

Cultural and Linguistic Competence Assessment for Disability Organizations

Overview/Purpose

Organizational self-assessment is a necessary, effective, and systematic way to plan for and incorporate cultural and linguistic competency. An assessment should address the attitudes, behaviors, policies, structures and practices of an organization, including those of its board, staff, and volunteers. It should also elicit the perspectives and experiences of diverse individuals and communities served.

While there are many tools and instruments to assess organizational cultural and linguistic competence, few have been developed to address the cross-section of organizations concerned with disability. The Cultural and Linguistic Competence Assessment for Disability Organizations (CLCADO) was developed specifically for this purpose. The CLCADO is intended to support organizations to: (1) plan for and incorporate culturally and linguistically competent values, policies, structures, and practices in all aspects of their work; (2) enhance the quality of services, supports, and advocacy provided to diverse and underserved communities; (3) effect change in education, training, technical assistance, research, and public policy; and (4) advance cultural and linguistic competence as an essential approach to address racial and ethnic disparities and promote equity for people who experience disabilities and their families.

Conceptual Framework of the CLCADO

The CLCADO is based on three assumptions: (1) achieving cultural competence is a developmental process at both the individual and organizational levels; (2) with appropriate support, individuals can enhance their cultural awareness, knowledge and skills over time; and (3) cultural strengths exist within organizations or networks but often go unnoticed and untapped. The CLCADO and the outcomes of the assessment process are intended to assist organizations to identify their strengths and areas for growth. The CLCADO examines a wide range of data specific to the goals and core functions of disability organizations including: *Our World View*, *Who We Are, What We Do*, and *How We Work*. While the terms cultural competence and linguistic competence are often used in tandem, for the purposes of the CLCADO, each is defined differently. Refer to Definitions and Key Concepts on page 2.

¹Mason, J. L. (1996). *Cultural Competence Self-Assessment Questionnaire: A Manual for Users*. Portland, OR: Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health, Portland State University.

Definitions and Key Concepts

Cultural Competence

The NCCC embraces a conceptual framework and model of achieving cultural competence adopted from the Cross et al. definition. Cultural competence requires that organizations:

- have a defined set of values and principles, and demonstrate behaviors, attitudes, policies, and structures that enable them to work effectively cross-culturally.
- have the capacity to (1) value diversity, (2) conduct self-assessment, (3) manage the dynamics of difference, (4) acquire and institutionalize cultural knowledge, and (5) adapt to the diversity and cultural contexts of the individuals, families, and communities they serve.
- incorporate the above in all aspects of policy making, administration, practice, service delivery and systematically involve consumers, families, and communities.¹

Cultural competence is a developmental process that evolves over an extended period. Both individuals and organizations are at various levels of awareness, knowledge, and skills along the cultural competence continuum.

Linguistic Competence

Definitions of linguistic competence vary considerably. Such definitions have evolved from diverse perspectives, interests, and needs and are incorporated into state legislation, federal statutes and programs, private sector organizations, and academic settings. The following definition, developed by the NCCC, provides a foundation for determining linguistic competence in health care, mental health, and other human service delivery systems. It encompasses a broad spectrum of constituency groups that could require language assistance or other supports from an organization, agency, or provider.

Linguistic competence is the capacity of an organization and its personnel to communicate effectively, and convey information in a manner that is easily understood by diverse groups including persons of limited English proficiency, those who have low literacy skills or are not literate, individuals experiencing disabilities, and those who are deaf or hard of hearing. Linguistic competence requires organizational and provider capacity to respond effectively to the health and mental health literacy needs of populations served. The organization must have policies, structures, practices, procedures, and dedicated resources to support this capacity. These requirements may include, but are not limited to:

