

The Biopsychosocial formulation in Forensic Mental Health

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Level

Introductory

Track

Clinical

CE

CPA/BBS/CJER

Bio

Sharon Cyrus-Savary, , LMHC, PHDC, CCFC is a licensed mental health professional with many years of successful experience in developing, implementing and leading mental health programs. She specializes in multidisciplinary biopsychosocial approach to treatment that includes person-centered, positive psychology, strength-based approaches and trauma informed care. Her experience includes leading programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, Autism, forensic involvement, child welfare, substance use and family therapy. She completed her externship and internship on Rikers Island, NY where she worked with patients with severe mental health and comorbid health challenges on the Mental Health Observation Unit. Sharon is a past trustee and the scholarship chair of The American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMCHA) Foundation working to improve the mental health of Americans through training and public education, access to mental health services, and promoting high standards for mental health practitioners. She obtained her BS at Empire State College and her MSED from Fordham University. She completed her PHDc in Counseling Psychology at Walden University.

Narrative

The Biopsychosocial formulation in forensic mental health provides a way to review the origins and causes of the person's symptoms. "Formulation asks what is wrong, how it got that way, and what can be done about it," Nurcombe, B, et.al 2022. First developed by George Engel, this approach combines biological, psychological and social factors to understand the person and guides both treatment and prognosis. The biopsychosocial model considers the "4 Ps" for each of the biological, psychological, and social factors that impact the person's life.

Learning Objectives

1. Apply the biopsychosocial model to the people with forensic involvement
2. Identify three cultural considerations ways to advance "health equity"
3. Identify three ways to support neurodiverse people in the forensic system