So What's Next: How to Build Culturally Inclusive and Responsive Environments

Presented by PerformCare Facilitated by Lisa Kennedy November 10, 2023



# Who is in the room???

- Take the poll!!
- What role are you representing in today's session?



### Little Something about Me!!!

- Lisa Kennedy is a Family Peer Support Specialist, York County Department of Human Services
- Mother of 4 and Grandmother of 5
- Former Foster Parent and Adoptive Parent
- Resides in York, PA with her family.
- Trainer, Chair of REF Grant, Commissioner- PA BH/MH Adult Commission, Co-Chair- PA MHPC, FAB CCBH



### Presentation

### Goals

Define and highlight key terms

Engage in several interactive activities

Identify practical examples

Respond to key questions to preparing culturally responsive work environments

Identify 3 phases to view DEI-diversity, equity and inclusion



The tragedy of life does not lie in not reaching our goals. The tragedy of life is not having goals to reach for





### Group Activity!!



### What do you see?







### Equality versus Equity

- Equality each person getting the same amount or portion of something. All things are equal.
- Equity says –
- Each person gets exactly what they need, with no reflection on others.

### Inequality versus Inequity

These terms are sometimes confused but NOT interchangeable Inequality - Refers to uneven distribution of resources or services

Inequity – Refers to unfair avoidable differences arising from poor governance, corruption or cultural exclusion

### Conscious Bias vs. Unconscious Bias

#### Conscious – also known Unconscio as Explicit Bias known as I



### known as Implicit Bias

- Unconscious bias is defined as social stereotypes about certain groups of people that individuals form outside of their own conscious awareness.
- •
- Everyone holds biases and beliefs about various social or identity groups, and these biases stem from one's tendency to organize social worlds by categorizing.

### Addressing Unconsciou Bias

- Promoting Self Awareness by recognizing and challenging one's thoughts about others
- Understanding the nature of bias – categorizing is a natural and normal aspect of life
- Opportunities to **engage** others from dissimilar groups in a safe space
- Continue learning through group discussions and trainings when possible

Iniv. of California, San Francisco, Office of Diversity and



# What does Culture mean?

Literature Way care education science pattern beliefs belief behavior cultivation institutions aspects goals arts excellence Families acquaintance generations PrintCulture expert practices Culture values Society transmitting intellectual customary human CultivatingLivingMaterial communities BeautyCulture intellectual characteristic UnderstandingOthers capacity taste material generation cultivation institutions aspects goals arts excellence Families customary human CultivatingLivingMaterial characteristic capacity taste material generation cultivation cultivatingLivingMaterial customary human cultivatingLivingMaterial characteristic capacity taste componed depends ial religious training depends existence Culture integrated developing People traits broad tillage learning enlightenment PopCulture Landuade succeeding Material Culture aesthetic humanities racial faculties Shared

# **Culture is Everywhere**

# Culture is in Everything

Culture is a combination of beliefs, language, religion, social traits, food, among other things. It's not only where we live, but how we were brought up.

# Cultural Lens

re the things you can identify about culture that are E?

Can identify about culture that are NOT VISIBLE?







## Key Imperative Questions



- Why should I consider the needs of DEI?
- Is the impact just only singular in results?
- What happens if we opt not to be inclusive?
- Can you afford NOT to consider DEI?



## 3 Phases to viewing DEI-



## Phases of the Process!



# Consider these categories

- Self Assessing Your personal story
- Organizational What's going on in the office
- Policies, procedures, laws, regulations and assessment tools



# **Challenging Self**

Think about your personal experience?

How do you show up in a room?

How does who you are/what you look like impact your life experiences?

How does it change the way services are delivered to a you/family?





# Organizationally.....

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- What is the culture of your organization?
- What are the unspoken rules in the office?
- How inclusive are things for families?
- How do you make decisions for families?
- Do you think of the "whole child – whole person" when making referrals?
- What about our service providers?



# Assessment Tools & Other Forms of Data

- What information are you REALLY seeking?
- How are those questions designed?
- Are they culturally sensitive? Ex. PSSA
- Who are you leaving out or excluding?
- Have you even considered this thought process?
- How is the data going to be used?





## Human Service World and Reality – Ex. Advertising/marketing





## What's the culture of your System?

What does it say about You?





# Who's in control?

### FAMILY

- Expectations
  Goals/Intentions
  Who does the work?
  Experience
- Family's Rules

### SYSTEMS

- Expectations
- Goals/Intentions
- Who does the work?
- Experience
- Policies/Regs/Law

# What families want Systems to know!!!!





# Thoughts about Systems

Education Mental Health Foster Adoption Families

# Family and Systems

### Structure

Discuss family analogy –

How will you move beyond on the SQUARE system?



# How do you create inclusive environments????

# Take your first steps!

- Leadership must own and invest in this philosophy- in order to become embedded in the systemic process
- Assess the needs of your staff- are they with you? Where are they on the cultural humility journey

"Culture is a set of living relationships working toward a shared goal. It's not something you are. It's something you do."

**Daniel Coyle** 

# Steps continued.....



- Take stock of whom you serve – what makes them different?
- Take the first step- jump off the cliff – but make sure your staff has the tools to be successful
- Build appropriate timelines for any change or implementation process
- - Create circles of influence



- Extend and welcome feedback – be intentional about hearing from others
- Cut yourself a break don't get overwhelmed
- Always remember to evaluate, re-assess, and reflet on the journey

Who is the culture champion in your organization?



### Final **Consideration!!** Culture trumps strategy everyday, all day!



### Group Discussion - Strategy



# Key things to know about this journey!

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



- You're going to make mistakes
- Change will not come overnight
- Make no assumptions about the needs
- Each person is on a different stage of the journey

-Just because you show up in the room physically different(color, disability, attributes) does not mean you have arrived or you don't have possess bias!!!!



# Reflections on the Journey???

- What are your final thoughts?
- What's one thing you learned about yourself?
- Do you see your organization putting these pieces into practice?
- What would hinder you from taking steps towards creating inclusive/responsive environments?



### Questions/ Comments Contact Info

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Working on yourself will always benefit others!



