Patterns of Cultural Differences: A Conversation

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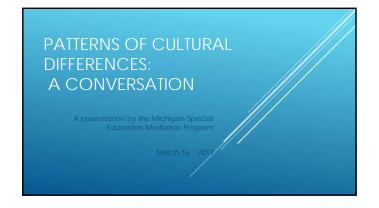
Objectives:

Identify and emphasize attitudes that enhance the opportunities for persons with DD to achieve their optimal potential

Develop strategies to promote community inclusion in meeting the needs of persons with developmental disabilities

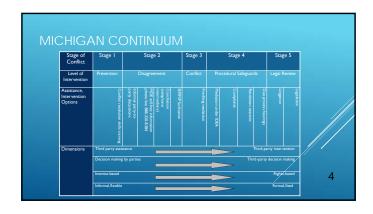
Identify cultural communication nuances which may impact understanding

Notes:





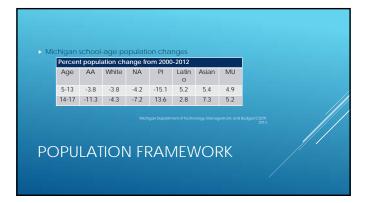
ADMINISTRATION • U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs • Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Office of Special Education • Dispute Resolution Education Resources, Inc. (DRER) • Michigan Special Education Mediation Program (MSEMP)



Population predictions by US Census

Nationally: by 2050
54% of population will by other than non-Hispanic White
for children, minorities will be the majority by 2023
Part of the population over 65 will more than double
Michigan: by 2060
There will be a 60% chance that any two people will be of
different races

POPULATION FRAMEWORK





Different Communication Styles
 Different Attitudes Toward Conflict
 Different Approaches to Completing Tasks
 Different Decision-Making Styles
 Different Attitudes Toward Disclosure
 Different Approaches to Knowing

PATTERNS OF CULTURAL DIFFERENCE

►Eye contact
 ►Facial expression
 ►Dress
 ►Body movements
 ►Personal
 •space/touching
 COMMUNICATION DIFFERENCES
 •CULTURALLY ROOTED
 ►Vocal patterns
 Time relationship
 Directness
 Response style/speed

We communicate attention, interest, and many other things with our eyes.

 Eye communication varies from culture to culture.

EYE CONTACT

The process of the success has different meanings

Accessories also carry meaningPrecings
Tattoos
Large or a lot of jewelry
Expensive jewelry

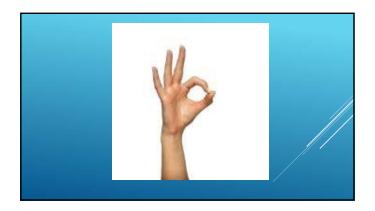
DRESS

We communicate in many ways with our bodies.

• Our posture often communicates our attentiveness.

• Gestures can have very specific meanings, and tend to be very culture specific.

BODY MOVEMENTS



Touch is a human being's first sensation.
It is also our first communication.

• We all use space differently.
• Intimate-less than 18*
• Casual/personal – 18*-4ft
• Social – where most interact
• Public - presentations

PERSONAL SPACE/TOUCHING

Paralanguage is all of the things that give emphasis and meaning to the words a person uses.

Vocal qualities:

Volume
Inflection
Speed
Pitch
Vocal Characteristics
Vocalizations that convey a learned meaning for a specific culture
Vocal Segregates
Audible sounds not words

VOCAL PATTERNS

Our use of time is culturally based and varies from culture to culture. In the mainstream culture in the United States, we expect exactness of time. We feel it is rude if someone is late. "Time equals money" is a common expression.

Informal Time
Punctuality
Pace
Past, present & future
Past
Present
Future

Monochronic & polychronic time

TIME RELATIONSHIP

Directness of questions
Directness of answers
Rhetorical style
Response to accusation
Groups that "beat around the bush" are often considered evasive, disorganized or intellectually weak, when it could be "the journey is part of the experience"

DIRECTNESS

Speed of response
Turns
Regulators
Silence
Nodding
Raising eyebrows
Leaning forward

RESPONSE STYLE/SPEED



Golden Rule: Treat others as you would like to be treated

Platinum Rule: Treat others as they would like you to treat them