- bilingual/bicultural or multilingual/multicultural staff;
- cross-cultural communication approaches;
- cultural brokers;
- foreign language interpretation services including distance technologies;
- sign language interpretation services;
- multilingual telecommunication systems;
- videoconferencing and telehealth technologies;
- TTY and other assistive technology devices;
- computer assisted real time translation (CART) or viable real time transcriptions (VRT);
- print materials in easy to read, low literacy, picture and symbol formats;
- materials in alternative formats (e.g., audiotape, Braille, enlarged print);
- varied approaches to share information with individuals who experience cognitive disabilities;
- materials developed and tested for specific cultural, ethnic, and linguistic groups;
- translation services including those of:
 - legally binding documents (e.g., consent forms, confidentiality and patient rights statements, release of information, applications)
 - signage
 - health education materials
 - public awareness materials and campaigns; and
 - ethnic media in languages other than English (e.g., television, radio, Internet, newspapers, periodicals).²

Culturally Appropriate

Denotes an approach that considers multiple cultural factors (e.g., beliefs, values, norms, language, experiences, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, class, education) in the design and delivery of services, training, research, collaboration/partnerships, and community engagement.³

Cultural Brokering

Is the act of bridging, linking, or mediating between groups or persons of different cultural backgrounds for the purpose of reducing conflict or producing change. Retrieved September 10, 2010, from http://www11.georgetown.edu/research/gucchd/nccc/resources/brokering.html

Cultural Brokers

A go-between, one who advocates on behalf of another individual or group. Retrieved September 14, 2010, from http://www11.georgetown.edu/research/gucchd/nccc/resources/brokering.html

Culture

There are many definitions of culture. For the purposes of the CLCADO instrument and guide, culture is defined as a system of collectively held values, beliefs, and practices of a group which guides thinking and actions in patterned ways.⁴

Disability

New definitions of disability are emerging that are intended to "create a society in which all people are valued and included." Retrieved September 14, 2010, from http://www.disabilityisnatural.com. For example, NIDRR, National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research's definition is: "Disability arises at the interface between a person's functional abilities and the environment's accessibility." The Web site also has information on disability etiquette and tips on communication with individuals experiencing disabilities. One of the best take-home tips is, "When you see, meet, or think about a person experiencing a disability, presume competence." Retrieved September 14, 2010, from http://www.disabilityisnatural.com

Disparity

For the purposes of the CLCADO, disparity is defined as inequality of outcome or condition between cultural groups or differences in outcomes or conditions between cultural groups that are not predictable based on the number of group members present in the general population. Retrieved August 23, 2010, from http://calswec.berkeley.edu/CalSWEC/05_AAF_Glossary.doc

Disproportionality

Disproportionality refers to the underrepresentation or overrepresentation of a particular group in a program or system. Disproportionality is often defined in terms of racial or ethnic backgrounds, but population categories of interest in determining whether disproportionality exists can also include socioeconomic status, national origin, English proficiency, gender, and sexual orientation.⁵ Disproportionality has been documented for many decades in systems such as special education, juvenile justice, and criminal justice. For example, researchers have found that historically, a student's race and ethnicity can significantly influence the probability of misidentification, misclassification, or inappropriate placement in special education.

Equity

For the purposes of this instrument, equity is defined as the equal opportunity to be healthy for all population groups. Equity is the absence of socially unjust or unfair disparities in access to services, quality of services, and health and mental health outcomes.⁶

Ethnicity

How one sees oneself and how one is "'seen by others as part of a group on the basis of presumed ancestry and sharing a common destiny....' (Zenner, 1996, page 393). Common threads that may tie one to an ethnic group include skin color, religion, language, customs, ancestry, and occupational or regional features." In addition, persons belonging to the same ethnic group share a unique history different from that of other ethnic groups. Usually a combination of these features identifies an ethnic group. For example, physical appearance alone does not consistently identify one as belonging to a particular ethnic group.

Health Disparity

A health disparity is a particular type of health difference that is closely linked with social or economic disadvantage. Health disparities adversely affect groups of people who have systematically experienced greater social or economic obstacles to health based on their racial or ethnic group, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, mental health, cognitive, sensory or physical disability, sexual orientation, geographic location, or other characteristics historically linked to discrimination or exclusion.⁸

Institutional Review Board

An Institutional Review Board (IRB) is an entity established by organizations that conduct research. It has the authority and responsibility to protect the welfare and rights of all people who are involved in the conduct of research. IRBs perform a comprehensive review of all research plans that involve human subjects. They ensure the ethics of studies and their scientific efficacy. IRB members may include, but are not limited to, researchers, educators, scientists, community members, clergy, consumers, and advocates. Those institutions funded by the federal government and which conduct research must have an IRB.

