The Challenge of Culturally Competent Field Instruction

June 27, 2008 Stockton College Field Instruction Conference Carmen Ortiz Hendricks, DSW

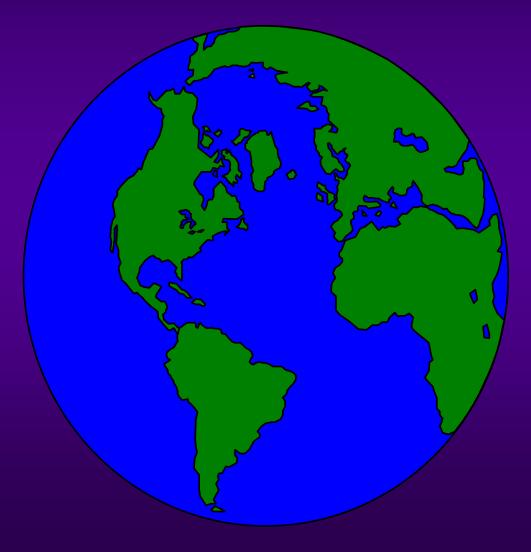


Teaching & modeling cultural competence • Getting to the layers of diversity Preparing students for global social work practice Instilling social justice and human rights perspectives

Why discuss diversity?

 Diversity factors impact directly on practice & supervision Field placements are natural laboratories Field instructors model how to integrate cultural competence into practice

Why discuss diversity?



What happens in one part of the world affects us all...



DIFFERENCES & SIMILARITIES (Pinderhughes, 1989)

 Attention only to similarities without attention to differences reinforces the orientation that "all people are the same" and ignores or denies difference.

 Attention only to differences without attention to similarities reinforces distancing, separation, and barriers between people.

First steps toward CCFI...

 Create a climate where cultural differences & similarities are discussed openly & freely

 And where diversity is viewed as a normal & regular part of the field instruction agenda



More first steps...

- Examine diversity between field instructors & students, students
 & clients, clients & agency staff
- Seek opportunities to teach about diversity
- Place diversity as central to students' practice & field performance



 Manage the anxieties, fears, & projections that emerge Do not resist discussions to avoid feelings of discomfort Model how to create a space for diversity discussions in agencies & in supervision.



FIVE STAGES IN THE LEARNING & TEACHING OF CULTURALLY COMPETENT SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

(Journal of Teaching in Social Work, 2003, 23(1/2), 73-86.)



I am so embarrassed! I'm afraid of saying the wrong thing!





I plunge in for better or worse with the right intentions! DEVELOPING CULTURAL SENSITIVITY



Somehow, what I do works! I handle diversity encounters quite well, but I cannot explain why! **BEGINNING CULTURAL COMPETENCE**



I understand what I am doing! I employ a range of knowledge, skills, and values that enhance my cultural competence! **• RELATIVE MASTERY OF CULTURAL COMPETENCE**



I can teach others to be culturally competent practitioners or supervisors! TEACHER/LEARNER OF CULTURAL COMPETENCE

FIVE STAGES OF CCSWP...

STAGE I SELF-AWARENESS
 STAGE II CULTURAL SENSITIVITY
 STAGE III BEGINNING CCSWP
 STAGE IV RELATIVE MASTERY
 STAGE V TEACHER/LEARNER

Evolution of Culturally Competent Social Work Practice

Code of Ethics (1996) makes
 CCSWP an ethical responsibility

 Standards for Cultural Competence in Social Work Practice (2001)

 Indicators for the Achievement of the Standards (2007) NASW Code of Ethics: 1.05 Cultural Competence & Social Diversity

Culture as a strength

 Knowledge of clients' cultures & culturally sensitive service delivery

 The nature of social diversity & oppression

MASW Code of Ethics: 6.04 Social & Political Action

- Expand choice & opportunity for all people
- Promote respect for diversity
- Prevent & eliminate domination, exploitation & discrimination

Diversity Factors...

 Race, ethnicity, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief, religion, & mental or physical disability.



I. ETHICS & VALUES
II. SELF-AWARENESS
III. KNOWLEDGE
IV. SKILLS
V. SERVICE DELIVERY





VI. ADVOCACY
VII. DIVERSE WORKPLACE
VIII. EDUCATION
IX. LANGUAGE DIVERSITY
X. LEADERSHIP



Indicators for CCSWP...

For each standard there are indicators that say:

Culturally competent social workers should...

Standard 4: Cross Cultural Skills...

Social Workers shall use appropriate methodological approaches, skills, and techniques that reflect the workers' understanding of the role of culture in the helping process.

Question #1: "I can work with a wide range of people who are culturally different or similar to me, and establish avenues for learning about the cultures of these clients."

Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Undecided
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

Question #2: "I can assess the meaning of culture for individual clients and client groups, encourage open discussion of differences, and respond to culturally biased cues."

Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Undecided
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

Standard 4: Indicators of Cross Cultural Skills...

Engage culturally different/similar Oiscuss differences Output the second se Assess cultural norms & behaviors Develop culturally appropriate *intervention plans*

Standard 4: Indicators of Cross Cultural Skills...

- Use methods attuned to clients' cultures
- Use verbal/nonverbal communication skills
- Consider the cultures of the social worker, the client, the agency, & community
- Employ clients' natural support systems

Standard 4: Indicators of Cross Cultural Skills...

