Vermont Family Network





Vermont Family Network

Our mission is to empower and support all
 Vermont families of children with special needs.





Learning Goals

- Define cultural competency/humility
- Understand that all of us have bias, values, and beliefs that sometimes conflict
- Introduction to national CLAS Standards (Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services)



What comes to mind?





What comes to mind?





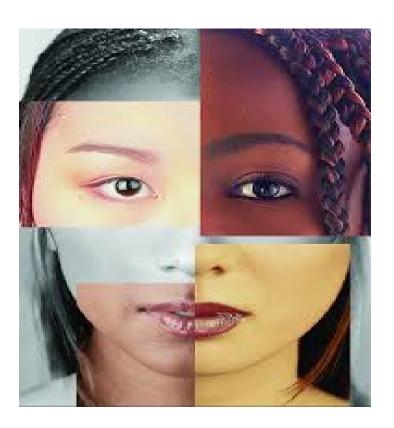
What comes to mind?





Culture

 Culture can be defined as the behaviors, values and beliefs shared by a group of people.





Family Values Activity

- ____tradition, ritual____
- hierarchy
- ____equality/equity____
- ____religion____
- ____independence____

- ____work____
- ____education____
- ____money____
- ___love____
- ____food____
- ___other___

(list)_____



An Iceberg Concept of Culture

dress ≜age race/ethnicity gender ≜ language

eye behavior & facial expressions

Adapted by the NCCC

body language ★sense of self

notions of modesty & concept of cleanliness

& emotional response patterns & rules for social interaction & child rearing practices

& decision-making processes

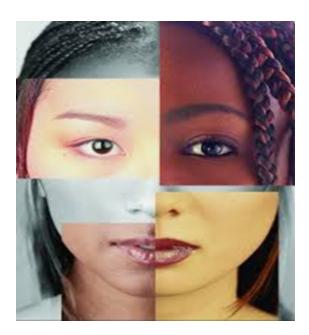
& approaches to problem solving

- ★ concept of justice ★ value individual vs. group
- → perceptions of mental health, health, illness, disability
- → patterns of superior and subordinate roles in relation to status by age, gender class

and much more...

Culture

- Characteristics that can define cultural groups include:
 - Race
 - Ethnicity
 - Country of origin
 - Language
 - Sexual orientation
 - Gender identity/transgender
 - Age
 - Education





Culture

- Characteristics that can define cultural groups include:
 - Disability
 - Family & household composition
 - Class/socioeconomic status
 - Religious/spiritual orientation
 - Political beliefs
 - Geography
 - Refugee status
 - Tribal affiliation
 - Military affiliation





Cultural Barriers

- Mistrust and fear of treatment
- Alternative ideas about disability, illness, health
- Language, ineffective communication
- Access barriers
- Refugee





Language Barriers in Action

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvArchrsVlo
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBLuaoGXOBg





An Interpreter's Perspective





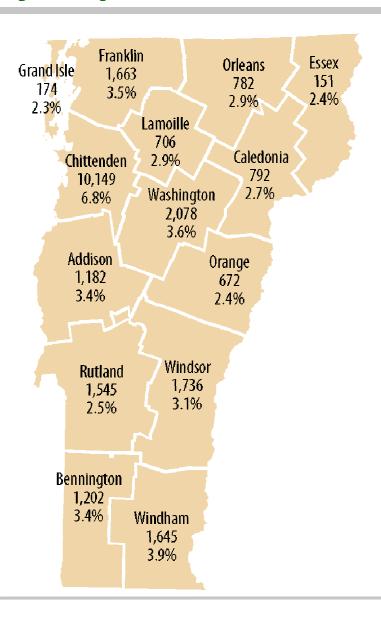
Federal Law

- Affordable Care Act of 2010, section 1557
- Prohibits discrimination in health care programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sex stereotypes, gender identity, age, or disability





Minority Populations in Vermont





New Americans in Vermont



Children of Refugees

 "I consider all refugee children to have special health care needs because of their experiences."



