

# Definitions of Cultural Competency

---

## **SIG/SPF adopted HRSA/DHHS Cultural Competency Definition**

“A set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, agency, or among professionals, and enable that system, agency, or those professionals to work effectively in cross cultural situations...”

*Source: HRSA/DHHS Indicators of Cultural Competence in Health Care Delivery Organizations: An Organizational Cultural Competence Assessment Profile by Lewin Group, Inc., April 2002*

## **CSAP Definition of Cultural Competency (1)**

“...A set of academic and a set of interpersonal skills that allow individuals to increase their understanding and appreciation of cultural differences and similarities within, among and in between groups. This requires a willingness and ability to draw on community-based values, traditions and customs, and to work with knowledgeable persons of and from the community in developing focused interventions communications and other supports.”

*Source: Orlandi, et a.(1992)*

## **CSAP Definition of Cultural Competency (2)**

“...the attainment of knowledge, skills and attitudes, to enable administrators and practitioners within systems of care to provide for diverse populations. This includes an understanding of that group’s or members’ language, beliefs, norms, and values, as well-as socioeconomic and political factors that may have significant impact on their well-being and incorporating those variables into assessment and treatment.”

*Source: (CSAP 1993)*