

Cultural Responsiveness Academy

Behavioral Health Services



Culturally Responsive Behavioral Health Care

With Trans and Non-Binary People



Course Summary

This six-hour interactive virtual delivery will address differences in words used by trans and non-binary people to describe their identities and experiences, healthcare avoidance and co-occurring conditions that can be more common based on past mistreatment and trauma in this community, the affirmative model of behavioral health practice and substance use treatment, and special considerations related to crisis response related to trans and non-binary people and their families. This virtual delivery will use a combination of lecture and dialogue, using screen sharing, chat and breakout rooms for individual comments and using polls, reactions, and whiteboard for brainstorming with the whole group.

See page 2 below for the course outline.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, learners will understand:

- Terms used by transgender and non-binary people and how to use them
- Healthcare avoidance and rejection sensitivity among transgender people based on past mistreatment and how to address it
- The affirmative model of practice in behavioral health services with transgender and non-binary people
- Co-occurring conditions that might require additional support including gender dysphoria, eating disorders, autism spectrum disorder, and trauma from disproportionate violence experienced by members of this community
- Special considerations related to crisis response and mandated reporting for trans and non-binary people and their families



Virtual Class

Date: Dec 10, 2025

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: [Zoom](#)



Registration

Please register via the LMS.

[Academy LMS](#)

Course code: CRABHS-CRBHTRN1/SD/121025-093025

If you have questions about registration or need technical assistance please visit [ZOHO](#).



Audience

Suggested for:

- Program Managers
- Direct Service Staff
- Administrative Staff

This class is open to staff members at all levels from San Diego County BHS and its contracted programs.



Facilitator

Donovan Ackley III, PhD



Culturally Responsive Academy (CRA) is a delivery of Cultural Responsiveness Services, a program of the Academy for Professional Excellence at SDSU School of Social Work.

Course Outline

Time	Activity
09:00 – 09:45	Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, Review Agenda, and Learning Objectives
09:45 – 10:15	Behavioral Health Benefits of Affirming the Gender Identities of Trans and Non-binary Individuals
10:15 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 12:00	The Affirmative Model in Behavioral Health and Substance Use Treatment Practice with Transgender and Non-binary People with Specific Examples
12:00 – 01:00	Lunch
01:00 – 02:30	Applied Learning: Gender-inclusive (recognizing) vs Gender-affirmative (welcoming) Behavioral Health Care with Case Study and Sharing
02:30 – 02:45	Break
02:45 – 03:45	Action Planning: Measurable Standards and Best Practices to Provide Behavioral Health Care and Substance Use Treatment for Trans and Non-binary Individuals and Their Families
03:45 – 04:00	Closing and Evaluation

For more information about CRA, contact Sharmeen Maronesy at smaronesy@sdsu.edu.

Additional Information

ADA

The Academy for Professional Excellence is committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment that appreciates and builds on diversity. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and California Administrative Code Title 24, The Academy for Professional Excellence prohibits discrimination on the basis of a disability in employment, public services, transportation, public accommodations, and telecommunication services.

Continuing Education

This course meets the qualifications for 6 hours of continuing education credit for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPPCs and/or LEPs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences. The Academy for Professional Excellence is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPPCs and LEPs, Provider #91928. The Academy for Professional Excellence is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider # CEP15014; CCAPP Provider # 1S-98-398-1026, and CAADE Provider # CP40 906 CH0326 for 6 contact hours/CEHs. [How to Obtain CE Certificates](#) & [CE Grievance Procedures](#).



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