

The OSU Nisonger Center is excited and grateful to announce a new 5-year grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR):

Can You Hear Us Now? Engaging Adults with IDD in Health Research



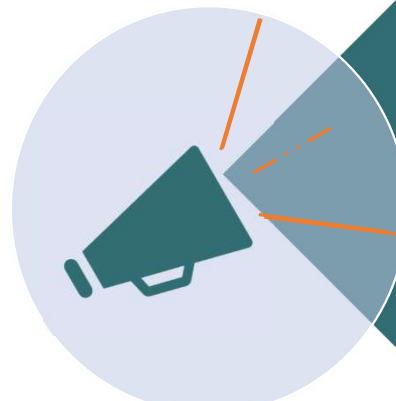
**Q&A with Principal Investigator,
Dr. Susan Havercamp:**



"In Can You Hear Me Now?

we made health surveys more usable so that adults with intellectual disability (ID) can speak for themselves. Too often in health research, people speak for the person with lived disability experience. That means we may not be getting the full picture of that person's health. We want to hear the voice of the person with ID."

"I noticed that the title of this has changed from "Can You Hear Me..." to "**Can You Hear Us...**" Could you talk about that evolution and what it means in the context of your research?"



"In Can You Hear Us Now?

*we will focus on adults with ID *who are also people of color*. To meet people's needs from different walks of life, we must first understand what those needs are. We want to hear the voices of diverse groups that often go unheard."*

This project is supported by grant numbers 90RTHF0002 and 90RTHF0006 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.

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What we did



Q&A with Principal Investigator, Dr. Susan Havercamp:

“What is the difference or what is the next phase in this research that you will be looking at in these next 5 years that may have been informed by the previous 5 years?”



Study 1

In the first study, we made changes to existing health surveys to make them more usable. We added pictures and made text easier to understand. We also used technology to read questions out loud. We made our surveys so that people with ID could better respond to them.



Study 2

In the second study, we used these adapted surveys with adults with ID in six states. The main goal of this study was to count how many adults with ID have mental illness nationwide.



Study 3

In the third study, we determined gaps in providing mental health therapy to adults with ID. Then, we wrote up guidelines for therapists to provide better therapy to adults with ID.

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**Q&A with Principal Investigator,
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What we plan to do



Study 1

In the first study, we will test one of our adapted health surveys in a clinic. We will see if that survey helps patients talk about their mental health needs with their doctors. We will also test different versions of this same survey to see how they compare. We want to make sure that this survey will be a good tool for doctors, patients, and researchers.



Study 2

In the second study, we will continue to test our surveys with people with ID across the country. We will focus on learning about the mental health needs of adults with ID of color.



Study 3

In the third study, we will build a new group therapy program to help people with ID cope with anxiety. We will test this new program against a comparison group. By comparing, we will see how well the new therapy program works.

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