Cultivating Multicultural Awareness with the Spanish-Speaking population

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Cultivating Multicultural Awareness with the Spanish-Speaking population

- The Hispanic population accounts for 17.7% of New Jersey and are known to be less mindful as a group (Gillum, F. & Griffith, D. M., 2019).
- This presentation will discuss Multicultural awareness in an experiential way, the clinical implications and efficacy of using mindfulness-based interventions with The Spanish-Speaking population. To promote greater awareness and understanding of the Hispanic community in the United States.

Cultivating Multicultural Awareness with the Spanish-Speaking population

- Mindfulness Exercise
- Culture: Race & Ethnicity
- Traditions
- Hispanic Culture
- Mindfulness Based Treatment Approaches
- REBAP
- Case Study
- Questions

#### Mindfulness Exercise

# CULTURE & DIVERSITY

- What is culture?
- Meanings, values, and behavioral norms that are learned and transmitted in society and within social groups.

 Powerfully influences cognition, feeling, and "self" concept, as well as the diagnostic process and treatment decisions

# RACE & ETHNICITY

- Biology versus Traditions
- Ethnicity- social groupings which distinguish themselves from other groups based on ideas of shared decent and aspirations.
- These social groupings are also distinguished by behavioral norms and forms of personal identify.



#### MULTICULTURALISM

Cultural norms

# TRADITIONS

- Different cultures have developed different traditions for dealing with human experiences, like marriage.
- The transmission of beliefs, celebrations, customs, ideas, information, legends, practices, stories, etc., from one generation to another.
- Hispanic Traditions include: Piñatas, Quinces, Las Mañanitas, Día de los Muertos, Noche Buena.



### HISPANIC CULTURE

- People of Hispanic origin are the nation's largest ethnic minority.
- Hispanics constitute 16.7 percent of the nation's total population.
  <u>http://www.census.gov</u>
- Hispanics in the United States includes any person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race.
- Persons of Hispanic origin therefore may be of any race, and since their culture varies with the country of origin, the Spanish language often is the uniting factor.

### SPANISH LANGUAGE

- The Spanish language often is the uniting factor among persons of Hispanic origin, since their culture varies with the country of origin. It is important to be familiar with the "Modismos" used in certain countries to be able to understand what a person is trying to express.
- Language is an important aspect that one should be sensitive about, it has less to do with competency and more to do with the cultural meaning Hispanics attach to language.
- For Hispanics in the U.S., Spanish is a key component of their identity.

### HISPANIC IDENTITY

- Hispanics come from a collectivistic culture.
- A basic feature of the Hispanic family is the extended family, which plays a major role in each family member's life.
- Group activities are important.
- Cooperation tends to be emphasized more than individual function.
- Emphasis on interpersonal relations.
- Usually all are very close, share, and help each other.

### HISPANIC VALUES

- Hispanics usually subscribe to values of "marianismo" and "machismo"
- Marianismo: women must live up to full feminine self: modest, pure, faithful, submissive, motherly, eternally self-giving. Women are supposed to be the one who takes care of the house by cleaning, cooking, caring for kids, and serving the husband.
- Machismo: The male of the house has a default lead in all family affairs. The father, the "man of the house," makes all mayor decisions
- The traditional patriarchal structure grants the father or oldest male relative the greatest power, whereas women are expected to show submission (Kemp & Rasbridge, 2004).
- True to these values, men are often reluctant to consult physicians or mental health professionals.

### HISPANIC TRADITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH BELIEFS

Mal de Ojo

• "Bad eye" is caused when someone looks with admiration or jealousy at another person. The person looked upon experiences sleepiness, fatigue, and severe headache. Folk remedies include saying a prayer while passing an egg over the victim's body then placing the egg in a bowl under the victim's bed overnight (Kemp & Rasbridge, 2004).

Susto

 Also known as fright sickness, susto arises from a traumatic or frightening experience and is thought to cause soul loss, whereby the soul leaves the body and wanders freely (Kemp & Rasbridge, 2004). Symptoms include anxiety, depression, insomnia, introversion, and irritability.

Ataque de nervios

• A culture-bound syndrome that occurs most often in Latino cultures. Its literal translation is "attack of the nerves." The symptoms of ataque de nerviøs typically occur suddenly in response to a severe psychosocial stressor. Symptoms include impulsive, dramatic behaviors such as screaming uncontrollably, crying, trembling and nervousness, anger and violence, and breaking things.

#### MINDFULNESS BASED TREATMENT APPROACHES

- Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) Kabat-Zinn, 1990, 2003
- Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy(MBCT) Segal Teasdale y Williams, 2002
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy(DBT) Linehan, 1993
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy(ACT) Hayes, Strosahl y Houts, 2005

### MINDFULNESS BASED STRESS REDUCTION

- Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR)
- Based on Dr. Kabat-Zinn's model.
- The program teaches mindfulness through body awareness exercises, sitting and walking meditation, and gentle hatha yoga.
- Group format.
- 8 weeks.
- Weekly two-and-a-half hour sessions.
- One all-day session.
- Each participant has an individual interview with the program instructor before and after the program.
- Daily at-home practice is required, and practice CDs are provided for this purpose.

#### REBAP

(REBAP) Reducción de Estrés Basados en la Atención Plena.

- Adapted by Fernando A de Torrijos, former instructor of the Worcester City Campus Program, he is currently the international coordinator for MBSR in Spanish (REBAP).
- Mindfulness translated to (atención intencional, atención enfocada, conciencia del momento, presencia mental, atención vigilante, visión cabal, atención consciente, and atención plena).
- •Catholic Spanish-speaking population "Yoga" was substituted to gentle stretching (estiramientos suaves) or body movements (movimientos Del cuerpo)

#### CASE STUDY

- Miguel
- Spanish-speaking
- Puerto Rico
- 48 years old
- Anxiety and Depression

#### QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Thank You!