

ADA State of the Science Research Conference

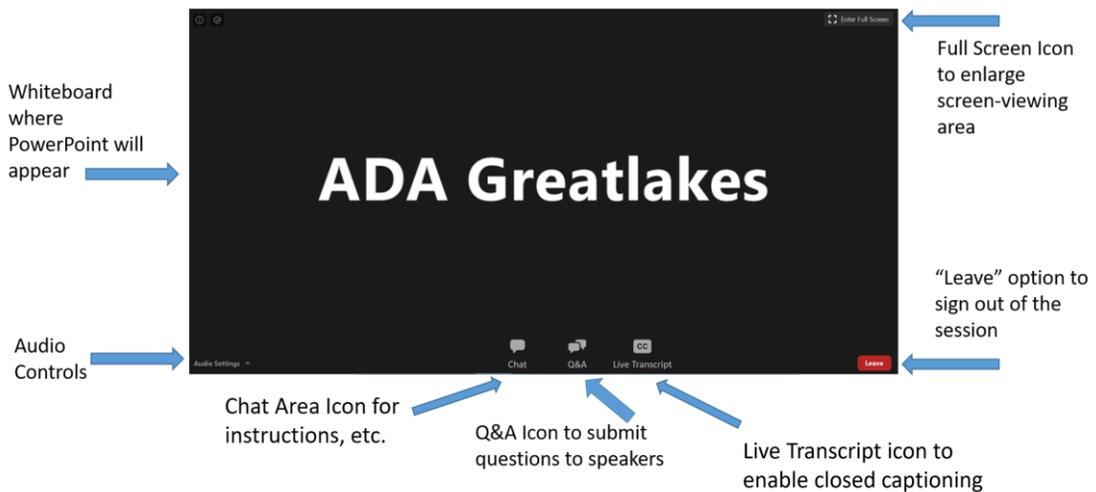
Day 2: March 12, 2026

Presented by the ADA National Network



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ZOOM WEBINAR Interface

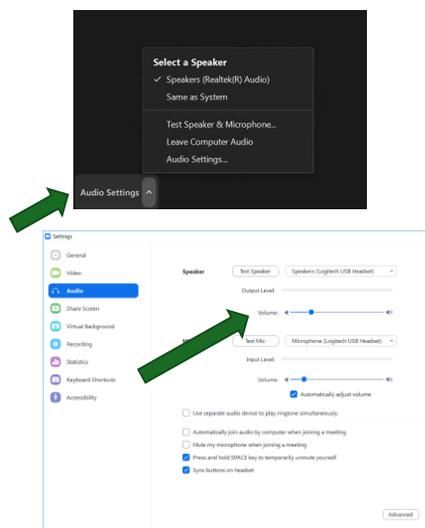


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Listening to the Webinar via Your Computer

- Please make sure your speakers are turned on or your headphones are plugged in.
- You can verify your audio settings using the Audio Settings Option in the lower left corner of the screen.
- You can adjust your volume using the Audio Settings option.



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Real-Time Captioning

- Real-time captioning is provided both within Zoom Text and via StreamText Link. Individuals may make their own choice of which to utilize based on preference. StreamText Link will be shared in the Chat area.
- If using StreamText link you will need to open a separate browser to view the captioning. You can resize your screen so that you are able to view both the StreamText and the Zoom platform if you are using a desktop computer.
- Zoom has upgraded their Captioning program. You can now mouse over and “Move” the captioning box anywhere on your screen that you desire it to be.
- Within Zoom you can choose to view the full transcript by mousing over the cc icon and selecting “View Full Transcript” option.

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Video Sign Language Interpreter

- Sign Language is being provided via Video Spotlight
- There will be two Sign Language Interpreters. They will be “swapping” their images as they switch interpreters during the session. This will cause a “pause” or brief interruption in the Sign Language.
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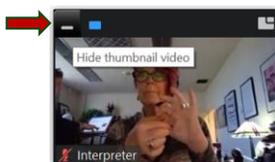
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Changing Screen View



To change your **View** so that you see the full video image on your screen (Sign Language Interpreter) select “Swap Video and Shared Screen”.



