

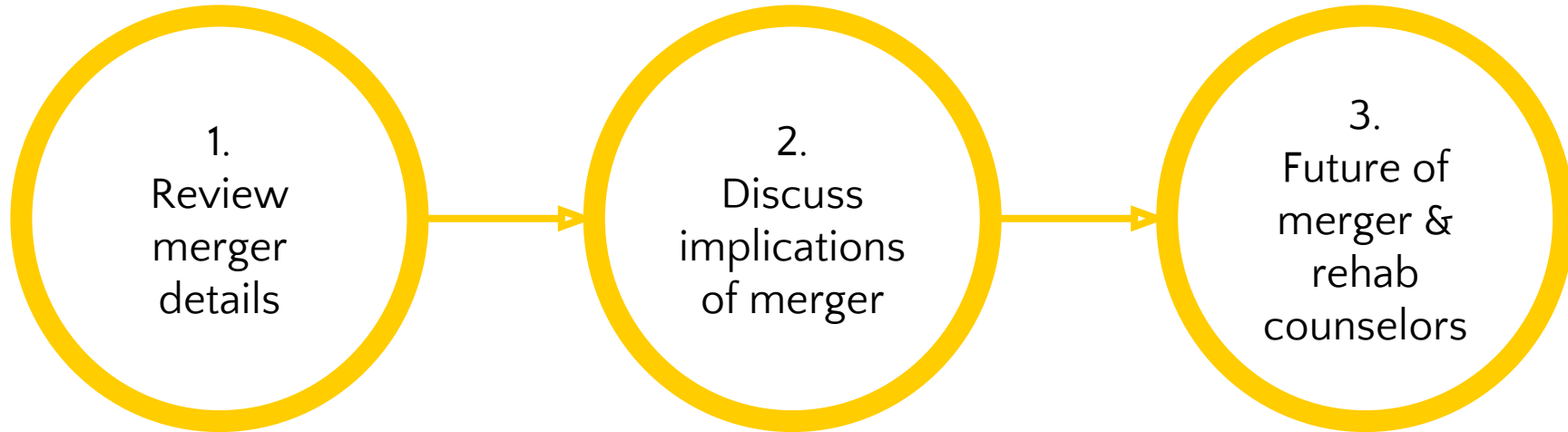
Updates on the CORE-CACREP Merger



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Today's Agenda



1.

Merger Details

CORE + CACREP = ... ?



Merger Details

Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE)

- ❑ Accredited master's level rehabilitation counselor education programs
- ❑ Established in the 1970's
- ❑ Used empirically based standards for CRC's



Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Academic Programs (CACREP)

- ❑ Accredits counselor education programs (master's & doctoral)
- ❑ Established in 1981
- ❑ Uses standards developed by the Association for Counselor Education & Supervision (ACES)

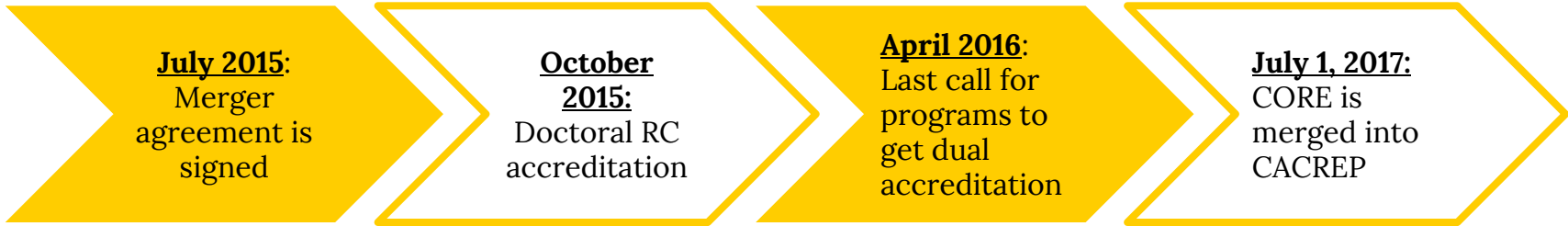


Merger Details: The History

- ❑ 2005: Merger proposition, would come together and create new organization-- Council for Accreditation of Counselor Education (CACE)
- ❑ 2007: irreconcilable differences lead to a failure to merge
- ❑ 2009 CACREP Standards allow for CORE accredited Rehabilitation Counseling programs to seek Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) accreditation
- ❑ 2013: CORE & CACREP enter into a corporate affiliation agreement for dual-accreditation of CIRC & CMHC programs
- ❑ 2015: CORE & CACREP sign a merger agreement; CACREP to carry out the mission of both organizations



