

Cultural Competency

Cultural competence is the process of communicating with audiences from diverse geographic, ethnic, racial, cultural, economic, social, and linguistic backgrounds. Becoming culturally competent is a dynamic process that requires cultural knowledge and skill development at all service levels, including policymaking, administration, and practice. Cultural competence is a major component of the Strategic Prevention Framework and relates to the incorporation of cultural competency within the Strategic Prevention Framework process as follows:

Assessment:

- Assemble culturally competent groups of experts and stakeholders to analyze and interpret data.
- Understand the role of culture, race, ethnicity, and gender as they relate to assessment strategies and needs of populations.

Capacity Building:

- Understand community mobilization from a fiscal, human, and material resources perspective with culturally appropriate strategies.
- Create new fiscal, material, and human resources ensuring cultural representation (e.g., gender, age, language, disability).
- Implement a mechanism for providing continuing training and education to promote cultural competence, readiness, leadership and evaluation.

Planning:

- Identify necessary program adaptations for defined populations and community environment.

Implementation:

- Identify necessary program adaptations for defined populations and community environment.

Evaluation:

- Use data collection methods that are culturally responsive and appropriate.

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