Policy

Policy is defined, for the purposes of this instrument, as a high-level overall plan embracing the philosophy, general goals, and acceptable procedures within an organization or governing body.⁹

Race

There is an array of different beliefs about the definition of race and what race means within social, political, and biological contexts. The following definitions represent these perspectives:

- Race is a social construct used to separate the world's peoples. There is only one race, the human race, comprising individuals with characteristics that are more or less similar to others.¹⁰
- Evidence from the Human Genome Project indicates that the genetic code for all human beings is 99.9% identical; there are more differences within groups (or races) than across groups.
- The Institute of Medicine (IOM) states that in all instances race is a social and cultural construct. Specifically a "construct of human variability based on perceived differences in biology, physical appearance, and behavior."¹¹ The IOM states that the traditional conception of race rests on the false premise that natural distinctions grounded in significant biological and behavioral differences can be drawn between groups.¹²
- A tribe, people, or nation belonging to the same stock; a division of humankind possessing traits that are transmissible by descent and sufficient to characterize it as a distinctive human type.

Resiliency

For the purposes of the CLCADO instrument and guide, definitions of resiliency are the ability to:

- recover readily from illness, depression, or adversity;¹³ and
- recover from or adjust easily to misfortune, change, or stress.¹⁴

Citations for Key Terms and Definitions:

- 1. Cross, T., Bazron, B., Dennis, K., & Isaacs, M. (1989). *Towards a culturally competent system of care: A monograph on effective services for minority children who are severely emotionally disturbed* (Vol. 1). Washington, DC: Georgetown University Child Development Center.
- 2. Goode, T. D., & Jones, W. A. (2006). Definition of linguistic competence. National Center for Cultural Competence, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development.
- 3. Goode, T. D., & Jones, W. (2007). *Planning and implementing culturally and linguistically competent primary health care: A guide for health ministries*. Washington, DC: Pan American Health Organization.
- 4. Wenger, A. F. Z. (1993). The cultural meaning of symptoms. *Holistic Nursing Practice*, 7(2), 22-35.
- 5. Elementary & Middle Schools Technical Assistance Center. (n.d.). Disproportionality. Retrieved August 23, 2010, from http://www.emstac.org/registered/topics/disproportionality/faqs.htm
- 6. Byrd, M., & Clayton, L. (2003). Racial and ethnic disparities in health care: A background and history. In B. D. Smedley, A. Stith, & A. Nelson (Eds.), *Unequal treatment: Confronting racial and ethnic disparities in health care*. Washington, DC: Institute of Medicine, National Academies Press.
- 7. Haynes, M. A., & Smedley, B. D. (Eds.). (1999). The unequal burden of cancer: An assessment of NIH research and programs for ethnic minorities and the medically underserved. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
- 8. Haynes, M. A., & Smedley, B. D. (Eds.). (1999). The unequal burden of cancer: An assessment of NIH research and programs for ethnic minorities and the medically underserved. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
- 9. Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. Definition of policy. Retrieved May 17, 2010, from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Policy
- 10. Haynes, M. A., & Smedley, B. D. (Eds.). (1999). The burden of cancer among ethnic minorities and medically underserved populations, in *The unequal burden of cancer: An assessment of NIH research and programs for ethnic minorities and the medically underserved*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
- 11. Haynes, M. A., & Smedley, B. D. (Eds.). (1999). The burden of cancer among ethnic minorities and medically underserved populations, in *The unequal burden of cancer: An assessment of NIH research and programs for ethnic minorities and the medically underserved*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
- 12. Haynes, M. A., & Smedley, B. D. (Eds.). (1999). The unequal burden of cancer: An assessment of NIH research and programs for ethnic minorities and the medically underserved. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
- 13. Online Dictionary Reference. Definition of resilience. Retrieved May 17, 2010, from http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/resilience
- 14. Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. Definition of resilience. Retrieved May 17, 2010, from http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilience

Guidelines for Completing the CLCADO

This instrument requires that you respond to detailed questions about cultural and linguistic competence within the context of your organization. Questions elicit your opinion about your organization's values, and knowledge of your organization's core functions and supporting policy related to cultural and linguistic competence. It is important to answer every question to the best of your knowledge. Remember there are no right or wrong answers. Please check only one box for each question. Refer to the *Guide for Using the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Assessment for Disability Organizations* for detailed instruction on conducting a self-assessment process.

