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2014 Undergraduate Research Symposium

Feb 7th, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Empowerment Evaluation and Research: A Discussion of Homelessness

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FRIDAY, February 7th, 2014

1:30-2:30PM (Learning Commons # 1310)

Empowerment Evaluation and Research: A Discussion of Homelessness Chair: Dr. Narketta Sparkman

Department of Counseling and Human Services

This session looks into the struggles a family may face when dealing with homelessness. These struggles can be both internal and external for all members of the family. Shelter, stability and education are some of the issues examined to gain more understanding of what it is like to experience homelessness. Research on a local agency was also conducted to see how they help individuals in this predicament. This presentation discusses different programs offered by the agency to help homeless families get on their feet again. The research shows that the agency has appropriate programs needed for these individuals but do these programs empower the families to overcome their situations and succeed? An evaluation was performed to see exactly how these programs empowered their participants. The results show that each program has different ways of empowering their participants.

Empowerment Evaluation: An Introduction

By ASHLEY REETZ

This presentation will introduce empowerment evaluation. Empowerment evaluation will be defined and discussed in terms of the role of research. The researcher will discuss methods used in empowerment evaluation to collect data.

Current State of Homelessness Research

By TAMIKA BRIGHT-STUBBLEFIELD

This presentation will discuss the current state of homelessness. The researcher will define homelessness and discuss research findings on homelessness. The researcher will then discuss challenges in servicing homeless populations.

Use of Empowerment Evaluation

By RACHEL HAVER

This presentation will discuss the use of empowerment evaluation to evaluate agencies that service homeless populations. This presentation will discuss the assessment of a local agency that services homeless populations and describe the research methods utilized to collect data.

Evaluation of a Local Agency Servicing Homeless Populations

By JASMINE COTTOM

This presentation will discuss the findings of evaluating a local agency that services homeless populations. The researcher will discuss how goals and objectives are developed out of findings as well as how these findings improve program development. The researcher will discuss how empowerment of homeless populations can be improved through researcher recommendations that are evaluation based.