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UNDERSTANDING THE MENTAL HEALTH STIGMA IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY FROM A HISTORICAL LENS

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Mental health services continue to underserve the African American community as a whole, mostly in part due to the distrust of providers as well as a lack of understanding of what the services entail. Looking from a historical perspective, author will explore the development of mental health facilities in the US under the advocacy of Dorothea Dix, the progression of treatment in long term care, the shift from asylum to community mental health centers and the disparity of services along the timeline within the African American community. They will also look at solutions to better engage the community to gain reception and provide a better standard of care.



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