Surveying Adults Deaf Since Childhood: Identifying and Addressing Disparities Through Community-Based Participatory Research

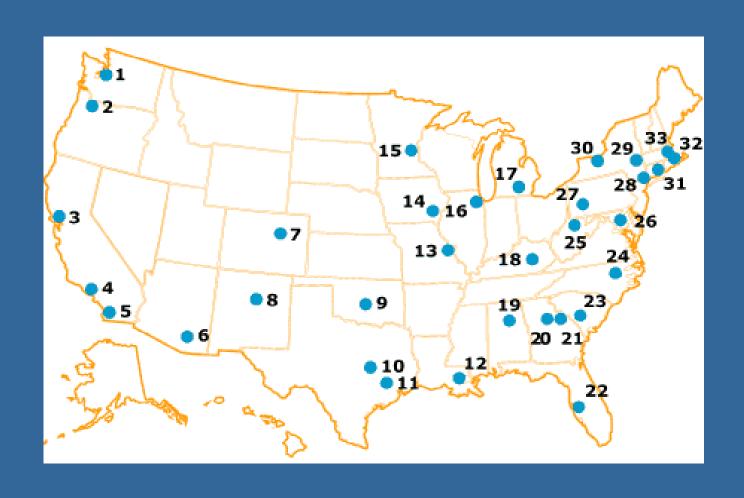
Deirdre Schlehofer, MPhil Steven Barnett, MD Rochester Prevention Research Center National Center for Deaf Health Research



Learning Objectives

- 1) List successful approaches to adapting a survey for adults deaf since birth/childhood
- 2) List the benefits of using a collaborative approach to designing and implementing health research measures
- 3) List reasons to include Deaf people in health research

33 Prevention Research Centers (PRCs)



NCDHR

A CDC-Funded Prevention Research Center

Mission

Health Promotion & Disease Prevention with Deaf people & families through CBPR

The Challenge

- LACK OF DATA
 - Health Disparities in Minority Communities
 - 2010 Healthy People
- LACK OF COHESIVENESS
 - How to collect information from the *Deaf Community*?

Contribution to understanding context & collaboration planning

 Creating collaborative partnerships for community engagement & Deaf health needs

 Working together to analyze healthidentified priorities & goals (e.g., BRFSS)

Contribution to understanding context & collaboration planning (cont'd)

Transforming ideas into action plan

 Seeking feedback from Deaf Health Community Committee (DHCC) and community partners

CBPR Approach to Survey Design and Implementation

- Involve Deaf & hearing members of the research team in survey development
- Create a framework for participation & influence in decision making
- Meet weekly to discuss and make decisions about survey implementation & design

Partners **CBPR** Community members Researchers

METHODS

- Translated English items into ASL & Signed English
- Developed new items in ASL & translated into English
- > Adapted English for captions
- > Added Deaf specific items

METHODS (cont'd)

- Worked with community partners to prioritize topics
- Designed a computer-based survey interface
- Developed a survey dictionary
- > Carried out in-depth cognitive interviews
- > Developed recruitment strategies

Translation Work Groups (TWGs)

- ASL Team
- English-based Team

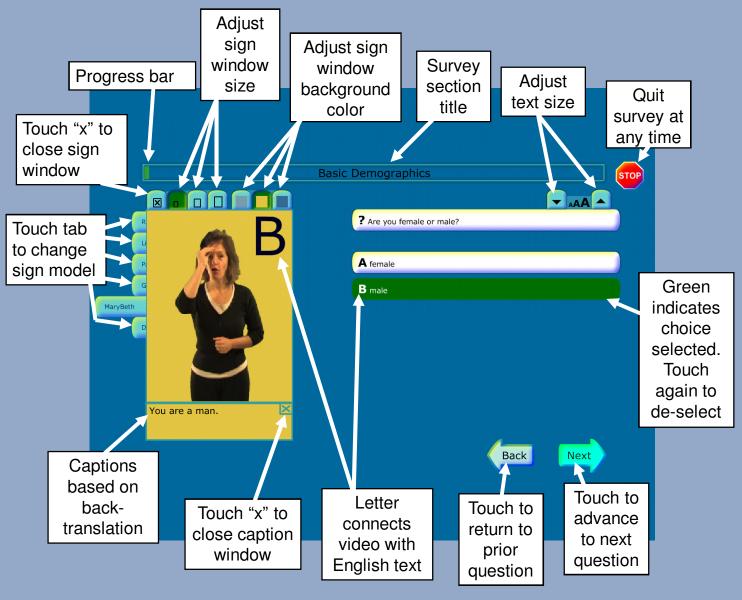
The Translation Process

- Back translated
- Addressed linguistic, cultural, medical & survey methodology challenges

The Collaborative Process of ASL Translation Work Group

- Discussed & analyzed each question item
- Reached mutual agreement on ASL translations relating to semantics and survey intent
- Filmed TWG Deaf members signing translated
 ASL items
- DHCC selected 6 sign models for the survey

Survey Development



NCDHR Evolution: The Collaborative Process

Deaf Health Community Committee (DHCC)

Executive Committee – a DHCC representative

Research Committee – DHCC representatives

Interface Working Group

Cognitive Interviews

Deaf Researchers, Interns & Fellows in Training

Full Time Staff Interpreter

Reasons to Include Deaf People in Health Research

- Culture as a way of describing the lives of Deaf people: beliefs and practices
- Important role of ASL
- Long history of interacting with the world (Padden & Humphries, 2005)

- Deaf perspective
- Deaf experience from childhood to adulthood
- Knowledge of ASL and Deaf culture
- Advice on how to work with Deaf people in health settings

Survey Development Results

Shared Collaboration

First Comprehensive Health Survey in ASL Prioritized List of Health Issues for Intervention

Future Research:
More favor for
computer-based
ASL surveys

NCDHR is supported by Cooperative Agreement U48 DP000031 from CDC. The contents of this presentation are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC.

Steven Barnett is supported by grant K08 HS15700 from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Thank you to all the research participants, community partners, and researchers.



National Center for Deaf Health Research
Rochester Prevention Research Center
University of Rochester
PO Box 278990
Rochester, NY 14627-8990
ncdhr@urmc.rochester.edu
(585) 276-2122 VP
(585) 424-1469 FAX
(585) 758-7804 TTY
(866)-634-7863 Voice (via Video Relay Service)
www.urmc.edu/ncdhr

Presented to the CDC 8th Annual Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Conference, Dallas, March 10, 2009.