Doing unto the Least of These: Applied Behavioral Science and Public Health Integration at the Margins of Society

10/19/2021

The Utah State Psychology Department and Dr. Kaston Anderson-Carpenter present Doing unto the Least of These: Applied Behavioral Science and Public Health Integration at the Margins of Society.

Since its inception, applied behavioral science has advocated for equitable conditions for marginalized and underserved populations. Although most of applied behavioral science has focused on autism spectrum disorder, other major areas of foci include organizational behavior management and pediatrics. Public health remains a critical, yet largely untapped area for behavioral science. Furthermore, applications of behavioral science technology in marginalized and underserved populations remain limited. A social justice/DEI (SJ-DEI) perspective provides a useful framework through which applied behavioral science can be used to improve health and well-being at the community and population level. However, an understanding of how such behavioral public health efforts can be developed and implemented through a SJ-DEI lens remains limited at best. This presentation will describe major public health approaches, their compatibility with applied behavioral science, and lessons learned from community-engaged research and practice. The audience will gain particular knowledge in how applied behavioral science can be integrated into public health practice through a SJ-DEI perspective.

Dr. Kaston Anderson-Carpenter is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Michigan State University. His research aims to 1) understand how social determinants contribute to inequality in underserved communities and 2) investigate the community processes that facilitate positive social and environmental change.

Dr. Anderson-Carpenter earned is PhD from the University of Kansas as well as a master’s in Public Health from the University of Kansas School of Medicine.

Request a copy of the recording by contacting Hillary Fruge.