

Overcoming Addictions and Barriers:

A CULTURAL GUIDE TO THE LGBT COMMUNITY FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PROVIDERS



CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

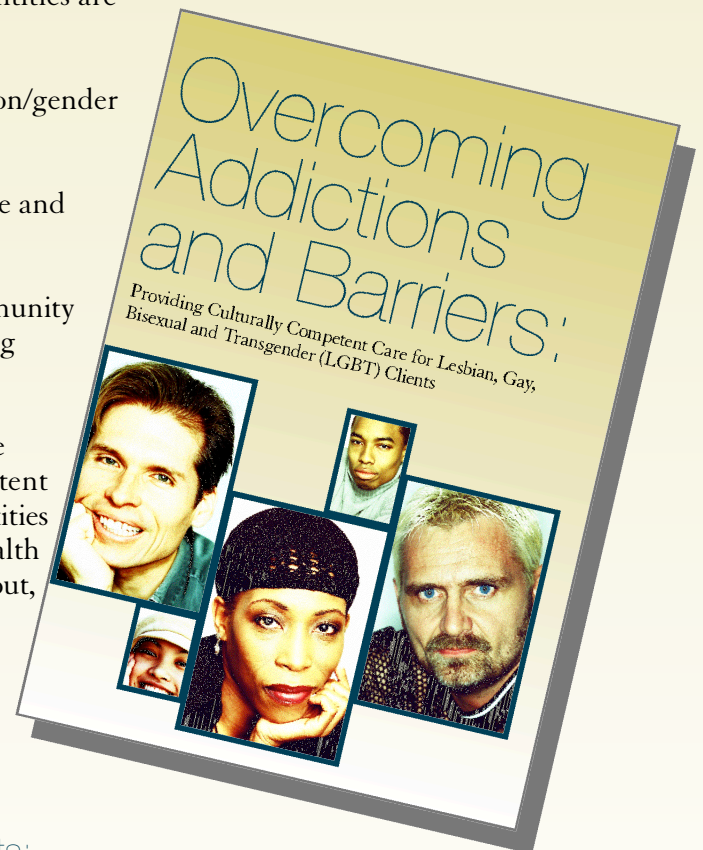


Overcoming Addictions and Barriers is a twenty-minute video designed to show providers how to better relate to clients from the LGBT community seeking care.

Many treatment methods and modalities have shown efficacy in the LGBT population, ranging from harm reduction approaches to 12 step programs. However, too often optimal care is thwarted by an unknowingly insensitive provider environment or culture. Overcoming Addictions and Barriers focuses on:

- understanding that sexual experiences and identities are very fluid and exist on a continuum
- helping an organization avoid sexual orientation/gender presentation stereotypes
- showing how provider organizations can create and maintain safe spaces for their LGBT clients
- addressing emerging issues in the LGBT community such as Crystal Methamphetamine usage among gay men

Members of the LGBT community offer their collective wisdom, interwoven with dramatizations, providing potent insights into the continuums of sexual behaviors and identities and the ways in which these dynamics intersect with health issues especially with substance use and abuse. Throughout, the viewer is reminded that the LGBT community is extraordinarily vast and diverse.



Contacts:

For content and background information:

Pamela McCann

mccann_pamela@cdph.org

(312) 745-1214

For copies of video and discussion guide:

(312) 747-9823