

PROJECT NAME:

REACH Cultural Competency Initiative

PROJECT LEAD:

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TIMELINE:

September 2008 – December 2011

CONTENT AREA:

Cultural Competency, Safety Net Medical Health, and Mental Health

FUNDER:

REACH Healthcare Foundation (in 2010 the initiative expanded to include Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City)

CLIENT:

The REACH Healthcare Foundation and the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City

AUDIENCE:

Foundations and health care organizations that work to eliminate barriers to quality health for uninsured and underserved

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Mixed (quantitative & qualitative) Methods

OVERVIEW:

Project: The REACH Healthcare Foundation Cultural Competency Initiative aims to increase understanding and practice of cultural competency in health and human service organizations in the Foundation's six-county service area, with a long-term goal of reducing barriers that contribute to health disparities. The primary focus of the initiative is to create a health care system and workforce capable of delivering the highest-quality care to individuals regardless of socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, culture, and language proficiency.

RDI participates in the initiative planning process, providing an evaluation perspective to discussions; works with planning participants to refine the evaluation plan and process for data collection and analysis for the initiative; works with REACH personnel and the cultural competency consultant to survey needs, develop outcome indicators, assess outcomes for grantee recipient organizations; conducts a process evaluation of the overall initiative, documenting and evaluating the planning process; and conducts an outcomes evaluation of the overall initiative.

The Cultural Competency Initiative continues to provide technical assistance to five area organizations, and is preparing to add 10 to 12 additional recipients of technical assistance. The initiative has established indicators of success for cultural competency that have been adopted by the REACH Healthcare Foundation as a guide to their grant making process. In addition, the Initiative continues to work with multiple area foundations who have expressed interest in partnering in the initiative.

LINKS:

<http://www.reachhealth.org/Initiative/Initiative.asp?Ref=CulturalCompetency&~=>