Public Health is Contagious

BME Offender Mental Health and Diversion – Post Bradley
Deryck.browne@nacro.org.uk
“It is important that diversion schemes provide a service which is appropriate and acceptable. This will require the involvement of members of the African Caribbean community in developing the service, as well as the involvement of staff who are sensitive to the issues of race and culture and the implications of socio economic disadvantage for ethnic minorities”. Reed Review, 1994
Prins H. 1993. Big, Black and Dangerous

SCMH 2002. Breaking The Circles of Fear

Independent Inquiry into the Death of David Bennet 2003
Liaison and diversion for BME service users:

A good practice guide for court diversion and criminal justice mental health liaison schemes
- Criminal justice system is discriminatory by nature so BME service users logically, disadvantaged within it
- Limited resources to meet BME needs
- Lack of understanding of BME needs
- Problems encountered when English is not the first language
- Lack of culturally sensitive service provision
- Misplaced perceptions of dangerousness and risk - all the ramifications of this
• Create systems for the monitoring and tracking of BME clients

• Incorporate anti-racist practice into the planning and delivery of the service

• Develop a range of appropriate responses in collaboration with BME communities

• Ensure their recommendations for outcomes following intervention and assessment reflect the cultural and religious needs of the individual
• Liaise with BME service providers, including the voluntary sector, to ensure appropriate account is taken of cultural issues (and that access to a range of resources is available)

• Ensure that their development and service delivery reflects their agency’s Race Equality Scheme and diversity agenda

• Ensure that their operational protocol and associated policies include statements on equality and diversity
“We try to reflect the local population, local need and local trends. We include Irish, Irish Travellers and Romany, and we’ve started to record contact with Eastern European migrants and refugee and asylum seeker populations”
“If you work with different clients you need to build and maintain relationships so that these organizations are more likely to take your referrals. This involves visiting projects, understanding their criteria, being seen as a resource and respecting and assisting the project”.
SIMON SCHAMA
Rough Crossings
BRITAIN, THE SLAVES AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

“This is a book of soaring merit: gripping, moving, illuminating and truthful... Schama is back at his best – and historians don’t come much better than that.”
FELIPE FERNANDEZ-ARMESTO, SUNDAY TIMES
Public Health is Contagious

BME Offender Mental Health and Diversion – Post Bradley
Deryck.browne@nacro.org.uk