

The Alaska Psychological Association and Diversity

The Alaska Psychological Association (AK-PA) strives to meet the needs of all psychologists and behavioral health professionals in Alaska. Given the diversity within Alaska, the Diversity Subcommittee of AK-PA wants to increase the visibility and importance of diversity in the organization. Dr. Dave Wilson, AK-PA's current president, has made the theme of his first presidential year "Diversity." By diversity, we mean differences among people to include race, ethnicity, culture, Indigenous heritage, national origin, gender, gender identity, age and generation, religion and spiritual orientation, sexual orientation, developmental and acquired disability, language, and socioeconomic status.

Our goals are to increase representation of behavioral health professionals from diverse groups in our organization and activities. We also want to organize some of our educational efforts around what behavioral health professionals need to know about working with various diverse groups. This may include partnering with other professional organizations. Through this survey, we would like to establish a baseline against we'll measure our progress in addressing diversity issues.

Therefore, please fill out this survey. Your name will not be asked and do not answer any questions you are not comfortable with. In appreciation of your time, ***print the last page of this survey for a 20% discount*** off the registration fee for an AK-PA continuing education event in 2007 or 2008.

I. YOUR BACKGROUND

1. Are you currently a member of AK-PA? Yes No

If yes, how long have you been a member of AK-PA? Please check only one.

- 1 to 3 years
- 3 to 5 years
- More than 5 years

2. What other professional organizations do you belong to?

3. What is your primary professional focus? Please choose only one.

Clinician Academic/ Professor Researcher Administrator

4. How long you have been a behavioral health professional?

- Early career: 1-7 years
- 8-15 years
- 16-25 years
- (25+ years)
- Nearing Retirement

5. Where do you offer the majority of your services?

- Anchorage
- Fairbanks
- Other: Name of town or village: _____

II. ASSESSMENT OF AK-PA

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statement about AK-PA by using the following criteria:

- 1** I completely disagree with the statement
- 2** I disagree with the statement for the most part
- 3** I disagree with the statement somewhat
- 4** I am neutral about the statement
- 5** I agree with the statement somewhat
- 6** I agree with the statement for the most part
- 7** I completely agree with the statement

1. AK-PA celebrates and affirms the diversity of all persons.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

2. AK-PA works diligently to ensure that its membership is diverse.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

3. AK-PA offers useful training opportunities for behavioral health providers to increase their competence in working with diverse clients.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

4. AK-PA communicates regularly about the importance of diversity issues.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

5. AK-PA is committed to working to achieve social justice for all.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

6. AK-PA is committed to partnering with other organizations to further the principles of diversity.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

7. AK-PA is effectively meeting my needs to work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know

8. AK-PA effectively meets the needs of providers who work in rural parts of Alaska.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know N/A

Do you have any comments about your ratings on questions 1-8 above?

9. I am from a diverse background myself. Yes No

If yes, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statement about AK-PA using the scale below.

- 1 I completely disagree with the statement
- 2 I disagree with the statement for the most part
- 3 I disagree with the statement somewhat
- 4 I am neutral about the statement
- 5 I agree with the statement somewhat
- 6 I agree with the statement for the most part
- 7 I completely agree with the statement

AK-PA effectively meets my professional needs as a person from a diverse background myself.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 don't know N/A

III. PROFESSIONAL NEEDS

1. What percent of the people you serve are from a diverse background?

- Less than 10%
- About 10-30%
- About 30-50%
- About 50-70%
- More than 70%

What kinds of diverse backgrounds do the people you serve come from?

2. What percent of the people you serve speak limited English?

- Less than 10%
- About 10-30%
- About 30-50%
- About 50-70%
- More than 70%

3. Have you ever worked with an interpreter? Yes No

4. How well did your training experiences prepare you to work with people from diverse backgrounds?

- Extremely well
- Very well
- Adequately
- Insufficiently

5. How competent do you feel in your professional abilities to work with people from diverse backgrounds?

- Not at all competent
- Somewhat competent
- A good deal competent
- Very competent

6. Would you like more training in working with people from diverse backgrounds?

- Yes
- No

7. What type(s) of training would you be likely to attend?

- One day conferences
- Two day conferences
- One hour workshops
- Two hour workshops
- Other: _____

8. The following are topics AK-PA could address to meet the needs of behavioral health professionals working with people from diverse backgrounds. Please check the box if you are likely to attend a training. This list is not meant to be exhaustive so please indicate other training needs.

Age and Generational Influences

- Working with children.
- Working with adolescents.
- Working with the elderly.
- Addressing generational cohort influences and generational roles.
- Other: _____

Gender

- Working with men.
- Working with women.
- Working with transgender individuals.
- Other: _____

Race/Ethnicity/Indigenous heritage

- Working with African American people.
- Working with Asian American people.
- Working Latino/Latina people.
- Working with Alaska Native people.
- Working with American Indian people.
- Working with Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander people.
- Working with Middle Eastern or Arab people.
- Working with biracial people.
- Assessing cultural identification.
- Other: _____

National Origin

- Working with immigrants.
- Working with refugees.
- Working with human trafficking victims.
- Other: _____

Religion or Spiritual Orientation

- Working with devoutly religious individuals.
- Incorporating spirituality or religion into treatment.
- Other: _____

Sexual Orientation

- Working with people of a gay sexual orientation.
- Working with people of a lesbian sexual orientation.
- Working with people of a bisexual orientation.
- Other: _____

Disability

- Working with people who are hearing impaired.
- Working with people who are visually impaired.
- Working with people with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome or Spectrum Disorders.
- Working with people with development disabilities.
- Working with people with dementia.
- Working with people who have physical disabilities related to injury, stroke, M.S., etc.
- How to assess functional impairment.
- Other: _____

Language

- Working with interpreters.
- Assessing literacy or English proficiency.
- Other: _____

Socioeconomic Status

- Working with individuals in poverty.
- Working with individuals who are wealthy or famous.
- Working with individuals who live in rural locations
- Other: _____

8. Are you an expert in any area of diversity? Yes No

If yes, in what areas are you expert or have considerable experience?

Would you be willing to be a consultant to other behavioral health providers in this area(s)?

- Yes No If yes, keep the conclusion page to in order to contact Denise Dillard.

Would you be willing to offer training in a conference or workshop to other behavioral health providers in this area(s)?

- Yes No If yes, keep the conclusion page in order to contact Denise Dillard.

9. Please recommend any colleague(s) who are experts in areas of diversity who may be interested in being a consultant or trainer.

Name and contact information: _____

10. Would you be interested in participating in the AK-PA Diversity Committee?

- Yes No If yes, keep the conclusion page in order to contact Denise Dillard.

11. Please share with us any ideas you may have to improve AK-PA's efforts to increase the visibility and important of diversity.

12. Please also share any ideas you have about how to increase participation in AK-PA by providers in rural Alaska.

CONCLUSION

Thank you very much for your time and input on this survey. Should you have questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Denise Dillard.

Please also contact Denise Dillard if you are willing to be a consultant, trainer, or want to join the Diversity Subcommittee.

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We appreciate your time.

Please keep this page in order to receive 20% off the registration fee for one of AK-PA's continuing education events in 2007 or 2008.