Timeline of the merger



1. CORE no longer exists
2. CORE-accredited programs will be honored the lengths of their accreditation (now through CACREP)
 - a. Graduates will be eligible for CRCC exam & NCE
3. Undergraduate programs will be included in a registry, but will not be accredited through CACREP

*“ The decision to merge CORE and CACREP was done **out of respect for Rehabilitation Counseling** and a desire to **strengthen** the counseling specialization by having CACREP accredit the programs because of the name recognition associated with CACREP accreditation”*

[CACREP-CORE FAQ, 2015](#)

“

2.

Merger Implications

Impact on practitioners, educators & consumers



Merger Implications

- ❑ A joint committee has been appointed to review Section 2: *Counselor Professional Identity* & are developing rationale for **infusing disability concepts** into CACREP curriculum
 - ❑ Intended to be included in the 2023 CACREP Standards
- ❑ Programs have/will be seeking CACREP accreditation for the first time, change in staff structure:
 - ❑ "For entry level programs, the academic unit must employ a minimum of three full-time core counselor education program faculty members who teach in the entry level program. Core counselor education program faculty may only be designated as core faculty at one institution." (CACREP Standards, Section 1.R, 2016)
 - ❑ core faculty-student ratio changed from 10:1 to 12:1



Merger Implications

Current CRC's

Future CRC's

Members of MRA

Consumers/Clients

Current CRC's

- ❑ Certification is alive and well, although is in decline
- ❑ Advocacy for professionalisation in legislation is even more important now
- ❑ No issues with currently certified practitioners; if you weren't licensure eligible, that also will not change with the CACREP merger



Merger Implications

Current CRC's

Future CRC's

Members of MRA

Consumers/Clients

Future CRC's

- ❑ Will only have 60-credit hour program options
- ❑ Will be CRC exam and NCE eligible
- ❑ Potential for increase in licensure parity and portability
- ❑ May have more job opportunities at the doctoral level given the ability to work at any CACREP-accredited doctoral program



Merger Implications

Current CRC's

Future CRC's

Members of MRA

Consumers/Clients

Members of MRA

- ❑ RC and its roles and functions have been empirically established and upheld for decades.
- ❑ An interruption of this, in conjunction with the deprofessionalization we were unable to stop in WIOA, leaves us vulnerable to having our roles taken over by more established, and unified, professions such as social work, nursing, or special education teachers.
- ❑ Board development



Merger Implications

Current CRC's

Future CRC's

Members of MRA

Consumers/Clients

Consumers/Clients

- ❑ Counselors with more training in clinical skills (60 credit training programs over 48 hours)
- ❑ Counselors with more training in disability, from a variety of backgrounds (infusion of disability into CACREP Standards)

3.

Looking to the future

Impact on practitioners, educators & consumers



Looking to the future: Potential losses

Loss of identity

Existence as a specialization of the counseling profession vs. existing as a standalone profession

Fear for personal survival

Faculty concerns over jobs, as well as potential loss of RSA funding for master's students

Lack of information

Concerns over transparency, rumors, and misinformation without validation of facts.

Departure of key leaders

Retirement-age leaders leaving rather than adapting. Discouraged leaders stepping down.



Looking to the future: Potential gains

Licensure Parity

CACREP accreditation increases likelihood of licensure parity for rehabilitation counselors across states

Increased awareness of rehabilitation counseling

Concerns over transparency, rumors, and misinformation without validation of facts.

Infusion of disability into CACREP curriculum

CRCs can lead the infusion of disability into other CACREP specialties, improving treatment for PWDs

Collaboration across specialties

Retirement-age leaders leaving rather than adapting. Discouraged leaders stepping down.



Leadership

When board opportunities open, we need representation from CRC's!

“We also need a stronger voice in our world of human services. Accreditation bodies do not advocate for legislation but it is the beginning of understanding our common concerns, as well as beginning to act in concert. There is potential for strength in unity as we present our competencies to the outside world.”