To hide video, click on the “underline” symbol found in the upper left corner of the video



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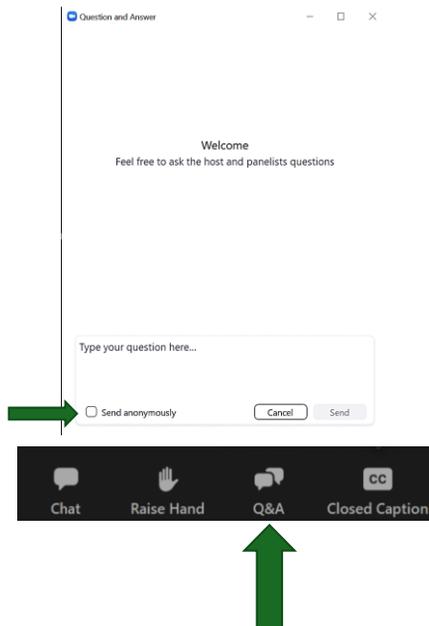
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Questions should be submitted via the **QUESTION AREA (ICON)**. You will have the option to submit your question “anonymously.”

DO NOT submit questions in the Chat Area. We will not be monitoring it for questions.

Please refrain from submitting any commentary, responses, etc. via the chat area. This is distracting to other participants. We reserve the right to remove you from the session if you use the chat area inappropriately.

If you are listening on the phone and are not connected to the webinar platform, email your questions to webinars@adaconferences.org



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Welcome to the 2026 ADA State of the Science Research Conference

Day 2

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Funding Statement and Disclaimer

Funding Statement:

This conference is coordinated by the ADA Knowledge Translation Center with support from the ADA National Network Research Committee, and funded through the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) (NIDILRR grant number 90DPAD0004). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Disclaimer:

The views and opinions expressed in this conference are those of the speakers and do not necessarily reflect the views, positions, or policies of any entities they represent, the ADA Knowledge Translation Center, the ADA National Network, the University of Washington, or the federal government. Statements, views, and opinions expressed during any presentation or in any materials are those solely of the presenter. The information and assistance provided is not legal advice.

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Overview of Day 2

- Session A: Health and Society.
 - Four lightning presentations.
 - Moderator summary.
 - Questions and answer period.
- Break.
- Session B: Community Needs and Access.
 - Four lightning presentations.
 - Moderator summary.
 - Questions and answer period.
- Day 2 wrap-up.

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Health and Society

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Improving accessibility of hospital facilities using immersing computational methods

- Research Team
 - Jong Bum Kim, Ph.D. kimjongb@missouri.edu
 - Janna Lancaster, Ph.D. (PI)
 - Debora Verniz, Ph.D.
 - Rabia Faizan, Ph.D.
 - Md Obidul Haque, Ph.D. candidate
 - Nora Hong-Yi Shih, Ph.D. student
- Region 7
 - [Great Plains ADA Center](#) (Director: Julie Brinkhoff)
 - [Architectural Studies](#), University of Missouri



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Purpose & Method

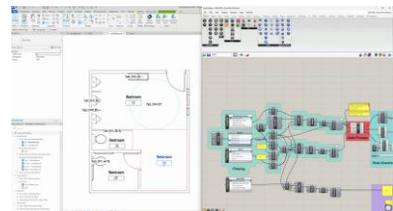
- **Project description**
 - Promote a barrier-free healthcare environment and improve user experiences through evidence-based design and computational code compliance methods.
- **Purpose**
 - Identify common barriers to physical accessibility at healthcare facilities in the region, and common strategies used to overcome them.
 - Understand how accessibility barriers impact the hospital experience.
 - Study how computational analysis methods can identify accessibility issues from the design stage.
- **Method**
 - Survey of individuals with disabilities
 - Focus group with stakeholders
 - Software Creation and Computational Analysis
 - Architectural Observation and Analysis

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Results and Findings

- **Key takeaways**
 - Computational Compliance Checking methods were studied.
 - Applications embedded in the design platform (Autodesk tools) can help designers with ADA compliance checking and design changes.
 - Reduced and/or eliminated time and error-intensive interpretation and use of ADA standards in healthcare design.
 - Great potential to be paired with AI/ML methods.
- **Future directions**
 - Investigate an integration of AI/ML methods for computational compliance checking.
 - Expand the research findings to outdoor space
 - More rigorous usability test and broader dissemination
- **Publication and presentations**
 - NARST 2026
 - CAADRIA (2026 Taiwan, 2025 Tokyo, 2024 Singapore)
 - IDEC 2025 (Chicago)
 - University of Missouri RCAF 2025 (Third place in Social and Behavioral Sciences)
 - Disability-focused Research Showcase, University of Missouri
 - Show Me Research Week 2025, 2024 (First place in Applied Design)



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Access to Quality Health Services under the ADA

Pacific ADA Center, Region 9 - PI, Jerri Davison (Email: jerrid@adapacific.org)

Presenter and Project PI: Rosielyn Babauta, DNP, MS, RN-BNCP (Email: rbabauta@triton.uog.edu)

Project team (University of Guam):

- Kristine Qureshi, PhD, RN, FAAN, CEN, PHNA-BC, CGNC (Co-PI)
- Megan Broadbent, BSN, RN (Research Coordinator)
- Tera Blas, BSN, RN – (Research assistant)
- Michael Cajigal, BS (Research assistant)
- Grazyna Badowski, PhD (Statistics Consultant)

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Project Summary

Purpose

- To examine the access to quality healthcare for people with disabilities by healthcare workers.
- To develop strategies to reduce barriers to healthcare access under the ADA.

Setting: ADANN Region 9 (Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, and Nevada).

Methods

- **Phase 1** Qualitative data with healthcare workers, people with disabilities, and caretakers (N=59).
- **Phase 2** Online surveys with healthcare workers, people with disabilities, and caretakers (N=757).
- **Phase 3** Member checking and development of action items with subsample of participants (N=27).

Action and Dissemination

- Developed RN education curriculum for people with disabilities: Lecture plus disability expert panel discussions, simulation scenarios, and community outreach.
- 12 conferences presentation at various academic and community-based venues.
- Peer review publications (in progress).

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Findings & Recommendations

Barriers experienced by healthcare workers

- Lack of education and knowledge
- Lack of technology (medical, communication, telehealth)
- Financial and administrative policies (CPT, Dx coding)
- Significant time constraints of clinicians
- Negative attitudes of disability
- Physical environment- space & egress
- Transportation to/from point of care

Recommendations to increase access for people with disabilities

- Include disability specific training within healthcare workers education
- Policy advocacy to increase regulation and funding for technology, communication equipment and telehealth services
- Further research on clinician time and different types of disabilities
- Enforcement of existing regulations regarding space and egress
- Education of people with disabilities and caretakers about their rights under the ADA

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Findings from ADA PARC: Using Scorecards to Compare States on Participation Opportunities

- Joy Hammel, University of Illinois Chicago, CoPI ADA PARC; hammel@uic.edu
- The ADA PARC consortium of ADA Centers and Community Collaborators
- ADA PARC website available at: https://adaparc.shinyapps.io/ADA_PARC/

The work of this Center was developed under a grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant numbers 90DP0026 and 90DPAD0001). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this presentation do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

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Purpose & Method (ADA PARC)

- **Purpose:**

- **To test a methodology for creating scorecards that disability communities and policymakers can use to compare and rank states on participation opportunities in specific areas.**

