



# Culture Connections

## Your CC News & Updates

### May 2020 Family Connections' Culture Connections News!

We first want to acknowledge the ongoing concerns regarding COVID-19 and affirm that we are hopeful and solution focused in supporting our community of providers and clients. We have made temporary changes in our services to reflect the needs and the directives from the CDC and state, and we encourage you to stay connected via our webinars, newsletters, web-site and via email/phone for updates and support.

**Our mission is to improve mental health services and outcomes in northern NJ by enhancing the cultural competence of mental health professionals...**

And we're excited to share with you some news about our program and team, as well as some upcoming webinars and services!

Check out the news below and online for more updates. Have a great day, full of healthy connections!  
#WhereHopeMeetsPossibility

Visit our Website

### Upcoming Webinars

**May 4, 2020**

**Culture in treatment, Culture as Treatment: A critical appraisal for co-occurring treatment**

*Presented by La'Tesha Sampson*

Culturally competent practice is widely acknowledged to be a necessary approach to maximize the quality of services for racial/ethnic minorities in substance abuse treatment. This course will review the literature on racial and ethnic disparities in co-occurring treatment and assist seasoned practitioners with utilizing client culture as the means to increase favorable outcomes in the treatment process. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



**May 11, 2020**

**Looking at Mental Health through the Lens of Stigma and Race: Implications for Assessment, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Service Delivery**

*Presented by Tawanda Hubbard*

Historically in our country as well as other parts of the world, persons with mental illness have been stigmatized, treated as inferior, and some forced to endure deplorable conditions and treatments. Today, advances have been made in research and practice that has improved treatment and service delivery to persons with mental problems and mental illness, but they still must contend with the stigma that goes along with having a mental disorder. To complicate matters for persons of color with mental health problems and mental illness, they not only have to deal with the struggles of their condition, encounter stigma, but also



contend with discrimination. In this full day workshop, participants will discuss disparities persons of color with mental illness encounter in mental health programs and society-at-large. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

## Service Spotlight

### Organizational Leadership on "The Value of a Cultural Competency Committee":

***"Our cultural competency committee is invaluable to Family Connections because it ensures that we are excellent in the field of cultural competence, which is what all our consumers deserve. And it holds us accountable to that excellence."***

--Krista Zuccheri, LPC, SPHR, Chief Operating Officer, Family Connections

***"A cultural competence committee allows for all voices of the agency to share their perspectives to support organizational goals towards cultural inclusivity."***

-- Konniesha Moulton, LMFT, Director of Programs, Co-Chair of the Cultural Competence Committee, Family Connections

Learn more about how cultural competency shapes the [Family Connections team and services](#).



## Striving for Cultural Proficiency in 2020!



### Missed our first Virtual Training in April on Spiritually Sensitive Practice? Feedback from the participants says don't miss the next one!

**"This training was timely and needed, in the age of Covid-19. How to use spirituality as a means of supporting our work with our consumers and dealing with it ourselves. Culture Connections used the virtual training in a way that created connectedness and learning. The training was wonderful."**

**"The use of technology and the ability to divide us into groups virtually was outstanding. I would love a continuation of virtual training even after the current pandemic."**

**"I really enjoyed this training and believe it will give me the confidence to explore integrating spiritually sensitive social work practice into sessions with clients...Thank you for sharing and for responding to the call to advocate for incorporation of spirituality in practice. Thank you for the tangible tools such as the breathing and visualization exercises, definitely great takeaways."**

**Our Report Card: 100% of participants rated that their knowledge and skill-set was increased by the training. 98% said the course objectives were met. 100% said the course technology was user friendly, and appropriate for the training.**

To hear more about our training services click [here](#).