“



Thanks!

questions ?

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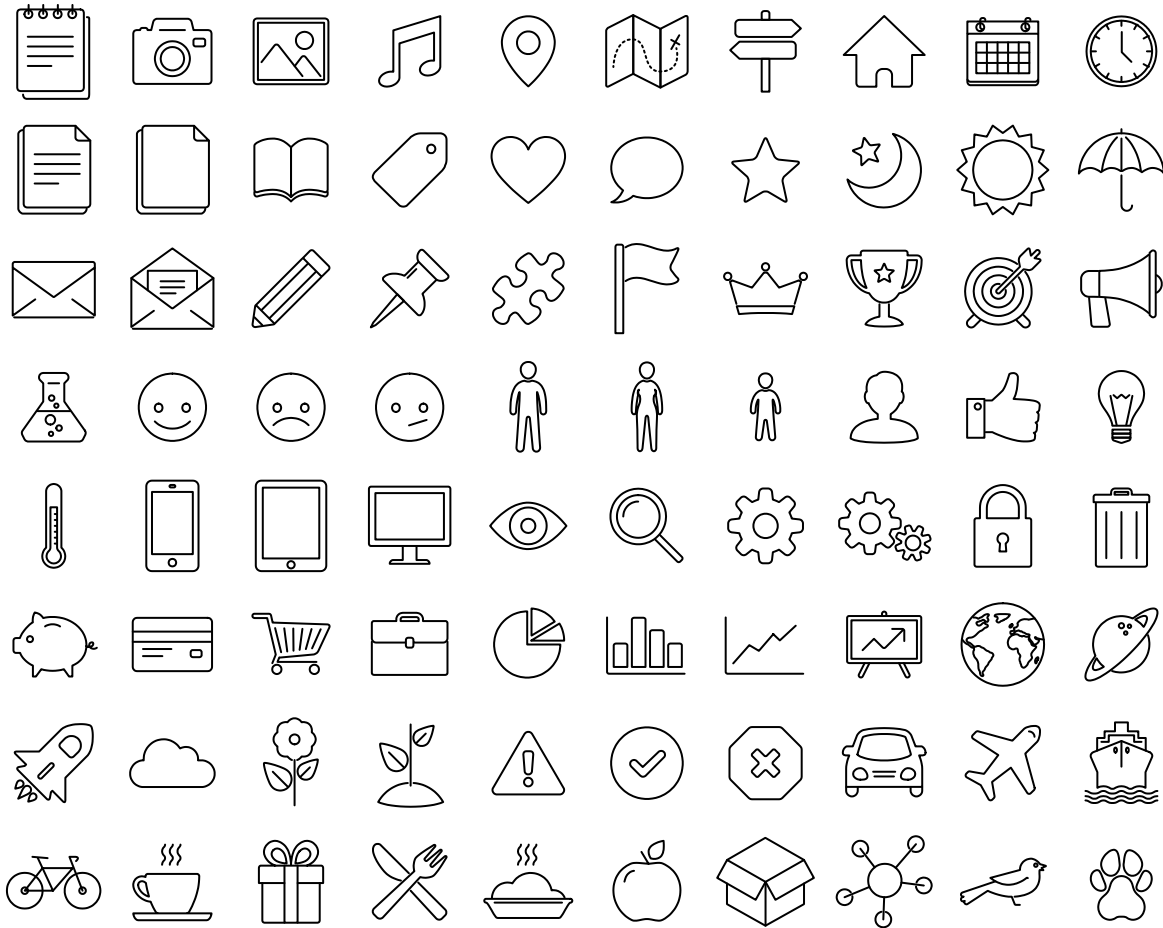


References & Resources

- ◉ CORE-CACREP FAQ, 2015
- ◉ CACREP-CORE Press Release, Oct. 2016
- ◉ CACREP/CORE Affiliation FAQ, 2017
- ◉ 2016 CACREP Standards:
www.cacrep.org

Glenn, M. (2006) A rehabilitation educator's perspective on merging accreditation resources. *Rehabilitation Education*, 20(2), 71-77.

Shaw, L. R., & Kuehn, M. D. (2009) Rehabilitation counselor education accreditation: History, structure, and evolution. *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin*, 52(2), 69-76.



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Examples:

