

New Jersey Statewide Network on Cultural Competency FACT SHEET and SUMMARY OF HISTORY

- ❖ April 2002: The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Family Health Services, was selected as one of five state Title V programs to participate in a Targeted Technical Assistance.
- ❖ The National Center for Cultural Competence at the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development conducted the Technical Assistance as part of the Federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau Strategic Plan, with the objective of *increasing the percentage of States that implement culturally competent policies, procedures, and practices to 100%*.
- ❖ June 5-6, 2002: The Technical Assistance program was convened at the Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ, in New Brunswick, NJ.
- ❖ Approximately 60 DHSS staff, agency personnel, community partners, and family members attended. One of the major goals identified by the group for follow-up was the development of a statewide network.
- ❖ August 2002: First meeting of group interested in network development, representing the NJ Department of Human Services, NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Early Intervention Collaboratives, Maternal and Child Health Consortia, The Boggs Center, Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN), NJ Protection and Advocacy, and the Developmental Disabilities Council. Name of network formally selected.
- ❖ Autumn 2002: Consensus reached on a Mission Statement, as follows: *To strengthen culturally competent services in the State of New Jersey for people with diverse needs, and to facilitate access by individuals, families, providers, and professionals to these services.* People with diverse needs are defined as *“those with varying abilities and disabilities, cultures, languages, and social and health care needs.”*
- ❖ Winter 2003: Development and beginning implementation of Strategic Plan, Goal 1: *To identify existing resources in New Jersey, i.e., agencies and individuals who have knowledge and skills about specific cultures and/or services for people with diverse needs.*
- ❖ 2003: Data collection tool (cover letter and survey) developed and sent to selected agencies. Spring 2003: Development of NJSNCC logo and letterhead. Continued distribution of data collection tool and development of database. Development of listserv to broaden dissemination of notices, information, etc.
- ❖ July 2003: First Network Meeting of the NJSNCC at the Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, New Brunswick.
- ❖ September 2003: Members of the Network begin to do presentations and workshops for specific agencies and conferences in New Jersey and out of state.
- ❖ January 2004: Development of NJSNCC brochure, focus on various media for distribution of database, development of Strategic Plan, Goal 2: *To stimulate, promote, and celebrate the development and dissemination of promising or best practices in culturally and linguistically competent service delivery.*

- ❖ February 2004: Meeting with Office of Multicultural and Minority Health, Department of Health and Senior Services, to discuss collaborative efforts.
- ❖ Spring 2004: Beginning discussions of development of Web site for NJSNCC. Listserv began in earnest.
- ❖ 2004-2005: Collaborate with key statewide disability agencies on Latinos and Disabilities Conference.
- ❖ 2005-2006: Began Quarterly Forums, hosted by different agencies, for networking and educational purposes.
- ❖ 2006-2007: Two Quarterly Forums, Collaboration with agencies on Southasians and Disabilities Conference.
- ❖ 2007-2008 In Fall, formation of an expanded Steering Committee. Four Quarterly Forums in the Year, and in the first half of 2008, sponsorship with The Boggs Center of two Train the Trainer Events in Cultural Competence, led by Dr. Anita McClean, Princeton University, in collaboration with others doing training in their own agencies.
- ❖ 2008-2009 Listserv continues to expand. Members use it to recruit trainers for events and conferences and sharing of resources, new programs, such as the South Asian Total Health Initiative. Decision by Steering Committee to host general Annual Meeting in 2010.
- ❖ And here we are in 2010! Some observations.
 - We are a collaborative network. No paid staff. If you have an idea for the Network, you have the responsibility to help it happen.
 - We formed partly because we believe lots of people in New Jersey are working to address issues in cultural competency and diversity, and that through networking, we can learn from each other, avoid reinventing wheels, and share resources.
 - No membership fee and no budget. Members contribute from their respective organizations by doing some printing and copying, staff time, hosting of networking meetings.
 - The listserv is hosted by the Department of Health and Senior Services. There are currently 264 members.
Membership in the Listserv is essentially membership in the Coalition. Membership in the listserv is approved, but the listserv is open for all members to post messages of interest related to cultural competence and diversity.
 - If you are interested in hosting a networking or training meeting, make the offer.
 - The Steering Committee is made up of representatives from major organizations committed to the coalition and whose reps also contribute time. Membership is open primarily to people who want to work.