

## CREA 2017 Pre-Conference Workshop

Workshop Title: Translating Contemporary Culturally Responsiveness for Actionable Evaluation Practices for and with Latinx Communities

Level: Beginner

### Description:

This workshop will focus on translating contemporary culturally responsiveness for actionable evaluation practices for and with Latinx communities. Latinos are the fastest growing population in the United States, accounting for 16.3% of the total population (2010 census). Enacting culturally responsive evaluation (CRE) with diverse multinational, racial, and ethnic Latinx communities demands highly skilled evaluators who can employ evaluation approaches which align and support diverse perspectives in all evaluation phases. The session will begin with a brief history of social justice oriented evaluation theories, CRE, and Latino Critical Race Theory (LatCrit). This paradigmatic framing will provide a foundation to discuss the nine-step CRE process in action with Latinx communities. Facilitators will highlight synthesized literature and draw on their own indigenous praxis-oriented perspectives. Participants should come prepared to 'dig deep' and share their experiences with Latinx-focused evaluation planning and practice.

### Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the relevance of social justice theories in evaluation
2. Identify key elements and methodologies guiding CRE practice
3. Describe the 9 steps of culturally responsive evaluation, highlighting the synergies and tensions in Latinx-centered practice
4. Develop strategies to employ CRE with Latino communities
5. Assess their own individual cultural locations and describe how these influence the design choices they make in their evaluation work

### Faculty:

Drs. Aponte-Soto and Neubauer are evaluator scholars, educators, practitioners, and Latinas. This background provides a distinctive and appropriate theoretical, practical, and personal orientation to discussing Culturally Responsive Evaluation with Latinx communities.

### Lisa Aponte-Soto, PhD, MHA

Dr. Lisa Aponte-Soto serves as National Program Deputy Director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation *New Connections* program at Equal Measure. Lisa is committed to the professional development and advancement of racial and ethnic students and scholars from underrepresented backgrounds through education, advising, and career coaching. She describes herself as an advocate, researcher, and evaluator promoting culturally responsive practices to foster academic and health equity among underserved, underrepresented and vulnerable populations. Lisa has 20 years of experience leading public, private, and federally funded diversity initiatives. In these capacities, she has conducted mix-methods and community-based research and evaluation applying CRE principles. Lisa is an alumna of the American Evaluation Association (AEA) Graduate Diversity Internship Program. She is also a founding member and chair of the AEA Latina/o Responsive Evaluation Discourse Topical Interest Group (TIG), a member of the AEA Task Force on Engagement, Diversity, and Leadership Development, a member of the AEA Guiding Principles Task Force, a former program co-chair of the AEA Multiethnic Issues in Evaluation TIG, and a former member of the AEA Cultural Competence Working Group.

Lisa has facilitated vCRE workshops and webinars with a focus on Latino Communities. Workshops include:

- Co-presenting “From Rhetoric to Reality: Achieving Authentic, Equitable & Transformative Partnerships” presented to healthcare professionals and researchers at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.
- Co-leading a session with Dr. Neubauer a CREA-sponsored AEA Pre-Conference Workshop “Contemporary Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Latino Communities.”
- Leading a webinar session for the Latina Researchers Network “Evaluation 101 with a Cultural Lens.”
- Facilitating an AEA Coffee Break webinar “Working for and with Latinx Community Stakeholders for Effective Program Evaluation Outcomes”.

She has also presented AEA panels, think tanks, Birds of a Feather sessions addressing evaluation practices for Latino communities as well as contributing to AEA365 blog posts with a focus on CRE and Latinx responsive evaluation and leadership practices.

Additionally, Lisa has published an article in NDE “Championing Culturally Responsive Leadership for Evaluation Practice, New Directions for Evaluation.”

Aponte-Soto, L., Ling Grant, D. S., Carter-Johnson, F., Colomer, S. E., Campbell, J. E., & Anderson, K. G. (2014). Championing culturally responsive leadership for evaluation practice. In P. M. Collins & R. Hopson (Eds.), *Building a new generation of culturally responsive evaluators through AEA’s Graduate Education Diversity Internship program*. *New Directions for Evaluation*, 143, 37–47.

Lisa earned her Ph.D. in Community Health Sciences with concentrations in Behavioral Science and Health Promotion and Research Methodology from the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health. She received her M.H.A. in Health Management and Policy from Governors State University. She attended Loyola University Chicago, where she earned a B.S. in Biology and Psychology, and a B.A. in Spanish Language, Literature and Translation.

#### Leah C. Neubauer, EdD, MA

Dr. Leah Christina Neubauer has been working in the field of public health as an educator, evaluator, and researcher for the last sixteen years. She is an Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine at Northwestern University. Her research focuses on health education and promotion, global health & health disparities. She leads and collaborates on projects that employ mixed-method approaches to develop, implement, evaluate & disseminate translational and culturally responsive research and evaluation. She has delivered over 110 presentations and co-authored publications on education, evaluation, training and research. She is the co-facilitator of AEA’s Local Affiliate Collaborative (LAC), past President of the Chicagoland Evaluation Association (CEA), and member of the AEA Task Force on Diversity, Membership Engagement, and Leadership Development. Leah earned her Ed.D. in Adult, Continuing and Professional Education (*cognate in Evaluation*) from National Louis University in Chicago, Illinois. She earned her MA in Interdisciplinary Studies (*cognate in Organizational and Multicultural Assessment, Development, and Communication*) and her BA in Communication Studies, with minors in Business Administration and Health Education from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

#### Outline

- 8:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 8:20 What We Mean When We Say Latinx, Latino, Latina
- 8:40 Evaluation Theory and Social Justice
- 9:00 Culturally Responsive Evaluation (CRE): An Introduction
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 CRE and the Role of Self
- 10:45 CRE Steps 1-3 in Practice: Case Study 1
- 11:15 CRE Steps 4-6 in Practice: Case Study 2
- 11:45 CRE Steps 7-9 in Practice: Case Study 3
- 12:15 CRE in Your Practice: What’s Next?
- 12:30 Workshop Concludes