ADA Participation Action Research Consortium: Addressing Disparities in Social Determinants of Health among People with Disabilities

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Background

- Twenty five years following the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), people with disabilities continue to experience persistent inequality and disparities in community living, community participation, and economic participation.
- Need for multi-level data to examine factors influencing social determinants of health, identify key disparities and strategically address them in partnership with regional and local communities.
- Aim: to work with people with disabilities and other stakeholders to examine participation gaps experienced by people with disabilities post ADA and Olmstead.

PAR Process

1. Data analysis and mapping of existing information to identify participation gaps for people with disabilities by PAR team
   - Primary city selection (43 cities across the regions) in collaboration with ADA center staff
   - Data mining of existing large population and community datasets (e.g., American Community Survey)
   - Mapping data using Geographic Information System (GIS)

2. Participatory action research (PAR) summit with ADA center staff to review disparity maps

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4. Website development

5. Collaboration with the local Community Advisory Boards (CAB)
   - Advising the PAR team on creating a process for using national, regional and local information to find out how people with disabilities are doing, share promising practices, and promote change to make life better for people with disabilities

What is ADA-PARC?

- The goals of ADA Participatory Action Research Consortium (ADA-PARC)
  1) to examine differences experienced by people with disabilities in community living, community participation, and work/economic participation
  2) to inform the benchmarking of key participation disparities and promising practices at state, regional, and community levels
- The ADA-PARC is a collaboration of researchers, ADA Center directors and staff, and ADA Center stakeholders.

Regional ADA Centers:
- Southwest ADA Center
- Great Lakes ADA Center
- Pacific ADA Center
- Southeast ADA Center
- Rocky Mountain ADA Center
- Mid-Atlantic ADA Center
- Great Northwest ADA Center

Researchers:
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- TIRR Memorial Hermann
- Syracuse University
- The Center on Disability at the Public Health Institute
- University of Northern Colorado

Community Advisory Board:
- ADA Center stakeholders representing different disability groups and state and local government agencies

ADA-PARC website

www.adaparc.org

Participation disparity maps in following areas:
1. Community Living
2. Community Participation
3. Work/Economics

1. Community Living

- Indicators determining whether people with disabilities are living in the community:
  1) Where people with disabilities live; 2) nursing home residents; 3) programs and spending for community living; and 4) affordability of community living

2. Community Participation

- Indicators including community features and policies that support people with disabilities to go out and participate in the community:
  1) Health coverage; 2) community based subsidized housing; 3) access to community resources; 4) transit usage; 5) community crime rates; and 6) educational attainment

3. Work and Economics

- Indicators determining whether people with disabilities are working and have economic resources:
  1) Employment; 2) economic status; and 3) housing affordability