Our World View

This section asks for the perspectives about: (1) the organization's world view of cultural diversity and approaches to inclusion and equity, (2) the extent to which this world view guides organizational behavior and is established policy, and (3) the organization's philosophy, values, and commitment to cultural and linguistic competence.

Please check only one box per item. In my view, our organization: 1. Understands and is committed to □ Not at All □ A Little □ Somewhat □ Very Much the value of cultural diversity. This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/or board resolutions. \square Yes \square No \square Don't Know 2. Recognizes and respects the great degree of diversity □ Not at All □ A Little □ Somewhat □ Very Much among people who experience disabilities (e.g., race, ethnicity, language, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, country of origin, socioeconomic status, religion/spirituality, U.S. territories, tribal communities, and geographic locale- urban, rural, suburban, frontier). This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/or board resolutions. \square Yes \square No \square Don't Know 3. Recognizes that perceptions and beliefs about □ Not at All □ A Little □ Somewhat □ Very Much disability are culturally-defined. This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/or board resolutions. \square Yes \square No \square Don't Know 4. Understands that disability is only one aspect □ Not at All □ A Little □ Somewhat □ Very Much of diversity and cultural identity. This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/or board resolutions. \square Yes \square No \square Don't Know 5. Acknowledges the importance of cultural values, □ Not at All □ A Little □ Somewhat □ Very Much norms, and traditions to the diverse group of people who experience disabilities and their families. This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/or board resolutions. \square Yes \square No \square Don't Know

In r	ny view, our organization:				
6.	Is committed to serving, supporting, and advocating with and on behalf of people who experience disabilities and their families across all cultural groups		□ A Little	☐ Somewhat	□ Very Much
	This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/o	or board resolut	tions. 🗆 Yes	s □ No □ Do	n't Know
7.	Is committed to including persons from diverse cultural and linguistic communities in all aspects of our work.	□ Not at All	□ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/o	or board resolut	tions. 🗆 Yes	s □ No □ Do	n't Know
8.	Is committed to addressing racial and ethnic disparities experience disabilities, including disparities in:	among the	e populat	ion of peop	ole who
	• Health care	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	Behavioral health care	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	Education	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	Housing	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	Employment	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/o	or board resolut	tions. 🗆 Yes	s □ No □ Do	n't Know
9.	Is committed to addressing disproportionality among students from diverse racial and ethnic groups in educational settings.	□ Not at All	□ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/o	or board resolut	tions. 🗆 Yes	s □ No □ Do	n't Know
10.	Raises awareness about racial and ethnic disparities expamong the following:	perienced b	y people	with disab	oilities
	a. Federal Government	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	b. State Government	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	c. Leaders in the academic/research community	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	d. The press/media	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	e. Professionals who support people experiencing disabilities	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	f. Public policy opinion leaders	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	g. Individuals who experience disabilities and their families	□ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	h. Advocates	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
	i. Organizational membership	☐ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much

This value is expressed in our organization's guiding principles, mission and/or board resolutions. \square Yes \square No \square Don't Know

 \square Not at All \square A Little \square Somewhat \square Very Much

11. Believes it is our responsibility to address the bias,

linguistic groups and their families.

discrimination, and racism that impact people who experience disabilities from diverse cultural and

In my view, our organization:					
12. Ensures that cultural and linguis fully integrated into all aspects o		□ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
This value is expressed in our organization's of	guiding principles, mission and/o	r board resolut	ions. 🗆 Yes	□ No □ Do	n't Know
13. Has leadership "buy-in" and comcultural and linguistic competent		□ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
This value is expressed in our organization's of	guiding principles, mission and/o	r board resolut	ions. 🗆 Yes	□ No □ Do	n't Know
14. Our organization could benefit for with addressing cultural and ling in our vision, mission, and guidi	guistic competence	□ Not at All	☐ A Little	☐ Somewhat	☐ Very Much
COMMENTS:					

Who We Are

This section examines the cultural diversity of staff, board members, and others who do the work of the organization. It also probes training and ongoing professional development needed to support cultural and linguistic competence. The items in this section apply to people with and without disabilities.