Dr. Andrea Green, New American Clinic, Vermont Children's Hospital



Refugees and Mental Health

"Fifty to 80% of refugees are estimated to have significant mental health issues, primarily posttraumatic stress disorder, and symptoms related to anxiety and depression."



Karen Fondacaro, Director, UVM Behavior Therapy and Psychotherapy Center; founder Connecting Cultures

- Relate effectively to individuals from various groups and backgrounds
- Recognize broad scope of influences on an individual's personal identify





- Respond to unique needs of members of various groups
- Be sensitive to ways others experience the world



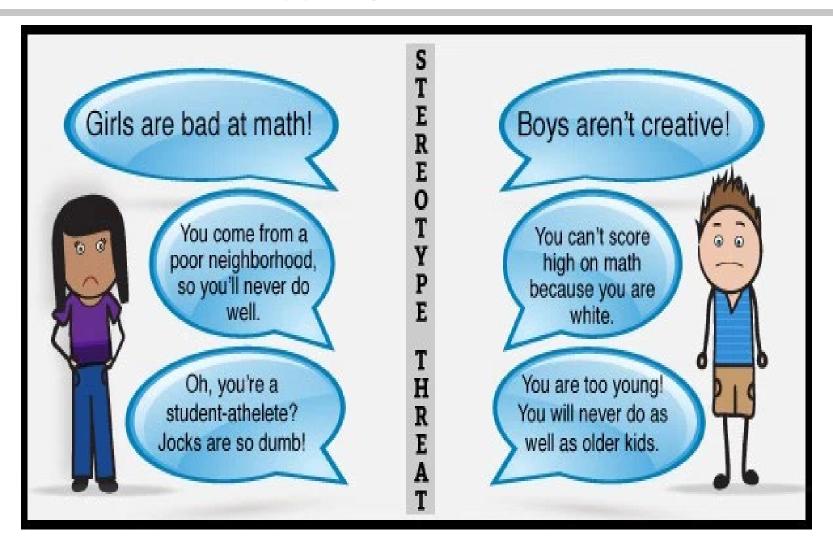


- Be curious about other cultures
- Be aware of one's own cultural biases
- Be sensitive to cultural differences while avoiding stereotypes





Stereotyping – We all do it!





Sharing Stories





Cultural and Linguistic Competence/Humility

- To respond to current and projected demographic changes in the U.S. and Vermont
- To eliminate long-standing disparities in the health of diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural groups
- To improve the quality and accessibility of health and health care services



Find Out How Person Views Condition

- What do you call this problem?
- What do you believe is the cause of this problem?
- What course do you expect it to take? How serious is it?
- What do you think this problem does inside your body?
- How does it affect your body and mind?
- What do you most fear about this condition?
- What do you most fear about the treatment?



Self-Assessment Checklist Activity

- Physical environment, materials and resources #1
- Communication styles #6, #13
- Values and attitudes #16, #25-26, #34





CLAS Standards

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Minority Health
- National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care





CLAS Standards

Principal Standard:

• 1. Provide effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs.





CLAS Standards

- Governance, Leadership, and Workforce (Standards 2-4)
- Communication and Language Assistance (Standards 5-8)
- Engagement, Continuous Improvement, and Accountability (Standards 9-15)





Examples - CLAS Standards

- Organizations conduct initial and ongoing selfassessments
- Workforce reflects population → Recruit, retain, and promote at all levels of the organization a diverse staff and leadership
- Workforce skill development → Staff receive ongoing education and training in culturally and linguistically appropriate service delivery
- Data on the individual consumer's race, ethnicity, and spoken/written language are collected in records