- Employ advocacy/empowerment skills
- Identify appropriate service delivery systems
- Seek feedback & monitoring
- Seek new techniques, research & knowledge for work with diverse groups

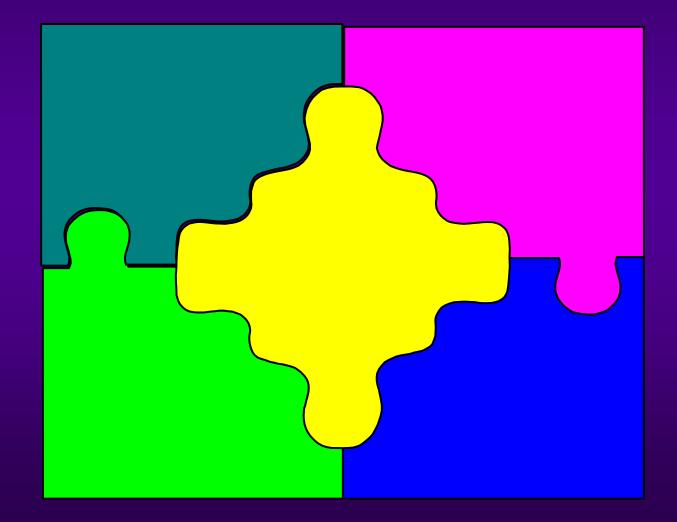
Standard 5 & 7: Indicators for Culturally Competent Service Delivery...

 Culturally competent programs, organizations, and service systems build culturally competent organizations through:

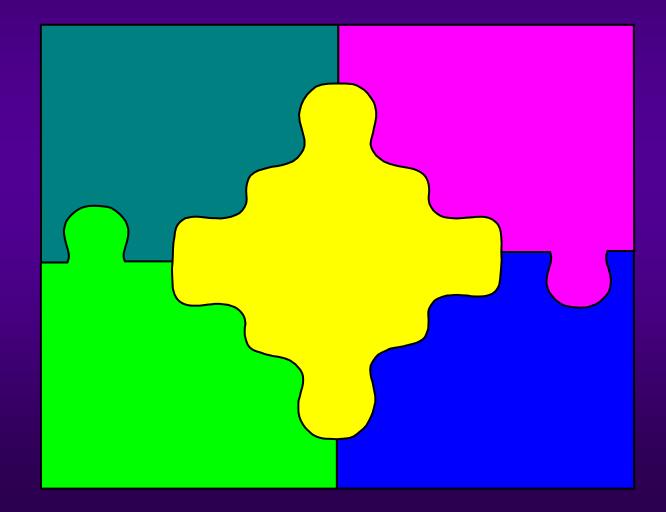
Culturally competent field instruction involves teaching a range of professional knowledge, skills, and values that address the complex cultures emerging in a society from the interplay of

power, privilege & oppression associated with gender & sexual orientation, race & ethnicity, religious & spiritual beliefs, social class & status, age and abilities.

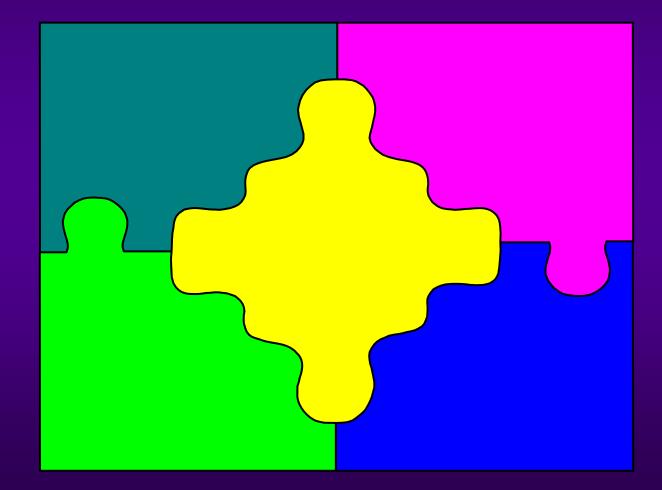
Diversity within Gender...



Diversity within Sexual Orientation...



Diversity within Race & Ethnicity...



The U.S. is undergoing dramatic demographic changes in age & racial and ethnic composition due to:

Fertility

- Life expectancy
- Immigration/migration
- Globalization

Latinos are the largest & fastest growing racial/ethnic group in the U.S.!

• 12.5% or over 35 million (2000)

- 58% growth in ten years or from 22.4 million to 35.3 million
- Approaching 15% (2008)
- Projected increase to 97 million by 2050 or 1/4 of U.S.

Current population trends in the U.S...

• "If current trends continue, the population of the United States will rise to 438 million in 2050, from 296 million in 2005, and 82% of the increase will be due to immigrants arriving from 2005 to 2050 and their U.S.-born descendants" (Pew Hispanic Center, February 11, 2008).

Latino population in the U.S.

The report further states that the Latino/Hispanic population, already the largest and fastest growing minority group in the U.S., will triple in size to **29%** of the U.S. population in 2050 compared to 14% in 2005.

Who's the minority?

The term "minority" may be a misnomer since these immigrant groups are growing rapidly, and together are beginning to outnumber all other populations in the U.S.

 By 2050, the non-Hispanic white population will become the minority or 47% of the U.S. population.

LATINO PROFESSIONALS...

- 4.6% of physicians
- 4% of psychologists
- 7% of social workers
- 2.4% of nurses

 84% mental health workers & 65% of substance abuse workers are non-Hispanic white Supply & Demand for Hispanic Social Workers...

Small numbers of Latinos in BSW, MSW & Ph.D. programs Small % of Latino faculty Social work curricula does not teach enough about working with Latinos

Making appropriate student assignments...

 Middle-aged Hispanic social worker of Puerto Rican heritage

- Young Dominican male who is HIV positive
- Will they engage in a crosscultural experience?

All students need to know the importance of...

- Maintaining cultural & spiritual traditions
- Keeping language alive
- Restoring strong family ties
- Seeking political sovereignty & economic development

MASW Code of Ethics: 6.04 Social & Political Action

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U.S. Immigration policy...









