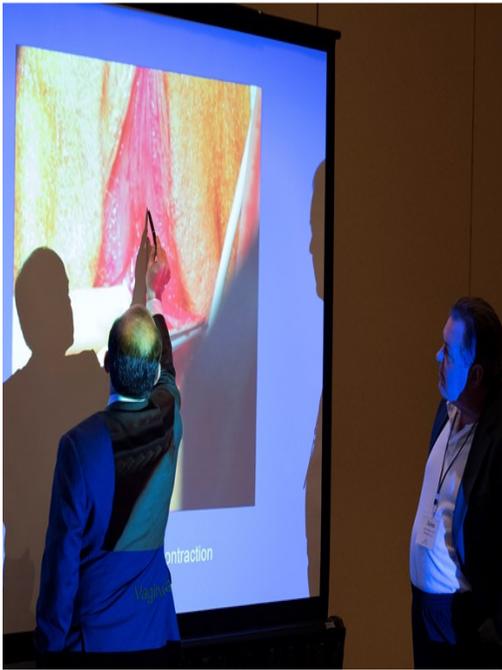


GEI NEWS SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

600 PROVIDERS TRAINED THROUGH GEI FOUNDATIONS COURSES



We have held three GEI Foundations courses: Chicago, Atlanta and Springfield, MO, each with a distinctly different audience.

We have had 600 attendees from a dozen countries participating, all of them encouraged to provide constructive feedback which we have taken very seriously and immediately implemented when possible.

We have trained psychologists, psychiatrists, therapists, social workers, family practice providers, nurses, nurse practitioners, PA's, endocrinologists, urologists, and gynecologists, plastic surgeons and professional educators.

Spiritual leaders, addiction counselors and HIV case managers, researcher's, students and administrators.

Attendees have worked at military bases, the Pentagon, federal and state correctional institutions, medical schools, private practices, public health departments, clinics and community hospitals.

More than anything else, we have realized there is much more work to be done. We are currently forming task forces to assist in creating targeted training to meet the varied educational needs of providers and improve access to care.

“The depth of experience of the presenters inspires me to deepen my study research and consultation.” Chicago attendee LMFT

FAQs

Q. Will I receive a certification for attending the Foundations course?

A. All attendees will receive a Document of Completion for that course. Should you wish to pursue certification the credit will be given.

Q. Where can I get the slide handouts from the courses if updated handouts were not provided?

A. We are creating a website for Foundations course attendees and you will be able to sign in for all up to date handouts and we will continue to add resources to this site as they are developed.

Q. Will Chicago course attendees receive results post-test?

A. An unusual number of attendees answered a significant number of questions incorrectly. We concluded the test questions were flawed as written and did not release the data.

WPATH CERTIFICATION UPDATE

In working to develop the WPATH Certification program as a benefit for our members, we have been amazed and caught somewhat off-guard. The demand for our GEI training courses has wildly exceeded our expectations.

We've been carefully listening to the feedback from round table discussions on certification at our trainings and we have consulted with the Center for Credentialing Education. These have proven very helpful to us in developing our plans. An overwhelming number of members are adamant that WPATH certification should be rigorous enough to stand up to outside scrutiny and we agree.

We are spending more time now, on developing educational domains and core competencies that are inclusive of the common global needs of our members worldwide. Regardless of the geography or specific educational needs and objectives of a given course, it will always map back to these educational domains and core competencies.

We will continue our pilot phase providing training that focuses on our U.S. members. We will provide a variety of educational opportunities for our members to earn credit now as we continue our Foundations course as well as new advanced training courses and elective sessions.

We are currently working on an application or intent to pursue certification form that any of you who are interested would need to begin your process. You will receive credits retroactively for any certified WPATH training you may have already completed and we will keep you apprised through this newsletter of upcoming opportunities to earn credit towards certification.

While the details of the entire process are still being developed, you can find the outline of the requirements in the article on the next page. In addition, we are forming task forces now to assist in creating interesting and targeted training programs to meet the varied educational needs of providers.



Appreciative audience at the Foundations course in Springfield, MO

THE PATH TO CERTIFICATION

In order to become certified an applicant must:

1. Be a member of WPATH in good standing for 2 years at the time of final exam
2. Be licensed and board certified in your specialty or the global equivalent
3. Complete a minimum of 50 hours of credit

15 CE hours minimum in WPATH Foundations Course

10 hours in advanced course to be determined by specialty track

10 hours of electives covering 5 topic areas

10 hours of supervision, consultation, mentorship

(Details of approval still in process)

5 CE hours listening to voices of the transgender, transsexual and gender non-binary communities examples Include: attend town halls at GEI conferences, attend designated workshops at WPATH conferences or other approved conferences/workshops, attend local community events, participate in online education or communities forums

4. Provide evidence of knowledge, skill, and accomplishments in transgender health i.e. CV, publications, case studies
5. Agree to adhere to the WPATH SOC 7 or latest published revision
6. Agree to comply with the WPATH approved transgender, transsexual and gender non-binary health related continuing (CE) requirements of 20 hours every two years to maintain certification
7. Successfully pass the certification exam to begin being offered in 2017

Grandfathering

Our conversations with experts in the field of credentialing confirmed, grandfathering is a typical part of an association's certification program development process when a new education directive is introduced. An integral part of any certification exam is normalizing, the process by where experienced professionals take the exam to provide a frame of reference to vet the questions and to provide benchmarks to measure future applicants against.

We are happy to recognize our members who have contributed to both the field as a whole and to WPATH specifically through the implementation of an accelerated path to certification. Qualified members in good standing may opt out of course requirements by choosing to demonstrate proficiency through documentation and completion of a certification exam as outlined below.

Individuals petitioning to be grandfathered must:

1. Meet all the criteria for certification with the exception of attending courses for which they can demonstrate proficiency.
2. Must have ten years' experience in their field of expertise.
3. Show experience in each of the relevant certification domains. This can be done through the submission of a CV, and a supplemental information form describing training and experience, workshops attended, supervision experience, participation in consultation groups, etc.
4. Successfully complete the exam to be available in early 2017 as part of our vetting and benchmarking process.
5. Be a member of WPATH in good standing for a minimum of 5 years