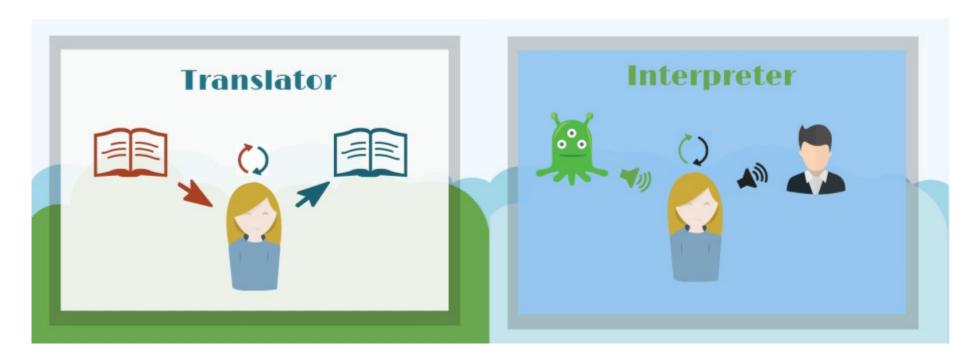


 Provide services and care in language preferred by individual and which meets needs of all individuals





Translator Vs. Interpreter



- Remember: this is a shared problem
- Use trained interpreters
- Translate materials into common languages



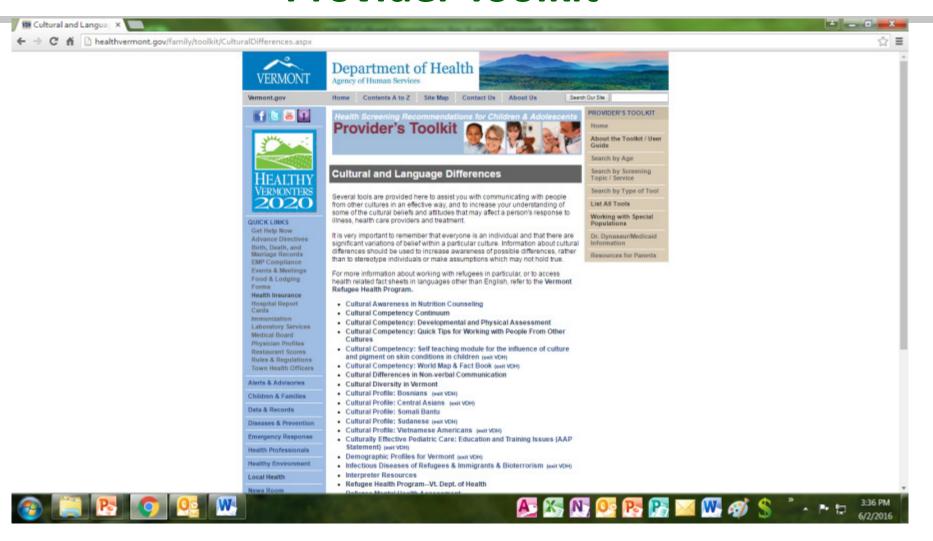
Cultural Competency for Health Care Providers





