



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:
Mary Kay Jezzini
SAGE Publicist
212-352-1404
publicity@sagepub.com

NEW TRAINING PROGRAM HELPS REDUCE DIVERSITY DISPARITIES IN MENTAL HEALTHCARE

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore (March 21, 2008) —SAGE, a leading publisher in the social sciences, has launched the **CBMCS Multicultural Training Program**, an innovative cultural competence scale and training program designed to help frontline mental health practitioners treat diverse populations.

Bridging the gap between research and practice, this comprehensive training program includes the **first evidence-based assessment scale that is brief (only 21 items) and easy to administer**. Rather than take a one-size-fits-all approach, this concise scale allows for customized training, based on the individual practitioner's level of multicultural proficiency.

Although cultural sensitivity has been a hot topic for several years, the **CBMCS Multicultural Training Program** offers the next important step – **cultural proficiency** among mental health professionals

In 2004, California voters passed Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), aimed to increase the quality of mental health services, with a tax on personal incomes above \$1 million. This proposition requires the state to develop mental health service programs including prevention, early intervention, education, and training programs. **CBMCS meets MHSA funding requirements**. California Mental Health facilities will embrace this unique opportunity to increase access to and quality of mental health care for diverse populations, making **CBMCS** the standard training tool for California mental health facilities.

Forward-thinking agency directors far beyond the borders of California – especially those trying to reach minority populations – have already discovered that **CBMCS** is an affordable and effective training tool. The **CBMCS** pilot program was executed in counties throughout California with the cooperation of several state mental health organizations, and has already been implemented in major counties including Sacramento and San Bernardino. Yet the content and focus of the program is pertinent to mental health facilities across the U.S.

CBMCS will be on display at the American Counseling Association annual meeting in Honolulu March 26-30, as well as the Cultural Competency Summit in San Diego March 25-26.

Priced at \$2,495, this in-depth training program includes the following elements:

CBMCS Multicultural Reader: Featuring leading research, this compilation of 29 articles provides a wellspring of seminal studies on delivering culturally competent care. Topics include general issues in multicultural counseling competence training, ethnic minority intervention and treatment research, and sociocultural diversities.

CBMCS Training Modules: This step-by-step resource guides trainers through four modules:

- Module I – Multicultural Knowledge
- Module II – Awareness of Cultural Barriers
- Module III – Sensitivity and Responsiveness to Consumers
- Module IV – Sociocultural Diversities

Each module includes a description, techniques and methods, materials needed, references, handouts, PowerPoint slide presentation, trainer's notes, and evaluation as well as a scoring guide for the CBMCS scale.

CBMCS Participant's Workbook: This workbook includes exercises, group activities, and areas for reflection that follow along with the training modules. Each workbook also includes the foundation of the program – the **CBMCS Scale** – a 21-item practitioner self-report scale, which is the result of rigorous research methods and multivariate statistical processes.

Based on several years of research and collaboration among the University of La Verne, the California Department of Mental Health, the California Institute of Mental Health, and the California Mental Health Directors Association, the **CBMCS** project's esteemed editors include:

- **Richard Dana** (Regional Research Institute at Portland State University), a leading world expert in psychological services and assessment
- **Glenn Gamst** (University of La Verne) an expert in experimental psychology, univariate and multivariate statistical / methodological issues, and the effects of multicultural variables
- **Aghop Der-Karabetian** (University of La Verne) a researcher in the fields of multi-ethnic identity and seeking mental health services

###

SAGE is a leading international publisher of journals, books, value priced textbooks and electronic media for academic, educational, and professional markets. Since 1965, SAGE has helped inform and educate a global community of scholars, practitioners, researchers, and students spanning a wide range of subject areas including business, humanities, social sciences, and science, technology and medicine. A privately owned corporation, SAGE has principal offices in Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore. www.sagepublications.com