Culturally Responsive Behavioral Health Reentry Programming

Second Chance Month Fieldwide Webinar

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

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Justice







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- Welcome, Introductions, and Organization Overview
- Cultural Responsivity
- Fulton County Sheriff's Office, Atlanta, Georgia
- Alameda County, Oakland, California
- Tu'iriauvicha Vo'o, Path to Recovery Homes, Tucson, Arizona
- Questions and Answers

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.



Presenters

- Alexandria Hawkins, Policy Analyst, CSG Justice Center
- Rosemary White Shield, Project Manager, CSG Justice Center
- Christopher D. Harrington, Social Services Program Manager, Fulton County Sheriff's Office
- Carol F. Burton, CEO, Jeweld Legacy Group, Alameda County, California
- Maria Molina, Tu'iriauvicha Vo'o, Path to Recovery Homes, Tucson, Arizona

Attendee Introductions

Please introduce yourself using the chat function:

- Name
- Agency/Jurisdiction

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Why is Cultural Responsivity Needed?

- Many criminal justice systems are overrepresented by communities of color and American Indian people.
 - Studies show that Black people are 3.15 times more likely to be incarcerated than White people.
 - American Indian people have been admitted to prison at over four times the rate of White Americans.
- Those who identify as people of color are less likely to be identified as having a mental illness and once incarcerated, are less likely to receive treatment than White individuals.

Importance of Cultural Responsivity in Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice

- Culturally responsive skills are important for clinicians to engage clients in services and treatment.
- By becoming more culturally responsive, clinicians and programs can improve the therapeutic relationship between the clinician and clients.
 - Research shows that therapeutic alliance (relationship between the client and clinician) is one of the most important factors in successful treatment outcomes.
- Cultural responsivity can also improve treatment outcomes and client retention in services.

Demonstrating Cultural Humility

- Although there are different perspectives on the concept of cultural humility, one definition is "a person's willingness and openness to demonstrate respect and a lack of superiority when interacting with those whose cultural identities, values, and worldviews differ from their own (Hook et al., 2013)."
- In moving toward more inclusive and responsive treatment, agencies need to move toward cultural humility.
 - Jones and Franco, "Cultural Consideration in Addiction Treatment," 19.

- This includes being mindful of the following:
 - Respect for a person's cultural identity
 - Socioeconomic status
 - □ The impact of trauma
 - Individualized needs
 - Clients' strengths

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Fulton County Sheriff's Office CSAMI Initiative

FY19 Second Chance Act Grantee: Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Illness

Fulton County Sheriff's Office CSAMI Initiative Overview



- Lead Case Planner: Fulton County Sheriff's Department
- Notable features
 - The grantee focuses on men with co-occurring mental illnesses and substance use disorders returning to Atlanta's west side neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are predominately African American.
 - The grantee serves men ages 18–24. They are serving 150 people.
 - Area Demographics: Urban: 1,066,710 residents; 44.5 percent African American population

Fulton County Sheriff's Office CSAMI Initiative

- The program is intentional about aligning staff with the target population.
- It works in collaboration with CHRIS 180 to provide an integrated approach to substance use and mental health services. The grantee connects people with services at Atlanta's At-Promise Centers and the Atlanta Police Foundation.
- The program partners with existing community structures to serve the target population and ensures that all service providers are within the community served.

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Alameda County CSAMI Initiative

FY19 Second Chance Act Grantee: Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Illness

Alameda County CSAMI Program Overview

Lead Case Planner: County Behavioral Health

Notable features

- The Jeweld Legacy Group was designed in collaboration with Options Recovery Services, Alameda County Behavioral Health, and Alameda County Sheriff's Office and other local government and community-based organizations.
- The men served are African American, assessed as being at a high risk for serious mental illness and substance use disorder diagnoses, and have a history of 1 or 2 psychiatric hospitalizations within a 12-month period. They are serving 500 people.
- The program focuses on system improvement.
- Area Demographics: Urban: 1,682,353 residents; 11 percent African American population

Alameda County CSAMI Program

This program is developed to meet the culturally specific needs of African American men by:

- Ensuring that providers have culturally relevant training on different diagnoses;
- Utilizing best practice interventions for trauma-informed care;
- Hiring a diverse staff that is representative of the population; and
- Using providers with experience working with African American men and linking individuals to culturally responsive post-release services.

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Tu'iriauvicha Vo'o, Path to Recovery Homes, Tucson, Arizona

Works in Partnership with SCA FY19 Pima County, Arizona (INVEST)

Tu'iriauvicha Vo'o, Path to Recovery Homes Overview

- Community Behavioral Health Provider
- Notable Features
 - Provides 24/7 residential treatment services for Yaqui and other eligible people with co-occurring substance use and mental illness.
 - Their mission is to provide a healing and justice-centered, safe space for Native Peoples to engage in collective healing and recovery from substance use, trauma, and other behavioral health challenges by using therapy, community and family engagement, and case management.
 - Area Demographics: Urban: 1,068,730 residents; 4.4 percent Native Peoples

Tu'iriauvicha Vo'o, Path to Recovery Homes

- The program partners with an SCA grantee, FY19 Pima County Invest Program.
- The program is designed to meet the culturally specific needs of Native Peoples in Arizona by:
 - Utilizing resources from the tribe to create collective healing and holistic recovery; and,
 - Utilizing traditional Native spiritual practices such as sweat lodges, alternative medicine, access to traditional healers, the incorporation of traditional cultural practices, and ceremony.

Discussion with Panelists

What are the approaches you use to engage community members that you serve in your programs? Are there specific culturally affirming methods you use in the screening and assessment experience to reduce retraumatization? What is important in selecting practitioners to work with community members who are served in your programs? Based on your experience, could you highlight the priorities that new sites may want to consider when developing and implementing a new culturally responsive program in their community?

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Questions and Answers



- Connie Jones and Susan Franco, "Cultural Considerations in Addiction Treatment: The Application of Cultural Humility," Advances in Addiction & Recovery, (Winter 2021): 19
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Treatment Improvement Protocol 59: Improving Cultural Competence* (Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2014), 27.
- Leah Pope, July 24, 2019, "Racial Disparities in Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System" NAMI Blog, nami.org/Blogs/NAMI-Blog/July-2019/Racial-Disparities-in-Mental-Health-and-Criminal-Justice.
- "Race and Justice News: Native Americans in the Justice System," The Sentencing Project, accessed March 10, 2022, sentencingproject.org/news/race-justice-news-native-americans-in-the-justice-system/.

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