



INSTITUTE FOR MULTICULTURAL COUNSELING & EDUCATION SERVICES

• A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION • ASSOCIATED WITH DPI/NGO OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS •

Presentation to:

Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) Annual Conference

March 1 -3, 2013

Presenter: Dr. Tara Pir, President-elect of International Council of Psychologists (ICP)
& CEO/Founder of (IMCES)

Topics:

INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SYMPOSIUM: APA AND GROWTH OF INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SYMPOSIUM: INVOLVEMENT AT THE UN

In a globalized world, we are inevitably part of a connected network system facing dramatic transformation in professional, socio-economic and political areas. Understanding the context and framework of our era, I share the mission of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG), and the goals of internationalizing psychology.

The following plans and programs are in response to the promotion and implementation of the above goals and mission.

- **United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG)**

- **Sustainable development goals**

Development of sustainable health and wellness service delivery.

As a CEO and Director of a community clinic called the **Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services (IMCES)**, I developed an integrated model of service delivery, including mental health, primary health care, substance abuse, and social services to help culturally diverse underserved groups in our community to reach their recovery and resiliency status. IMCES offers twelve clinical programs developed to reach children, youth, families, and adults who have many barriers to their wellness, success, and sustainability within the community. Our treatment philosophy focuses on strengths rather than pathology, on wellness rather than illness. IMCES recognizes the need to address the severity of illness in our community. Also, we have developed a comprehensive model of services delivery, which provides culturally proficient services to all ages and ethnicities based on the proven success of integrated and coordinated services. This is accomplished through the utilization of advocacy, outreach and engagement and prevention and early intervention strategies.

- **Internationalizing Psychology:**

- **National and international clinical training programs**

IMCES developed an international clinical training program which is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). IMCES has a long history of providing specialized graduate level training. Our clinical training program is designed to promote the specialty area of "community clinic" and integrated model of service delivery. Our training is focused on integrating primary physical health and mental health. In addition, we have made a special effort to promote and encourage the internationalization of psychology by providing clinical training on a global level and promoting research and fostering international connections among psychologists. We are members of the InterExchange which is designed by the US Department of State to promote cross-cultural awareness through work and volunteer exchange programs.

*Through this strengthened network and partnership we are able to promote the United Nations' initiative of the **Alliance of Civilization**. Our goal is **uncovering unity in diversity**, creating leadership opportunities to honor the human rights of everyone and empower the **SPIRIT OF UNITY**.*

About The Presenter:

Dr. Tara Pir



Dr. Tara Pir (aka Dr. Tahereh Pirhekayaty) is a clinical psychologist and diplomate in behavioral medicine and professional psychotherapy. She has served as professor, researcher, professional trainer, mentor, and has been in leadership positions locally and internationally for over thirty years. Dr. Pir has dedicated the last three decades to overcoming disparity, social injustice, stigma and discrimination. She has been promoting, advocating, and conducting a culturally inclusive, integrative model of service delivery for underserved culturally diverse populations in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Pir has made a strong commitment and developed an APA-accredited clinical training program to promote the specialty area of community clinic with an emphasis on the integrated model of primary health care and mental health services for new and emerging professionals in the field of psychology. Dr. Pir has received commendations and appreciation awards for community services and leadership from federal officials, the United States Senate, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Dr. Pir has published and presented her research studies on a variety of topics including human rights issues at the local, national, United Nations and other international professional conventions worldwide. Dr. Pir has been the Founder and CEO of a community outpatient clinic since 1989. The Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services (IMCES) serves the culturally and linguistically diverse, underserved populations of Los Angeles County. IMCES provides health, mental health, legal, social, and supportive services in eight different languages for ethnic populations of all ages. IMCES is associated with the DPI/NGO of the United Nations for human rights. IMCES's clinical training program for mental health professionals is approved and available for qualified applicants on a local, national and international level. Dr. Pir is also a founding member and president of the International Iranian American Psychological Association. Additionally, Dr. Pir has been elected as upcoming President for the International Council of Psychologists.

Affiliations and Accreditations:



Institute for Multicultural Counseling
and Education Services



International Iranian American Psychological
Association



Office of International Visitors Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs U.S. Department of State

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