Please check only one box per item.

1.	The cultural diversity of people whis reflected in our:	o resid	e in th	e U.S., its te	erritories, an	d in tribal communities
	a. Board Members	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have a Board
	b. Organizational Leadership	☐ Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	c. Staff	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	d. Consultants	☐ Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Consultants
	e. Contractors	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Contractors
	f. Membership	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\ \square$ Do Not Have Members
	g. Faculty	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Faculty
	h. Interns & Fellows	\square Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\hfill\square$ Do Not Have Interns or Fellows
	i. Volunteers	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Volunteers
2.	Our organization requires and provi- related to cultural and linguistic cor				philosophy	, policies, and practices
	a. Board Members	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have a Board
	b. Organizational Leadership	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	c. Staff	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	d. Consultants	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\ \square$ Do Not Use Consultants
	e. Contractors	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Contractors
	f. Faculty	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\ \square$ Do Not Have Faculty
	g. Interns & Fellows	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Interns or Fellows
	h. Volunteers	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\ \square$ Do Not Have Volunteers
3.	Our organization requires and provicultural and linguistic competence f		ular ir	n-service and	d/or training	opportunities in
	a. Board Members	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have a Board
	b. Organizational Leadership	\square Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	c. Staff	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	d. Consultants	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Consultants
	e. Contractors	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Contractors
	f. Faculty	\square Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	\square Don't Know	\square Do Not Have Faculty
	g. Interns & Fellows	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Interns or Fellows
	h. Volunteers	☐ Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\ \square$ Do Not Have Volunteers

Who We Are Continued

4.	Our organization provides mento linguistic competence to the work	-	ching,	and/or othe	r supports to	o apply cultural and
	a. Board Members	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have a Board
	b. Organizational Leadership	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	c. Staff	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	d. Consultants	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Consultants
	e. Contractors	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Contractors
	f. Faculty	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Faculty
	g. Interns & Fellows	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Interns or Fellows
	h. Volunteers	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Volunteers
5.	Our organization includes knowledge position descriptions or qualifications.	-		related to c	ultural and	linguistic competence in
	a. Board Members	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have a Board
	b. Organizational Leadership	☐ Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	c. Staff	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	
	d. Consultants	☐ Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Consultants
	e. Contractors	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Use Contractors
	f. Faculty	☐ Yes	\square No	\square In Progress	☐ Don't Know	\square Do Not Have Faculty
	g. Interns & Fellows	☐ Yes	□ No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	☐ Do Not Have Interns or Fellows
	h. Volunteers	☐ Yes	\square No	☐ In Progress	☐ Don't Know	$\hfill\square$ Do Not Have Volunteers
6.	Our organization includes knowledged to cultural and linguistic performance evaluations.	-			□ Yes □ No	o □ In Progress □ Don't Know
7.	Our organization has an advisory that includes people who experie their families from culturally and diverse groups.	nce disab	ilities		□ Yes □ No	o □ In Progress □ Don't Know
CO	MMENTS:					

What We Do

This section examines how cultural and linguistic competence applies to the core functions of your organization, including: 1) Conferences, Education, and Training; 2) Public Policy, Legislation and Advocacy;

- 3) Community Engagement, Partnership, and Collaboration; 4) Publications and Information Dissemination;
- 5) Fundraising and Grant Writing; 6) Supporting a Research Agenda; and 7) Direct Services and Supports.

Please check only one box per item.

