

Questions for guiding the discussion about cultural competency

When thinking about cultural competency, first identify your target population(s). Then consider the following questions:

What is your population?

What do you believe are the key cultural issues in that population(s)?

What are some of the cultural issues among specifically the subpopulation of those who drink and drive? For example, are 25 to 45 year old males who drink and drive different from those who don't? (In what way? How might that influence what you do and how you do it?)

Other questions to consider:

- 1) What "culture(s)" do you have represented in your community?
- 2) Are there people within the CAP, NAC, or Strategic Planning Entity, who could provide some insight and sensitivity to the varied cultures/ethnicities/races?
- 3) Are there organizations already working with the targeted subpopulation(s) or geographic area that can offer assistance and guidance?
- 4) How can we become more culturally aware? Who do we need to bring on board? Do we need to consider conducting a cultural analysis of how the community's values and traditions affect their beliefs about health promotion issues and what they believe to be the most appropriate ways to communicate and provide helping services.
- 5) Are your intervening variables selected based on your targeted subpopulations? Are they appropriate? Are the contributing factors appropriate for the subpopulations?
- 6) Are the strategies selected appropriate for the targeted subpopulations or can they be modified to be more culturally sensitive?
- 7) Are there local media sources or means for getting the word out to targeted subgroups/cultures? Do we need to develop new outlets to reach subpopulations?
- 8) Is language a barrier and how can we address it? Are there plans to pilot with the target population any bilingual tools or resources we create for them?
- 9) How do we continue to learn and be open to culture while responding quickly and appropriately should a situation arise?
- 10) How can we build bridges between various cultures in our community to further our prevention efforts?

Questions for guiding the discussion about sustainability

Sustainability

- 1) Are there specific sustainability issues related to your subpopulation? Are there skills and leadership roles that could be developed within the subpopulation that will help sustain the efforts?
- 2) Are there people in your community who will, with training, skill development, and experience, be able to continue to work on these issues and other prevention related issues after the project is over?
- 3) During the process of implementing strategies, will products be created that can be continued to be used after the project is over, e.g. brochures, posters, advertisements?
- 4) Will relationships established during the grant be able to be called on for projects after this one? For example, will you call on a local reporter for stories after the project or a local law maker to help continue to work on changing policy?
- 5) Will institutions developed during this project (e.g, coalitions) continue after the project to address prevention issues?
- 6) Will the awareness raised during this project continue to influence changes in the community past the projects end?
- 7) If you are planning to seek further funds, are there people in your community who are able to write grants? Is there someone who with training could take on grant writing?