What makes rural training, “rural?”

The mental health service system in rural areas has received increasing attention in recent years. However, an inclusive discussion of effective curriculum development for rural-focused psychology programs has been largely absent from the rural psychology discussion.

The Collaborative Conference on Rural Mental Health Training will attempt to bring together stakeholders from training programs, rural-based internships, and community agencies to discuss the challenges facing rural-focused psychology programs today. The conference will provide a relaxed, informal environment in which attendees can exchange ideas about training issues, share successful program endeavors, and gain perspective from rural mental health service administrators and practitioners.

We invite you to join us for this important conference! Share your experiences and learn what others are doing to promote effective training in rural-focused clinical psychology!

Directions:
The conference will be held at the Institute for Health and Human Services (Room 168 A-B), located in University Hall off of University Hall Road. On-site parking available, but limited (carpooling encouraged!)

Lodging:
A discounted room rate has been arranged for Thursday and Friday nights at the Broyhill Inn on the beautiful campus of Appalachian State University. Please contact J.P. Jameson to arrange lodging at a reduced rate.

Transportation:
ASU faculty will arrange pickups from the Charlotte International Airport (CLT) on Thursday, April 14th. Please contact Scotty Hargrove (hargroveds@appstate.edu) or J.P. Jameson (jamesonjp@appstate.edu) to make arrangements for pickup.
Serving the mental health needs of rural communities requires that service providers possess a unique personal and professional skill set that is qualitatively different than the emphasis of traditional training programs. This conference is designed to identify and facilitate these skills in training programs across mental health disciplines. Participants will be exposed to practices for training generalists who excel at both research and practice in rural areas. There will be ample opportunity to interact with colleagues and share experiences. We hope that this meeting gives us the opportunity to learn from each other. Please join us for this exciting discussion!

Setting the Agenda for Rural Mental Health Training

Schedule of Events:

8:45-9:30 – Coffee, meet & greet
9:30-11:45 – Roundtable discussion: Issues in rural mental health training
11:45-1:15 – Networking lunch
1:15-4:00 – Plenary Speakers
4:00-5:30 – Moderated discussion with plenary speakers

Plenary Speakers:

Michael B. Blank, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry, Center for Mental Health Policy and Services Research, University of Pennsylvania
“Setting a course for rural research: Implications for training and practice”

Michael Enright, Ph.D.
Private Practitioner, Jackson Hole, WY
"The Reluctant Generalist: A Practitioner’s Prospective on Academic Collaboration."

David S. Hargrove, Ph.D.
Kulynych/Cline Distinguished Professor of Psychology, Appalachian State University
“Rural Research, Training and Practice: Challenges and Successes Over the Past 40 Years”

Julie S. Owens, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology, Ohio University; Co-Director, Center for Intervention Research in Schools
“Developing and Sustaining University-Community Partnerships in Rural Communities”

Registration Information:

Please contact J.P. Jameson (jamesonjp@appstate.edu) if you are interested in attending. Please note that seating is limited and will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Please RSVP by March 21, 2011!

There is NO REGISTRATION FEE for this conference. Funding has been graciously provided by the Appalachian State University Department of Psychology.

Please RSVP by March 21, 2011!

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