

Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series

Bringing America Greatness - Serving the Disability Community with

Cultural Competency/Do No Harm

February 19, 2026

10:00am – 1:00pm

What is the Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series?

The Department of Human Services' **Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)** and the **Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS)** are pleased to announce the Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series, which offers presentations focused on supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism (ID/A) and mental health needs. The selected presenters share their expertise on best and promising practices as well as provide general knowledge. Session topics, which focus on increasing capacity to serve individuals with dual diagnosis in the community, are chosen based on identified needs and with input from the field of professional stakeholders.

- The invited audience of all professional stakeholders, including direct and clinical supporters for individuals with ID/A are encouraged to attend.
- Registration is required and at no charge to attendees.
- Three (3) hours of training credit and a certificate of achievement are provided.

** The Dual Diagnosis Professional Conference Series is funded through
Money Follows the Person*

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DESCRIPTION

Cultural Competency is necessary for every American, regardless of age, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, economic status, disability or handicap. Being different does not guarantee the ability to relate positively to our diversity, in a personal or professional way. This training will help develop skills that focus on living-working-playing-learning together. These skills must be practiced and learned across all sectors of our society. Emphasis will be placed on equity as a right for all Americans embraced by leaders of people everywhere from birth to adulthood. Thus, cultural competency as a skill set is both beyond, but essential to diversity and inclusion efforts, providing a chemistry for “greatness” in America.

Topics that will be discussed:

- Education and Training
- Cultural Competency
- Do No Harm
- Skills to Live, Work, Play and learn Together!

Key Concepts and Big Ideas in Do No Harm

1. Equity Leadership and Cultural Competency—Bringing America Greatness
2. Practice Makes Permanent—the practices of omission and commission
3. The Equity Trilogy-Diversity-Inclusion-Cultural Competency

4. Living, Working, Playing and Learning Together
5. The Four “A’s” of Basic Cultural Competency
6. Salad Bowl Skills vs the Melting Pot
7. Cultural Competency, Do No Harm, and High Performance
8. The Iceberg--Diversity, Character, and Cultural Competency
9. Organizational Culture, Democracy and Virtue
10. Cultural Competency for all Sectors
11. Do No Harm Pledge

PRESENTER

Dr. Donald E. Sheffield, a graduate of New Brighton High School class of 1965, received his B.A. in Secondary Education from Geneva College in 1969, and his Master’s in Education from Slippery Rock University in 1974. He earned his doctorate in Higher Education from Penn State University in 1989. Although Dr. Sheffield is a PA certified secondary school teacher, he spent most of his career in higher education and 26 years at Penn State University until his retirement in September, of 2002.

He is the former administrative assistant to Joe Paterno and Director of the Academic Support Center for Student Athletes at Penn State. Prior to retirement, he served as Director of Diversity Outreach for the Office of the Outreach and Cooperative Extension. He was also an adjunct faculty member for the department of curriculum and instruction.

Dr. Sheffield provides training for corporations, businesses and schools. His school presentations are models for teachers/educators in the areas of instructional

strategies, motivation, culture and learning, as well as evaluation and self-assessment. In addition, he conducts workshops for parents in maximizing the potential of their children. He is the founder and president of TAME Inc. (Techniques Assisting Motivation and Excellence), a consulting firm dedicated to cultural excellence by helping schools, families, social service systems, and businesses understand the “practice” of high performance by embracing cultural competency. His most recent work includes merging cultural competency with a “Do No Harm” Pledge.

A major emphasis of Dr. Sheffield’s work is helping parents manage the academic development of their children. He has developed programs that incorporate excellence training at home and delivered numerous workshops for improving parenting skills. His academic experience, family background and athletic training have given him a unique perspective on the essence of excellence and high performance. He is the author of the book “Practice Makes Perfect—Not! Excellence is a Habit”.

Dr. Sheffield currently serves as the Cultural Competency Trainer for the Beaver County System of Care, Equity Leadership Consultant for the PA Department of Education, and Escaping Poverty Trainer for the Housing Authority of Beaver County and statewide.

Dr. Sheffield is a life-long member of St. John-Wayman A.M.E. Church in Bridgewater, PA. He is the son of the late Rev. Eugene and Bessie Sheffield. He is a recipient of the NAACP Humanitarian Award (2017), Father of the Year Award (2018) and Citizen of the Year Award from the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce in 2019.

He is a father of three adult sons, four grandchildren and a great granddaughter.
He resides in Beaver Falls, PA.

REGISTER HERE

The session will be offered virtually via the Zoom© platform. The Zoom link for joining the session will be sent to the email you used to register. This link will be unique to your registration. Please do not share this link.

For questions on registration, email: patraining@columbusorg.com