemented, what would you recommend?