PART 1: CONFERENCES, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING When planning conferences, meetings, or education/training activities, our organization:

1.	Facilitates the participation of people with d linguistic backgrounds by:	lisabilitie	s from di	verse cultur	al and		
	a. Waiving registration fees	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know	
	b. Providing travel stipends	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know	
	c. Providing funding for family supports (e.g., respite care)	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know	
	d. Arranging for a family member or direct support professional to attend	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know	
	e. Providing language assistance (e.g., foreign language interpretation, document/materials translation)	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know	
2.	Incorporates culturally and linguistically con	mpetent p	ractices b	oy:			
	a. Issuing calls for abstracts/proposals that include issues of concern to people who experience disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse groups.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know	
	 Including review criteria for abstracts/proposals to address cultural and linguistic diversity. 	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know	
	c. Providing speakers/presenters with guidelines to address culture, language, and racial and ethnic diversity when relevant to their topic area.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	Routinely	□ Don't Know	
3.	Incorporates culturally and linguistically competent practices by:						
	a. Providing speakers/presenters with guidance on how to prepare and address the needs of diverse audiences (e.g., litera materials accessibility, foreign language interpretation services).	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know	
	b. Including evaluation criteria that assess the relevance of content for diverse groups and communities.	☐ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know	

Part 1: Conferences, Education, and Training Continued 4. Takes culture and language into account □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know when pairing people who experience disabilities with their peers for any training activities designed for them. PART 2: PUBLIC POLICY, LEGISLATION AND ADVOCACY **Our organization:** 1. Analyzes current legislation/regulations to determine the extent to which they address: a. The needs and interests of people who □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know experience disabilities from diverse racial, ethnic, and linguistic groups. b. Racial and ethnic disparities among □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know people who experience disabilities. 2. Advocates for changing existing or creating new legislation/regulations that address: a. The needs and interests of people who □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know experience disabilities from diverse racial, ethnic, and linguistic groups. b. Racial and ethnic disparities among □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know people who experience disabilities. 3. Provides information on legislation and □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know public policies that affects people who experience disabilities from diverse cultural and linguistic groups. 4. Advocates with and on behalf of people ☐ Never ☐ Seldom ☐ Sometimes ☐ Routinely ☐ Don't Know who experience disabilities from diverse racial and linguistic groups. 5. Advocates for public policy that requires systems of services and supports that are: a. Culturally competent □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know b. Linguistically competent □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know 6. Advocates for the elimination of disparities for people who experience disabilities based on: ☐ Never ☐ Seldom ☐ Sometimes ☐ Routinely ☐ Don't Know a. Race and Ethnicity b. Language(s) Spoken or Used □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know c. Geography □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know d. Gender □ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know

e. Sexual orientation, gender identity

f. Religious or spiritual affiliation

or expression

□ Never □ Seldom □ Sometimes □ Routinely □ Don't Know

 \square Never \square Seldom \square Sometimes \square Routinely \square Don't Know

PART 3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION Our organization:

1.	Im	plements policies and practices to:					
	a.	Learn about culturally and linguistically diverse communities (e.g., traditions, practices, languages, strengths)	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
	b.	Enter communities respectfully	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	C.	Establish partnerships with culturally and linguistically diverse communities in order to achieve programmatic goals.	□ Never	Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
	d.	Develop and maintain relationships with leaders (formal and informal) in culturally and linguistically diverse communities.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	e.	Ensure reciprocal transfer of knowledge and skills among all collaborators and partners.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	f.	Keep track of demographic changes among diverse population groups.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
2.	con bel (e.g eth	rks with informal or professional stacts that have knowledge of cultural iefs and practices related to disability g., cultural brokers, spiritual leaders, nic advocacy or social organizations, nmunity-based agencies).	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	□ Routinely	□ Don't Know
3.		responsive to the social, political and momic contexts of diverse communities.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
4.	Per	iodically reviews current and emergent de	mograpl	hic trends	s to:		
4.	a.	Determine whether community partners are representative of the diverse populations in the geographic or service area.	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	Routinely	□ Don't Know
	b.	Identify new collaborators and potential opportunities for community engagement.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
5.	im	entifies and responds to the effects of migration status on participation in vocacy, services, and supports.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know

