

EDITORIAL

The ATTC Hispanic Initiative



The Caribbean Basin & Hispanic Addiction Technology Transfer Center (CBHATTC) is the only node of the National Network of Addiction Technology Transfer Centers that has 98% of Hispanic population where

the Hispanic culture prevail as the only culture (including the Hispanic language). These special characteristics of the CBHATTC places the Center with the responsibility leading the assessment and addressing the needs of cultural appropriate and science based knowledge, skills and competencies of treatment organizations and providers of the Hispanic/Latino community, in collaboration with the other ATTC network nodes.

The Hispanic Initiative aims to help the Hispanic drug treatment organizations and providers with the group of cultural appropriate and science base information to enhance their program at organizational and programmatic delivery levels.

To this day, I don't know of any educational structure that can detect and address the needs of culturally appropriate and science based information among Hispanic drug treatment organizations and providers better than the ATTC Network with its 14 nodes strategically located all over the nation. With the following message: "We are convinced of the significance of this initiative and the important role the ATTC network can provide in helping this population." The Hispanic population is estimated at more than 37 million and constituting the largest minority group in the US rapidly growing due to high birth and immigration rates. Moreover Hispanics are a young population that has disproportional low income, low levels of education, and stressors such as acculturation and discrimination. Together these sociodemographic characteristics result in an increase of drug abuse. Moreover, existing literature indicate that current services and delivery models fall short of addressing the needs of Hispanics for drug abuse treatment.

Rafaela R. Robles
Directora del CHATTC

RESEÑA

2da Conferencia Anual Comisión Certificadora

Retos en la prevención y tratamiento de las adicciones, ¿qué estamos haciendo?, fue el tema de la segunda conferencia anual de la Comisión Certificadora de Profesionales de Ayuda en Sustancias Sicoactivas de PR, Inc. Luego del registro, acomodo y apertura, María N. Miranda, Presidenta, ofreció la bienvenida a los participantes que sumaron a más de 200 personas.

La Dra. Edna Quiñones moderadora presentó al panel de la mañana con el tema: "Qué funciona en la prevención y el tratamiento de las adicciones". El panel estuvo constituido por los siguientes recursos:

- Dra. Wendy Fernández, Asesora de Tratamiento de la Oficina para el Control de Drogas
- Lcdo. Miguel A. Pereira, Secretario de la Administración de Corrección
- Dr. Juan Carlos Reyes, Investigador del Centro de Estudios en Adicción y Prof. Evelyn Feliberty, Coordinadora del Programa Graduado en Abuso de Sustancias de la Universidad Central del Caribe
- Dr. Omar Pérez, Director de Metadona y Sra. Julia Delgado, Administradora Auxiliar de la Administración de Servicios de Salud Mental y Contra la Adicción.

Los recursos hablaron de las iniciativas, esfuerzos, limitaciones y planes que llevan a cabo sus respectivas agencias y organizaciones en la prevención y tratamiento de las adicciones en Puerto Rico.

Luego del panel, se realizaron 5 presentaciones concurrentes:

- ¿Por qué necesitamos re-pensar los acercamientos a la prevención con adolescentes? Por la Dra. Carmen Albizu, Recinto de Ciencias Médicas.

continúa en la página 3



The Hispanic Initiative in Perspective

The Hispanic Initiative is the ATTC Network newest project. With this initiative, the Network hopes to achieve cultural competency among practitioners offering prevention and treatment services to the Hispanic/Latino community in Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and United States mainland.

During the past 3 years, Karl D. White, EdD of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, has been working with the CBHATTC as Project Officer and has been an avid supporter of this initiative. We wanted you to get a glimpse of his personal opinion on this subject. Below is the e-mail interview he agreed to. Thank you Karl D. White, EdD!

1. You have been the Project Officer for the Caribbean Basin and Hispanic ATTC for several years now. Can you describe how that experience has been for you?

Being the Project Officer for the CBHATTC has provided me with an opportunity to expand my own knowledge about the needs of the growing Hispanic population in the United States and Puerto Rico. I have become more aware of the culture and the cultural influences that must be taken into account by clinicians. The staff of the CBHATTC is composed of dedicated professionals who provide outstanding services and are breaking new ground for providing long distance education to Spanish speaking clinicians and non-Spanish speaking clinicians seeking to raise their awareness.

2. As you know, the CBHATTC proposed an ATTC Hispanic Initiative and it was accepted. What do you think will be its most important contribution to the Hispanic community in the United States?

The Hispanic Initiative has the opportunity to provide information related to the needs of Hispanic/Latino clients in treatment and to impact the services delivered to these clients. The Initiative will also provide information on the needs of

Hispanic/Latino clinicians in terms of workforce issues and certification.

3. In August 18 – 20, 2004, the CBHATTC will be hosting the 2nd CBHATTC National Conference. What do you think will be the importance of this conference in advancing the Hispanic Initiative?

I think the conference will help substantiate the need for culturally appropriate services for Hispanic clients and their families.

4. There are probably a number of persons still pondering whether to attend the conference or not. In your opinion, what do you think will be the benefits of attending the conference?

I would encourage any clinician or policy maker working in settings that serve Hispanic clients and their families to attend this conference to increase their own degree of cultural appropriateness with this target audience and to gain new knowledge on the subject being presented at the conference. It is an opportunity to interact with researchers and clinicians doing cutting edge work in this area.

Para más información
visite nuestra página en
internet:

<http://cbattc.uc-caribe.edu/espanol/2ndconference.htm>



2ND Caribbean Basin and Hispanic ATTC NATIONAL CONFERENCE

2da Conferencia Nacional del Caribbean Basin & Hispanic ATTC
La Familia Hispana/Latina del Nuevo Milenio: **18 AL 20 DE AGOSTO DE 2004**
En el San Juan Marriott Resort San Juan, Puerto Rico

Entendiendo el **R**ol de la **F**amilia **H**ispana/**L**atina como un **S**istema de **T**ratamiento y **P**revención en el **U**so de **D**rogas

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2nd CBHATTC National Conference Quick Facts

The Caribbean Basin Hispanic ATTC will be hosting its 2nd National Conference on August 18-20, 2004 in San Juan, Puerto Rico at the San Juan Marriott Hotel entitled "Understanding the Role of the Hispanic/Latino Family as a System of Drug Use Treatment and Prevention".

CONFERENCE

The 2nd Caribbean Basin and Hispanic ATTC National Conference is an event of the ATTC Hispanic Initiative developed in an effort to educate, train and inform service providers, policy makers, treatment organization directors and administrators, teachers and anyone else who comes in contact with the addicted community about the special needs that must be addressed when dealing with the Hispanic/Latino population. For example, Hispanics/Latinos are very family oriented and the environment in the home, their relatives homes, and even their neighbors homes will probably have a great impact on the effectiveness of any given treatment program. Another important element in the Hispanic/Latino culture is religion. Although an individual may not necessarily visit a church regularly, he or she is probably very mystical and superstitious. To address these topics, the CBHATTC has developed workshops geared to intertwine these elements with prevention and treatment. Thus, some of the workshops that have been scheduled are:

NEUROPHARMACOTHERAPY
(Carlton Erickson, PhD)

TRAUMATIC EVENTS AND
SUBSTANCE USE: The Role of Family
in Treatment and Prevention

(Lisa Najavits, PhD)

THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITIES:
Overview of Approach, Applications,
and Effectiveness
(George De Leon, PhD)

CRIMINAL CONDUCT AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE: Strategies for
Self-Improvement and Change
(Harvey Milkman, PhD)

THE FAMILY THERAPY MODEL
FOR HELPING LATINO
FAMILIES ADDRESS DRUG USE
PROBLEMS IN CHILDREN AND
ADOLESCENTS
(Daniel Santisteban, PhD)

MINDFULNESS-BASED STRESS
REDUCTION: A Treatment and
Recovery Model for Hispanic Drug-
Using Women
(Hortensia Amaro, PhD)

SUBSTANCE USE AND VIOLENCE:
New Perspective on a Complex
Relationship
(William White, MA)

FAITH-BASED RESPONSE TO HIV/
AIDS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
(Rev. Quinten Gresham, LCSW)

PATHWAYS TO SELF-DISCOVERY
AND CHANGE: Criminal Conduct
and Substance Abuse Treatment for
Adolescents
(Harvey Milkman, PhD)

THE NEIGHBORHOOD
ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTHY

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT
DEVELOPMENT
(Denise Oliver-Velez and Avelardo Valdez)

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF
SPIRITUALITY IN HISPANIC
CULTURE FOR TREATMENT AND
PREVENTION OF DRUG USE
IN FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND
ADOLESCENTS
(Rocio Woody, LMSW, NCAC)

Continuación de la página 1

- Perfil de las Víctimas del Homicidio y la Violencia en Puerto Rico por la Prof. Judith Rodríguez Figueroa, Demógrafa y la Dra. Alma Irizarry Castro, Trabajadora Social.
- Trabajando La Drogodependencia en el Modelo de Comunidades Terapéuticas por el Dr. José L. Herrera, Psicólogo.
- Trastorno de Estrés Posttraumático y Abuso de Sustancias: Un doble diagnóstico cada vez más frecuente por la Dra. Delia Patricia González, Psicóloga Clínica de ASSMCA.
- Espiritualidad y Salud en las relaciones de ayuda por el Dr. Noel Quintero, Psicólogo de la Universidad Carlos Albizu.

Durante el almuerzo hubo una exhibición de videos de prevención de la Alianza para un Puerto Rico sin Drogas. También, la presentación del Premio "Anastasis" por la excelencia en el servicio de las adicciones en Puerto Rico a la Dra. Carmen Peña del Hogar Intermedio para Mujeres de la Administración de Corrección.

La Conferencia finalizó con la presentación de dos programas innovadores de tratamiento:

1. Casa Luz y Vida para Adolescentes, Hogar de Base Comunitaria por la Sra. Diana Negron, Directora

2. Hogar Intermedio para Mujeres de la Administración de Corrección por la Sra. María Morales, Directora. Las residentes del hogar tuvieron a cargo la presentación teatral "Silencio, mi barrio duerme" bajo la dirección de la actriz Elia Enid Cadilla.

La Comisión Certificadora de Profesionales de Ayuda en Sustancias Sicoactivas, una vez más, aportó a la profesionalización del campo de las adicciones. La certificación de más de 500 profesionales por la Comisión, responde a la necesidad de más y mejores servicios especializados para la población que usa, abusa y depende de sustancias sicoactivas. La iniciativa de certificación está logrando que más personas se especialicen en adicciones y se adhieran a los códigos de ética profesional, manteniendo a través de educaciones continuas su certificación vigente.





The Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network

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