- **Method:**

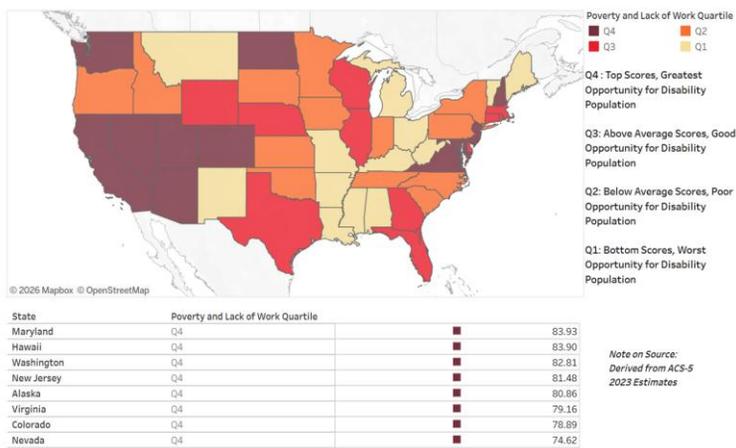
- **Using data from the ACS, multiple indicators of participation are standardized using Z scores, and converted to a 0-100 score, similar to a score card or report card.**
- **Higher scores = higher participation opportunity. Lower scores = worse opportunity.**
- **These disability participation scorecards are an easy to understand way to compare and rank states from best to in the middle (average) to worst.**

Economic Scorecard

(accessible table available at: https://adaparc.shinyapps.io/ADA_PARC/#section-scorecards)

Wealth & Poverty Index

Represents level of financial well-being for individuals with disabilities in a given state.



Family Support Research and Training Center

• Sumithra Murthy, PhD

smurthy@uic.edu



<https://linktr.ee/fsrtc>

Overview

FSRTC advances research, policy, and practice that support family caregivers of people with disabilities across the lifespan.

| Research Projects | | | Website | fsrtc.ahs.uic.edu |
|-------------------|--|---|--------------|---|
| R1 | Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families across the Aging and Disability Networks |  | Webinars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Family Support Topics (Partnership with IDHD/LEND/TAP) •Supportng Families Best Practice Series (Partnership with UMKC) •Self-Advocate Family Support Webinars (Partnership with SABE) |
| R2 | Future Planning for Adults with Developmental Disabilities and Aging Families |  | | Podcast |
| R3 | WAVE Program: Wellness Action Via Engagement for Older Family Caregivers |  | Social Media | |
| R4 | Analysis of National Datasets on Family Support |  | | Newsletter |
| R5 | Policy Analysis and Development to Improve Family Support |  | | |

Key Takeaways

Results are ongoing:

Research Activities/Findings

| | |
|----|---|
| R1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental scan revealed barriers and facilitators to thriving for people with IDD The thriving of family members was interconnected |
| R2 | Working with Area Agencies on Aging to deliver virtual future planning intervention |
| R3 | Developing a health promotion curriculum for aging family caregivers |
| R4 | Report “Family Caregiving Counts” released November 2025 |
| R5 | First workgroup met to discuss family caregiving policy |

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Dissemination and Other Activities

| | |
|---|--|
|  Webinars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted 5 webinars, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Supporting Families Best Practice Webinars 1 Self-Advocate Webinar 3 <i>upcoming</i> webinars on 2/11, 2/24, & 2/26 |
|  Podcast | Released 5 bi-monthly episodes |
|  Social Media | Regularly post on topics relevant to family caregivers |
|  Newsletter | Sent 13 newsletters to relevant stakeholders, these are delivered monthly |
|  Conference Presentations | Presented at NARRTC, Charting the Lifecourse, and AUCD Conferences in 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More anticipated in 2026 |

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Moderator Summary: Health and Society

Moderated by: Kara Ayers

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Q&A

Health and Society

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Break

Time to stretch!

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Community Needs and Access

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Current Needs of ADA Coordinators Among Title II Entities



- Dr. Jill Bezyak
- Dr. Brian Phillips
- Emily Shuman
- Abigail Lister

• Contact Information: Dr. Jill Bezyak, jill.Bezyak@unco.edu



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Purpose and Method

- This project involved a careful investigation of Title II entities related to the implementation of self-evaluations and transition plans (SETPs).
- The specific purpose was to identify the needs and barriers related to the implementation of SETPs to create increasingly accessible environments for people with disabilities.
- Following exploratory focus groups to design the quantitative survey, 181 ADA coordinators completed the web-based survey.



