Introduction to Cultural Sensitivity and Reducing Microaggressions

Presenter, Diane Giachetti
Bloomfield Public Library
90 Broad Street, 2nd Floor Boardroom
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Thursday, March 26, 2020, 1:00-2:30 pm

Presenter biography:

Diane Giachetti is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, who worked in the Bloomfield Public Schools for over 20 years in a variety of positions including social worker, school counselor, and Anti-Bullying Specialist. Her education and training include a Masters in Social Work from New York University, and a traineeship in Community Mental Health from the National Institute of Mental Health. In addition to maintaining an ongoing private practice since the 1980’s, Diane worked full time in various social work/education settings including a year-long internship at Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx in the outpatient psychiatric department, and as a medical social worker at Perth Amboy General Hospital.

Workshop description:

“I love your accent where are you from?” By asking this and other questions you may think you are complimenting something but actually this can be called a micro aggression. Perhaps the person with whom you are speaking is from the United States however they were born in raised in a family that spoke another language. Or when working on reading with the student you may be showing them a book with all Caucasians. Let’s get out of our own comfortable skin and take a deep dive into someone else’s culture. It may seem strange to us at first however it gives us an opportunity to see how our students may feel when we are approach them with our best intentions.