PART 4: PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION Our organization:

1.	Adapts information dissemination strategies to the cultural preferences and needs of diverse communities.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
2.	Develops and disseminates information/public	ations al	out peop	le who expe	rience disa	bilities that:
	a. Focus on specific racial, ethnic, or cultural communities.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	 Provide evidence-based and promising practices for culturally diverse populations. 	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Enable members of culturally diverse populations to access and/or advocate for quality services and supports.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
3.	Ensures that photographs and graphics feature	ed in pu	blication	s, resources	, and webs	ites:
	 a. Accurately portray images of racially and ethnically diverse groups. 	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Are representative of the cultural diversity among people who reside in the U.S., its territories, and in tribal communities.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
4.	Disseminates information in languages other	than En	glish in it	ts:		
	a. Publications/Periodicals	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Website	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Training materials and resources	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	 d. Multimedia Resources (e.g., DVDs, CDs, Podcasts, film, PowerPoint[®], networking sites) 	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	e. Social media/networking sites	□ Never	Seldom	☐ Sometimes	Routinely	☐ Don't Know
5.	Uses ethnic media to disseminate information to diverse communities (e.g., television, periodicals, radio, Internet sites).	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
6.	Collaborates with ethnic and cultural advocacy or social organizations to dissemination formation to diverse communities.	□ Never te	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
	RT 5: FUNDRAISING AND GRANT WRITING pond only if your organization engages in the following acti	ivities.				
0u	r organization's fundraising activities include:					
1.	Collaborating with ethnic- or culture-specific groups to address causes and issues that are of concern to the communities they serve.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know

Par	t 5: Fundraising and Grant Writing Continued					
2.	Featuring personal stories and appeals from individuals with disabilities from culturally and linguistically diverse groups.	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
3.	Involving nationally recognized scholars, celebrities, or personalities from culturally diverse groups.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
Fo	r all grant proposals and applications, our org	anizatio	n:			
4.	Conducts a comprehensive analysis of current demographic trends in the geographic area served or impacted (e.g., race, ethnicity, languages spoken, socio-economic status, immigrant and refugee status).	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
5.	Includes representatives from culturally diver and their communities in:	se grou	ps in inte	rventions th	at impact	them
	a. Planning	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Implementation	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Evaluation	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
6.	Requires that cultural differences, needs, and preferences among the diverse population of people who experience disabilities are attended to and addressed in the proposal content.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
7.	Ensures the provision of language access serv translation, signage) through:	ices (i.e.	, foreign	language in	terpretatio	n,
	Established procedures	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	 Dedicated personnel 	\square Never	\square Seldom	\square Sometimes	\square Routinely	\square Don't Know
	• Budget line items	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
8.	Uses community advisory boards when appropriate.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
9.	Collaborates with other organizations that have expertise in serving or advocating for specific racial, ethnic, and cultural groups	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
10.	Actively pursues grant and contract opportun	ities to a	iddress:			
	 Racial and ethnic disparities among people who experience disabilities and their families. 		□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	 Disproportionality among people who experience disabilities. 	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know

PART 6: SUPPORTING A RESEARCH AGENDA

Respond only if your organization engages in the following activities.

Our organization:

1.	Partners with the research community to add to the body of knowledge about people who experience disabilities from racially and ethnically diverse populations.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
2.	Supports racially and ethnically diverse peop	ole who e	experience	e disabilities	s and their	families to:
	a. Understand the need to participate in research.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Identify and participate in studies that are of interest to and beneficial to them.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Serve on Institutional Review Boards.	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	d. Partner in the conduct of research.	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	e. Partner in the dissemination of research.	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
3.	Assists racially and ethnically diverse individed improve their quality of life by:	duals wh	o experie	nce disabili	ties and th	eir families
	a. Accessing most current and relevant research.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	 Identifying and/or translating research findings that are meaningful to them and their communities. 	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Using research findings in an effective manner in routine activities of daily life.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
4.	Advocates for or participates in research that	focuses	on:			
	a. Racial and ethnic disparities among people who experience disabilities.	e 🗆 Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Disproportionality among racial and ethnic groups in educational settings.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
5.	Is aware of the need to address the unique is culturally diverse communities, including:	sues asso	ociated wi	ith conducti	ng researcl	n in
	a. Historical experiences of racism, bias, and exploitation among racial and ethnic groups.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
	b. Lack of trust of researchers and research institutions.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Belief that research outcomes depict racial or ethnic groups/communities in a negative manner.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know

