

## **Minneapolis VA Health Care System Doctoral Internship and Postdoctoral Residency Diversity Didactics**

### **MAPPIC Diversity Day**

An ACT base training on awareness of diversity issues and how they may impact the delivery of mental health services.

### **Diversity in Psychological Assessment**

This didactic focuses on incorporating multicultural issues into diagnosis, assessment and treatment planning in a VA context.

### **Military culture**

This didactic provides significant information about what it is like to serve in various branches of the service including a combat theatre and discuss the utility of portraying such experiences as a unique culture.

### **Lioness Movie and Discussion**

A didactic focused on the providing an overview of issues that female service members face upon return from deployment and/or combat situations.

### **Diversity Exercise**

The TDs, Interns and Resident voluntarily discuss aspects of themselves that would not necessarily be known by others, Directions are given not to be overly self-disclosing. Discussion centers on non-ethnic aspects of diversity and the importance of recognizing what may not be apparent on the surface

### **Exploring Stimulus Value**

This training provides a definition of "stimulus value." Participants will be guided in an experiential activity of exploring different aspects of their own stimulus value and how their stimulus value may affect their work with clients and colleagues (i.e., professional identity). Participants will be asked to pay attention to their visual stimulus (e.g., how they dress, their perceived race/gender/age), auditory stimulus (e.g., tone of voice, use of volume in practice), olfactory stimulus (e.g., use of perfumes, hygiene), and tactile stimulus (e.g., use of touch in clinical practice/with colleagues, shaking hands, hugging). Cultural considerations and clinically specific considerations (e.g., PTSD and touch) will also be explored.

### **Introduction to Islam for VA clinicians**

Discussion led by a Islamic mental health practitioner addressing the factors in Islam that impact mental health care.

### **Working with LGBT Individuals**

This diversity didactic focuses on the unique issues facing LGBT veterans seeking care within the VA.

**Diversity Case Discussion**

Trainees are expected to come prepared with a therapy or assessment case example that incorporates elements of diversity. Staff are invited to attend and the bulk of the didactic will be spent discussing case examples and the role of diversity in symptom presentation and treatment planning.