

Visit our Website  
for information on:

<http://nyspi.org/culturalcompetence/>

- Culturally and linguistically competent health and mental health services and resources.
- Cultural Competence Matters (our bimonthly report that summarizes the latest research on best practices and elimination of disparities in mental health service delivery)
- Presentations and publications (latest research on cultural competence and NYSPI-CECC results)
- Clearing house for cultural competence scales
- And much more...

**New York State Psychiatric Institute  
1051 Riverside Drive  
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New York, NY 10032**



**New York State  
Office of Mental Health**



***New York State  
Center of  
Excellence  
for Cultural  
Competence***

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## Who we are?

## What we do?

### Mission

To conduct research on the cultural and linguistic competence of mental health services, in order to improve the quality and availability of these services for underserved populations in NYS.

### NYSPI-CECC Goals

- To reduce disparities in access and quality of care for consumers with serious mental illness (SMI) by enhancing cultural competence of evidence-based practices.
- To bridge the gap between what is known about how to deliver effective culturally competent services and what is provided in routine clinical practice in underserved communities.

### Main Research Initiatives

#### Integration of physical and mental health services for people with serious mental illness (SMI)

**Goals.** To understand and improve the physical health and health care of racial/ethnic underserved individuals with SMI.

#### Best practices for interpreting and cultural brokering services

**Goals.** To enhance language access as a key strategy to improve treatment engagement in populations with limited English proficiency (LEP). In addition, we are exploring the potential of interpreters to facilitate culturally-grounded clinical evaluations and reduce ethnic disparities in the quality of mental health care.

#### Culturally and linguistically appropriate engagement strategies across the lifespan

**Goal.** To understand how to effectively increase the engagement of racial and ethnic underserved populations into mental health care.

## How we do it?

- Development and evaluation of culturally appropriate evidence-based practices
- Community-based participatory research
- Qualitative research methodologies (e.g., focus groups, in-depth qualitative interviews, participant observations)
- Clinical trial methodology
- Secondary data analysis
- Implementation research



### NYSPI - CECC's Background

In January of 2007 the New York State (NYS) Assembly passed a bill sponsored by Assemblyman Peter Rivera. The NYS Office of Mental Health was directed to:  
*"establish two centers of excellence in culturally and linguistically competent*

*mental health services for... underserved populations affected by disparities due to cultural, linguistic and systemic barriers".*

We are one of two NYS Centers of Excellence for Cultural Competence. The other Center is located at the Nathan Kline Institute (NKI), a partner mental health research organization in Orangeburg, NY.

The NYSPI-CECC works in collaboration with the NYS Office of Mental Health's Bureau of Cultural Competence, the NKI-CECC, and our community and national scientists advisory boards. Together, we conduct research projects to enhance the availability of culturally and linguistically appropriate services for people with SMI. Our research products are disseminated statewide.