Pai	t 6: Supporting a Research Agenda Continued					
	d. Belief that research outcomes have had little impact on improving services and supports within racially and ethnically diverse communities.	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
	e. Belief that many research projects rarely provide reciprocity for participating communities (e.g., employment, transfer of knowledge and skills, joint publications	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know
	RT 7: DIRECT SERVICES AND SUPPORTS spond only if your organization provides direct services and	d supports.				
O u	r organization:					
1.	Develops or adapts services and supports to address the needs and preferences of culturally and linguistically diverse communities.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	□ Routinely	□ Don't Know
2.	Provides services and supports in locations and at times that are accessible to communities served.	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	□ Routinely	□ Don't Know
3.	Is knowledgeable of and works in conjunction with natural networks of support within diverse communities.	□ Never	Seldom	☐ Sometimes	Routinely	□ Don't Know
4.	Ensures that services and supports comply with all relevant Federal, state, and local mandates governing language access (e.g., foreign language interpretation, translation services, and signage).	□ Never	□ Seldom	□ Sometimes	□ Routinely	□ Don't Know
5.	Involves people who experience disabilities their families in the:	from div	erse cultu	ral and ling	guistic grou	ips and
	a. Design of services and supports	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Implementation of services and supports	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Evaluation of services and supports	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
CO	MMENTS:					

How We Work

This section probes how cultural and linguistic competency is applied to the structure, funding, and leadership activities of your organization.

Please check only one box per item.

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Ou.	uluu	111241	
	9		

1.	Ensures cultural and linguistic competence th	irough e	stablished	d organizati	onal:	
	a. Policy	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Structures	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Procedures	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	d. Practices	☐ Never	\square Seldom	\square Sometimes	\square Routinely	\square Don't Know
2.	Has dedicated funding in its budget to advan	ice and s	ustain cul	ltural and li	nguistic co	ompetence.
	a. Conferences, education, and training activities			☐ Sometimes		_
	 Public policy, legislative, and advocacy activities 	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Community engagement, partnership, and collaboration activities	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	d. Publication and information dissemination activities	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	e. Organizational professional development activities	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	f. Accommodations, stipends, honoraria, and consumer/family supports	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	g. Foreign language interpretation and translation services	□ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
3.	Offers training, mentoring, and other suppor members that enable them to lead efforts tha	_	nizational	staff, facul	ty, and boa	ard
	 a. Advance and sustain cultural and linguistic competence. 	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	b. Address racial and ethnic disparities.	☐ Never	☐ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	\square Routinely	☐ Don't Know
	c. Address disproportionality in educational settings.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	☐ Don't Know
4.	Supports the meaningful involvement of culturally and linguistically diverse individuals and communities in the core functions of the organization.	□ Never	□ Seldom	☐ Sometimes	☐ Routinely	□ Don't Know



The National Center for Cultural Competence (NCCC) provides national leadership and contributes to the body of knowledge on cultural and linguistic competency within systems and organizations. Major emphasis is placed on translating evidence into policy and practice for programs and personnel concerned with health and mental health care delivery, administration, education and advocacy. The NCCC is a component of the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development and is housed within the Department of Pediatrics of the Georgetown University Medical Center.

The NCCC provides training, technical assistance, and consultation, contributes to knowledge through publications and research, creates tools and resources to support health and mental health care providers and systems, supports leaders to promote and sustain cultural and linguistic competency, and collaborates with an extensive network of private and public entities to advance the implementation of these concepts. The NCCC provides services to local, state, federal and international governmental agencies, family and advocacy support organizations, local hospitals and health centers, healthcare systems, health plans, mental health systems, universities, quality improvement organizations, national professional associations, and foundations.

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