What is Community Psychology?


Community Psychologists go beyond an individual focus and integrate social, cultural, economic, political, environmental, and international influences to promote positive change, health, and empowerment at individual and systemic levels.

What do Community Psychologists do?

Depending on one’s training, experiences, and preferences, community psychologists can work as educators, professors, program directors, consultants, policy developers, evaluators; and researchers in community organizations, universities, or government agencies to promote mental health and community well-being.

- We seek to expand “helping” beyond traditional psychotherapy to promote wellness.
- We engage in action-oriented research to develop, implement, and evaluate programs.

Educational Opportunities in Community Psychology

Undergraduate Training Opportunities

- Inquire at your undergraduate institution about courses, research opportunities, and experiential learning opportunities. Get involved in research, service learning, and communities!

Graduate Training Opportunities

- Master’s programs focus on practicing community psychology for hands-on skills.
- Doctoral programs include practical skills and more comprehensive research skills.
- Master’s and Doctorate Degrees are offered in Community Psychology, Clinical/Counseling-Community Psychology, and interdisciplinary programs not in psychology departments. See [http://www.scra27.org/resources/educationc/academicpr](http://www.scra27.org/resources/educationc/academicpr) for a list of graduate programs.
- Visit the Society for Community Research and Action (SCRA) website for additional information about Community Psychology, educational programs, opportunities for involvement, conferences, and student membership: [http://www.scra27.org/](http://www.scra27.org/)

Where do Community Psychologists Work?

- Academic settings such as: community colleges, small undergraduate colleges, and larger universities
- Health and human service agencies of: city, county, state, and federal governments
- Schools, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, religious institutions, and neighborhood groups.
- Public policy organizations and nonprofits.
- Research centers, independent or consulting groups, evaluation firms, and private practice.