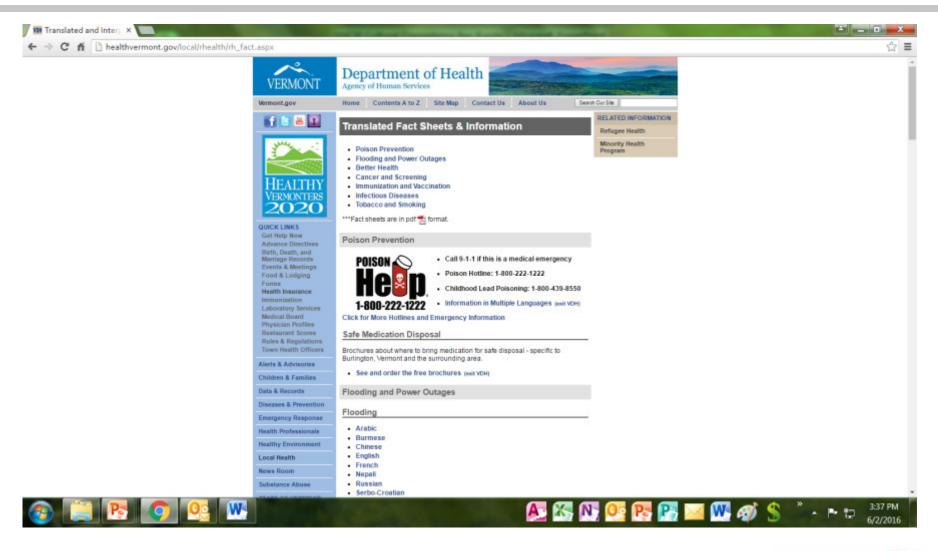


Provider Toolkit



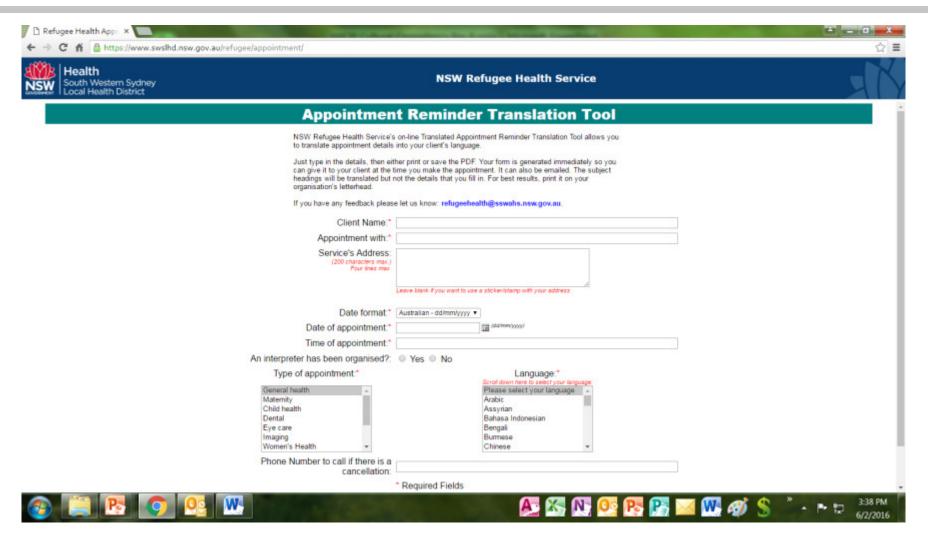


Translated Fact Sheets





Appointment Reminder Translation Tool





Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Vermont Telecommunications Relay Service (Dial 711)
- Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS)
- Vermont Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (VTRID)







Panel Discussion





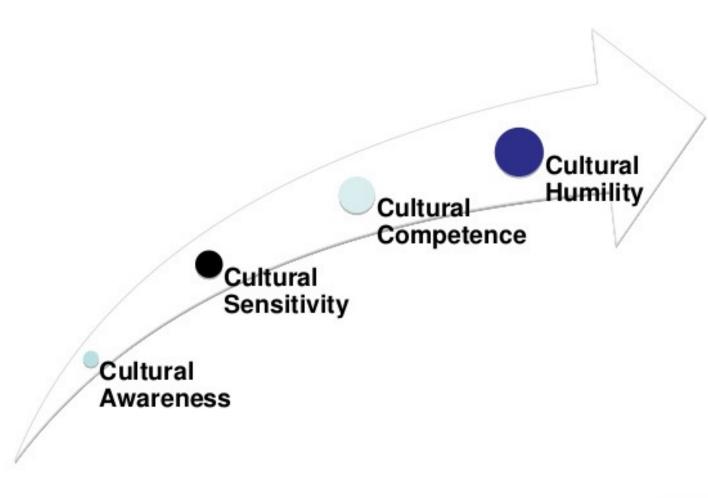
Final Thoughts

- Check-in with yourself
- Be curious
- Get to know people
- Be a voice
- Speak up
- Help build better systems





The Cultural Competence Journey





Thank You!

Strength lies in differences, not in similarities.



Dr. Steven Covey

