

Evaluation
UNIITE Cultural Healing Festival
November 11, 2006

UNIITE sponsored a Cultural Healing Festival as part of its Health Care and World Religions series. Participants were asked to complete evaluations of the Festival. 42 participants completed an evaluation.

The evaluation instrument was designed to measure the extent to which the Festival met the following aims, intended audience, and objectives:

Aim:

To execute an 8-hour Complementary Therapies Festival on a Saturday.

Intended Audience:

Everybody in the St. Cloud area, especially physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, chaplains, counselors, dieticians, occupational therapists, physical therapists, dentists, surgeons, students, interns, volunteers, and others engaged in health care delivery.

Objectives:

1. Increasing local mainstream health care professionals' knowledge of and sensitivity to effective integrative and complementary health care practices with a special emphasis on yoga.
2. Expanding the current paradigm(s) of health care delivery, especially related to mental health, by presenting beliefs and practices, and health care concerns from diverse faiths and cultures.
3. Socially and professionally connecting practitioners of mainstream and complementary healing professionals, and acquainting the former with the latter's unique skills.
4. Providing immigrant healers an opportunity to share the richness of their healing traditions with others practicing from the biomedical paradigm.
5. Offering immigrants and others a whole spectrum of new and viable avenues to decrease cultural and economic barriers to health care.
6. Reducing myths and misconceptions among mainstream health care providers about the spiritually-based health-related beliefs and practices of peoples from diverse faiths and cultures.

SUMMARY

Attendees

In general, respondents were primarily non-presenters or non-exhibitors (85%). Similarly, they were predominantly established residents; 36 (85%) said they were not recent immigrants to the United States. Although some participants (19%) said they were engaged in the delivery of health care, most were not. Of those engaged in the delivery of health care, half (4) said they primarily practiced “western” or “mainstream” health care.

Overall Rating

Overall, participants rated the Festival “Good” to “Very Good,” with presenters/exhibitors, recent immigrants, and health care providers rating the Festival slightly higher than those in the “all respondents” group.

Achievement of Program Objectives

- A significant number of respondents in all categories agreed that they have a better understanding of the role of complementary therapies in the delivery of health care. (Objectives 1, 2, 5, and 6)
- Over a third of the participants in all categories agreed that as a result of attending the Festival they connected socially or professionally with at least two practitioners of health care from a healing tradition other than their own. (Objective 3)
- Half the presenters or exhibitors and over a third of the health care providers who responded said they had an opportunity to share their healing tradition with practitioners of another faith or healing tradition. (Objective 4)
- Over 40% of all participants and over half the presenters/exhibitors and health care providers agreed they have a better understanding of the healing traditions of a faith tradition or culture other than their own as a result of attending the Festival. (Objectives 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6)
- Approximately 40% of all respondents and about a third of the health care providers agreed they have a better understanding of the role of complementary therapies in the delivery of health care. (Objectives 1, 2, 5 and 6)

COMPOSITE RESPONSES

ATTENDEES

1. Are you a presenter or exhibitor at today's Festival?
Yes (6) No (36)
2. Do you consider yourself a recent immigrant to the United States?
Yes (5) No (36) No response (1)
3. If you are a recent immigrant, in what year did you come to the US?
2001 (1) 2002 (1) 2005 (1) 2006 (1) No response (1)
4. Are you engaged in the delivery of health care?
Yes (8) No (26) No response (8)
5. If yes, do you primarily practice "western" or "mainstream" health care delivery?
Yes (4) No (4)

OVERALL RATING

1 = Excellent 2 = Very Good 3 = Good 4 = Fair 5 = Poor

6. What is your overall rating of this Festival?

All respondents

6 rated 1 17 rated 2 13 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 5 No response
Mean 2.24

Presenters or exhibitors

2 rated 1 3 rated 2 1 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 1.83

Recent immigrants

2 rated 1 1 rated 2 2 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.00

Health Care Providers

1 rated 1 4 rated 2 1 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 2 No response
Mean 2.00

ACHIEVEMENT OF PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1 = Strongly agree 3 = Neither Agree nor Disagree 5 = Strongly Disagree

