



HIV/AIDS Spectrum: Mental Health Training and Education of Social Workers Project

Providing services in complex times: working with clients living with HIV/AIDS and co-occurring mental health disorders

The course addresses HIV/AIDS within a bio-psycho-social-spiritual perspective, and includes a brief overview of psycho-social issues of HIV disease progression, including adherence issues. Participants will increase their skills in identifying and distinguishing client/consumer's common psychological reactions to living with HIV/AIDS from those that warrant a mental health diagnosis; discuss dual and multiples diagnoses; and be able to differentiate mental health disorders from neuro-psychiatric complications. Participants will draw upon both knowledge and skills to practice culturally competent assessment and intervention planning including both the micro and macro levels. National and state resources will also be reviewed.

The workshop, developed to increase both knowledge and skill level, is for social workers serving diverse groups of clients/consumers across the range of practice settings. The workshop is for the experienced HIV/AIDS provider who has a basic understanding of mental health disorders and diagnosis.

Workshop Objectives:

1. Review the medical management role of social workers who provide services to people living with HIV/AIDS and co-occurring chronic illnesses;
2. Identify mental health challenges and strengths across the spectrum of living with HIV/AIDS;
3. Obtain tools to assess for a range of mental health issues and concerns; including clients with co-occurring conditions of substance abuse and severe mental illness;
4. Identify, describe, and formulate relevant interventions with persons with multiple diagnosis; and
5. Review the role of advocacy at the macro/systems level.

The workshop is 5.0 contact hours (plus one hour for lunch and two breaks).

PREREQUISITE: *Understanding HIV/AIDS: The Social Worker's Role*, FREE 2.0 CEU's with Certificate - NASW online course available at www.NASWebEd.org

Please contact NASW at 202-408-8600.