

Addressing Health and Healthcare Access Disparities through Disability Health Needs Assessments: Review and Comparison with Recommendations for Implementation

Katherine Straka

Masters of Public Health University of Connecticut

INTRODUCTION

- People with disabilities (PWD) experience health and health care access disparities (Khran et al; DREDF 2007; National Council on Disability, 2009)
- Only 4 states conducted disability health needs assessments
- Data collection methodology were inconsistent

CONCLUSIONS

- Each of the four assessments had different methodologies, but all gathered valuable information
- •Only two assessment, Maryland, and Massachusetts, looked at the conditions supporting health, such as accessibility of physicians and finding physicians sensitive to disability issues
- The strongest methodology, Massachusetts, used BRFSS data as a base-line and used community input to fill in gaps

PURPOSE

Review state-level disability health needs assessments to determine how they examined health and healthcare access disparities and to develop recommendations for an implementation framework

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Partner with a university and secure grant funding
- Use BRFSS data a prevalence baseline
- Distribute community based survey through community organizations, to capture areas missed by traditional surveys
- Develop an action plan to address community priorities

METHODS

• Disability health needs assessments were identified through a Google search of the term 'disability health needs assessments

REFERENCES

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RESULTS

Assessment Comparison by State

	OREGON	IOWA	MARYLAND	MASSACHUSETTS			
Funding	CDC Grant	CDC Grant	Private Institution	CDC Grant			
University Partnership	Yes	Yes	No	Yes			
Goals	1.Identify current needs in access to health care and emergency preparedness	 Assess the burden of disability Determine access to preventative care Identify unhealthy behaviors 	1. Unspecified	 Meeting funding requirements of CDC HDP Provide in depth data on health need of PWD beyond traditional sources Present information on unmet health needs and priorities of disability community 			
Data Sources	 BRFSS NSCH NS-CSHCH Oregon Healthy Teen Survey The Pulse of Oregon 	• BRFSS • ACS	 U.S. Census Data MCDD Needs Assessment: Pathfinders Community Forum on Adolescent Transition Maryland State Department of Education Parent Survey Various Community Meetings 	BRFSS Survey of Health Needs for People with disabilities in Massachusetts			
Strongthe and Woolznee Comparison by State							

Strengths and Weakness Comparison by State							
Strengths	Community survey	• Use of ACS	• Explored barriers to Healthcare	Large scale community survey			
	Addressed life span	 Many BRFSS indicators analyzed 	 Large community input from surveys and meetings 	Informed Interviews			
			Action plan stated	Community Partnerships			
				• Explored barriers to Healthcare			
Weaknesses	Analysis of barriers limited to	Lack of community Input	Findings limited to children	No action stated			
	BRFSS indicators	Analysis of barriers limited to BRFSS indicators	• Findings limited to several healthcare access barriers	Analysis not broken down by age group			
	No action plan state	No action plan stated					