7. As a result of attending this festival, I have a better understanding of the role of complementary therapies in the delivery of health care. (Objectives 1, 2, 5, and 6)

All respondents

6 rated 1 15 rated 2 12 rated 3 2 rated 4 0 rated 5 7 No response
Mean 2.29

Presenters or exhibitors

1 rated 1 3 rated 2 2 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.17

Recent immigrants

0 rated 1 2 rated 2 2 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.80

Health Care Providers

1 rated 1 4 rated 2 2 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 1 No response
Mean 2.14

8. As a result of attending this festival, I have connected socially or professionally with at least two practitioners of health care from a healing tradition other than my own. (Objective 3)

All respondents

6 rated 1 10 rated 2 17 rated 3 2 rated 4 0 rated 5 7 No response
Mean 2.43

Presenters or exhibitors

1 rated 1 1 rated 2 3 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.67

Recent immigrants

0 rated 1 2 rated 2 2 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.80

Health Care Providers

3 rated 1 1 rated 2 2 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 1 No response
Mean 2.14

9. As a result of attending this festival, I had an opportunity to share my healing tradition with practitioners of another faith or healing tradition. (Objective 4)

All respondents

4 rated 1 7 rated 2 17 rated 3 6 rated 4 0 rated 5 8 No response
Mean 2.74

Presenters or exhibitors

1 rated 1 2 rated 2 3 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.33

Recent immigrants

0 rated 1 1 rated 2 4 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.80

Health Care Providers

1 rated 1 2 rated 2 3 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 1 No response
Mean 2.57

10. As a result of attending this festival, I have a better understanding of the healing traditions of a faith tradition or culture other than my own.

All respondents

8 rated 1 10 rated 2 15 rated 3 3 rated 4 0 rated 5 6 No response
Mean 2.36

Presenters or exhibitors

1 rated 1 3 rated 2 2 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.17

Recent immigrants

0 rated 1 1 rated 2 3 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 3.00

Health Care Providers

2 rated 1 2 rated 2 2 rated 3 1 rated 4 0 rated 5 1 No response
Mean 2.29

11. As a result of attending this festival, I have a better understanding of the role of complementary therapies in the delivery of health care.

All respondents

5 rated 1 12 rated 2 17 rated 3 2 rated 4 0 rated 5 6 No response
Mean 2.44

Presenters or exhibitors

1 rated 1 1 rated 2 4 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.50

Recent immigrants

0 rated 1 1 rated 2 4 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 0 No response
Mean 2.80

Health Care Providers

2 rated 1 1 rated 2 4 rated 3 0 rated 4 0 rated 5 1 No response
Mean 2.29

COMMENTS

12. Please provide any comments or suggestions to strengthen future UNIITE programs.

I haven't really had a chance yet to connect or experience different traditions but I think on a whole the Festival is a great idea and was very well organized and run. Thank you. (Presenter or exhibitor; engaged alternative therapy)

It would be helpful to have a better understanding of the purpose of this event in the advertisement. It is a very helpful idea to have this event. I love the idea of what UNIITE stands for as well. There is a great need for an organization like this that honors diverse spiritual traditions. It may be nice to have an ice breaker so people get to know others.

More marketing. Fun activities for different ages – teens – henna tattoos, Mayan masks for kids, games from around the world for all ages. Fun creates an environment that all can learn in. Information is good but must be accompanied by the others. To understand another's way of healing it is helpful to learn more such as the music, food, activities and daily life of another. To learn another way of healing one must have a grasp on the culture to really understand and feel more comfortable with something that feels unknown. The more comfortable one becomes the more one learns. Just a thought. The music part was great! (Presenter or exhibitor)

We just came for the food and performances.

Please continue each year. Need to advertise more close to the date of event.

Very interesting. Liked the music. I spent a year in Viet Nam and this culture brought back memories.

We just came for lunch and the performances, which were great.

I especially liked the yoga Ana Maria.

I appreciated the deeper understanding of yoga and the historical perspective.

I was a volunteer through RSVP.

The music was so nice! Might be something around which a stand-alone event could be organized.

Wonderful musical selections – great to see so many immigrant youth sharing their traditions!