Serious Mental Illness (SMI) Psychology Post-doctoral Competency Development

The SMI Psychology competencies were initially developed by an expert group convened following the 2016 APA Convention with support from APA’s Board of Educational Affairs and APA’s Division 18, Psychologists in Public Service. Experts in attendance represented the following organizations: APA Task Force on SMI/SED, Division 18, Section on SMI/SED of Division 18, the ABCT PASS-SIG, and representatives of post-doctoral training programs with a major area of study in SMI/SED.

Preliminary work to identify and develop a list of competencies was presented to the expert group and a draft final list was completed at the end of the full day meeting. Following the meeting, the list of competencies was reviewed via e-mail and finalized by the group. The competencies were subsequently sent to members of the SMI Psychology Specialty Council and to additional experts and representatives of post-doctoral training programs with a major area of study in SMI Psychology. Subsequently a conference call was held to complete the competencies in final form. Following this process, the competencies were reviewed by members of the Specialty Council and finalized.