

## **Cultural Diversity & Special Populations Committee**

**Committee activity update:** February 2010

Notes compiled by: **Willie Williams, Committee Chair**

### **Welcome & Introduction:**

The Diversity & Special Populations Committee is a TAAP Standing Committee. The Committee's goals are to:

1. Disseminate issue related information
2. Develop and support strategies to increase the diversity and participation of the TAAP member.
3. Develop and support strategies to address Workforce issues of recruitment and retention.
4. Develop and support strategies that assure Substance Use services are provided in a culturally sensitive environment, and by a culturally competent staff.

### **Committee's invites your participation**

This is an exciting time for TAAP. Tricia Hanson, TAAP President has set high expectation for our member association. The Committee understands that a quality workforce is the key ingredient to establishing a culturally diverse, sensitive, and competent provider network.

I invite you to support us by becoming an Email Network Participant (ENP) and/or a Committee member. ENPs forward local/ regional information, e.g., news stories, treatment program initiatives, diversity event calendars, funding opportunity to me for distribution.

The Committee strives to have diverse statewide representation in urban and none urban areas. Send an email of interest with your resume for consideration to [willie.williams@ci.austin.tx.us](mailto:willie.williams@ci.austin.tx.us) .

**Informative website:** [www.nned.net](http://www.nned.net)

To address disparities in behavioral health care, the National Network to Eliminate Disparities (NNED) in Behavioral Health was formed with support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in partnership with the National Alliance of Multi-ethnic Behavioral Health Associations (NAMBHA).

Webcast-The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) [Rehabilitation and Recovery of African-Americans Experiencing Severe Mental Illness](http://www.ncddr.org/webcasts/webcast22.html)  
Notes at: <http://www.ncddr.org/webcasts/webcast22.html>

### **Upcoming events**

TAAP State Conference--See TAAP Home page

### **Finally:**

We encourage your participation in your local TAAP chapter.