

Recommendations for Working With Families With African American Roots

- ◆ Capitalize on kinship bonds and focus on family strengths
- ◆ Use informal support networks
- ◆ Address family members formally
- ◆ Determine attitudes and beliefs about health and medical care
- ◆ Become familiar with community resources
- ◆ Adapt and evaluate therapeutic interventions
- ◆ Critically assess the effects of poverty
- ◆ Recognize that poverty does not equate with dysfunction
- ◆ Avoid stereotyping
- ◆ Recognize language as an element of self-identity
- ◆ Recruit ethnically diverse staff members