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Results

- Primary barriers to implementation include limited time available for ADA coordination, numerous outside responsibilities, limited staff, and limited training.
- Participants did report high levels of support from leadership.
- Identified needs of ADA coordinators include training for ADA coordinators and leadership, as well as the development of professional networks.



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Access to Justice: A Review of ADA Notice Requirements on State Court Websites



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NW ADA Center Study Co-Authors:
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Research Question & Method

RQ: Do courts post meaningful notice of right to accommodations on their public facing websites? If so, do they provide instructions on how to request accommodations?

Data: Examined a “best case scenario” - WA State passed its own law to standardize how to post this info on their court websites

Method:

- 1) Developed “coding protocol” (form) to use to assess how easy it is to find this info
- 2) Reviewed and completed form for all 178 WA State court websites
- 3) Summarized information collected from websites

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Key Findings & Recommendations

Findings

- **Only 36% of courts posted any ADA-related information on their websites; 64% had no information at all**
- **Only 22% of court websites listed contact information for ADA inquiries and access questions**
- **Less than 2% of courts provided instructions on grievance procedures for appealing concerns related to an accommodation request.**
- **Courts who listed an ADA Coordinator on their website were 32 times as likely to provide accommodation request instructions**

Recommendations

- Designate and publicize an ADA Coordinator for each court
- Create a dedicated ADA accommodations webpage with clear, consistent, and descriptive labels
- Include essential information such as definitions, eligibility, request instructions, forms, and appeal/grievance procedures
- Ensure websites and forms meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA standards
- Provide ongoing ADA training for all court staff and professionals

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Accessible Cities 4 All: Where are we?

- Yochai Eisenberg, PhD
- Delphine Labbe, PhD
- Rob Gould, PhD
- Robin Jones, PhD



- Department of Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago
- Email: yeisen2@uic.edu
- Website: <https://www.adagreatlakes.org/Research/AccessibleCities.asp>

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The Challenge

Cities

- Focused on compliance
- May not want to know about infrastructure problems
- Lack of knowledge and resources
- Accessibility is an underprioritized problem until it isn't.

Disability advocates

- Want change yesterday
- Want to share lived experience and have it valued
- Have lawsuits as tool to defend civic rights when advocacy does not work and are using that tool!

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State of Research:

State of Cities

13%

[had an ADA transition plan](#)

65%

of curb ramps had barriers

[Accessibility scores](#) were higher for communities with plans compared to those without.

[Cities need resources:](#)

[Quality Assessment of Transition Plans](#)

[Casebook examples of high-quality transition plans](#)

[Performance metrics](#)

[Story map to help tell the story internally](#)

State of Civic Engagement

- Need for training and onboarding resources
- Developing knowledge around accessibility and policy
- Developing communication and social skills

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The built environment, social connection, and ways of knowing in disabled peoples' campaigns for accessibility in Chicago

- Kara M. Mannor; kmannor@umich.edu

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The built environment isn't a neutral

- It actively shapes the conditions of everyday life and who belongs in cities
- What does it mean for disabled people ***to claim belonging*** in a city?
- This is a knowledge translation question:
 - Requires exploring how the built environment shapes the conditions of everyday life *and* how it shapes the processes through which people try to change it

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For everyone?: Rethinking universality in practice

- Disabled advocates frame built environment interventions that would benefit many groups as opportunities for:
 - Connection through specificity
 - Shared social life
- For other stakeholders advocating “for everyone” becomes a way to:
 - Avoid engaging disability and disabled people
 - Frame access as an individual-level problem and stall structural change
- These tensions matter because they help us understand:
 - How universality is contested in translating knowledge to action
 - How the built environment shapes whose knowledge counts

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Moderator Summary: Community Needs and Access

Moderated by: Heather Ansley

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Q&A

Community Needs and Access

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Wrap-up

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Thank you for attending the 2026 ADA State of the Science Research Conference!

- Please remember to fill out your evaluation.
 - Click the link in the chat or
 - Scan the QR code.

- To watch presentation recordings or see the slides:
 - Visit the conference webpage www.adata.org/sos-2026.
 - Recordings will be uploaded to the webpage in the next few weeks.

