

Additional Tools to Help Improve Health Outcomes of Those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Center for Inclusive Health Stakeholder Survey, July 2023

BACKGROUND

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) experience higher rates of health disparities than the general population. One of the various contributing factors is the limited availability of tools and resources that normalize the inclusion of people with IDD in mainstream health care and health promotion services and activities.

In 2023, Special Olympics surveyed health system stakeholders about the needs and most effective approaches to providing such tools and resources. Nearly **200 responses** from **30 US states** made clear that IDD inclusion in health systems is a much-needed area for resources. **Respondents overwhelmingly expressed interest in a central hub to get up-to-date resources and information regarding inclusion and access for people with IDD in health systems.**

RESULTS

A majority of respondents are not receiving training on IDD from their organization/employer.

Over half (57.86%) of respondents reported having some knowledge of persons with IDD and their health needs. Similarly, over half of respondents reported that they have received training during their career on how to interact with or treat people with IDD, their care providers or family members. However, **only about 25 percent of respondents reported that their organization provides IDD awareness training to all staff.**

Data collection is a significant gap and barrier when it comes to helping people with IDD and is the biggest area needed in regards to resources and technical assistance.

Only 36 percent of total respondents reported that their organization includes disability as a demographic question, while almost 30 percent (28.57%) did not know. Of those that reported including disability as a demographic question, more than half (56.52%) were not aware if their organization used the Disability Data Standard.

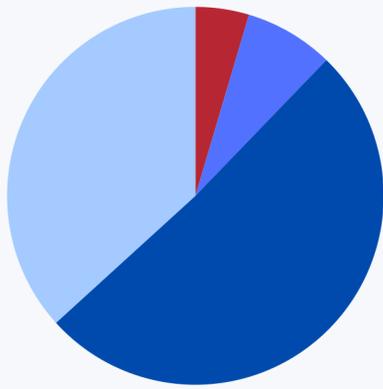
Over 70 percent of respondents listed “lack of information and data about people with IDD” as the biggest barrier to their organization playing a role in helping people with intellectual disabilities achieve optimal health.

There is an overwhelming interest in a hub that provides resources and information on how to be more inclusive of people with IDD.

Respondents reported that there was a clear need for resources and technical assistance that provided a more comprehensive, holistic view when it came to both helping people with IDD and changing policy at their organization. **Almost all respondents (94.79%) reported that an online resource hub/one-stop website that provided information on how to be more inclusive of people with IDD would be helpful.**

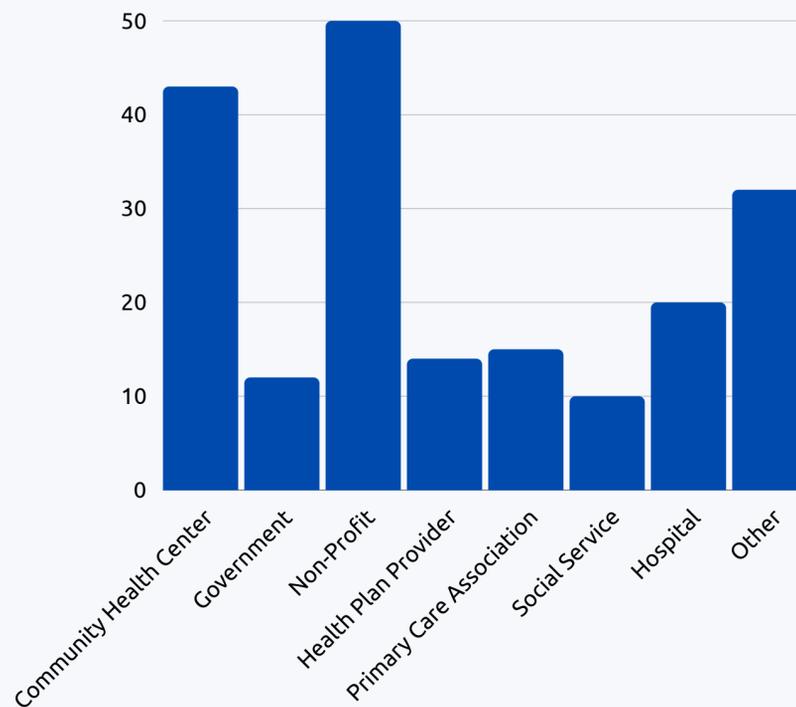
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Role of Employer

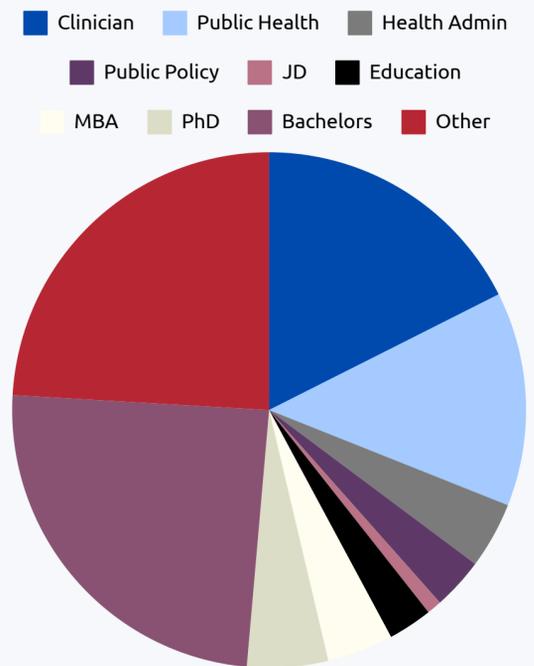


- Policy Maker: 4.59%
- Payer: 7.65%
- Health Provider: 51.02%
- Other: 36.73%

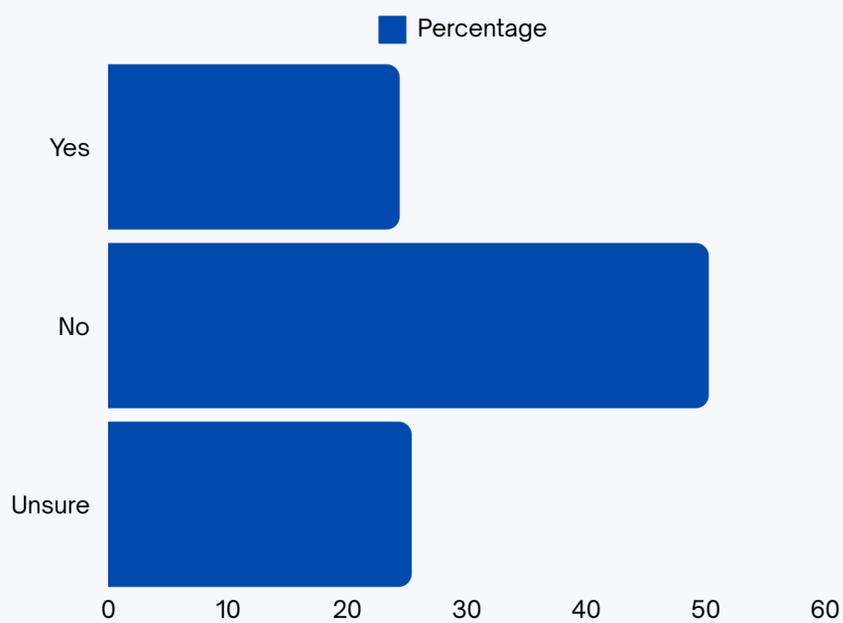
Organization Type



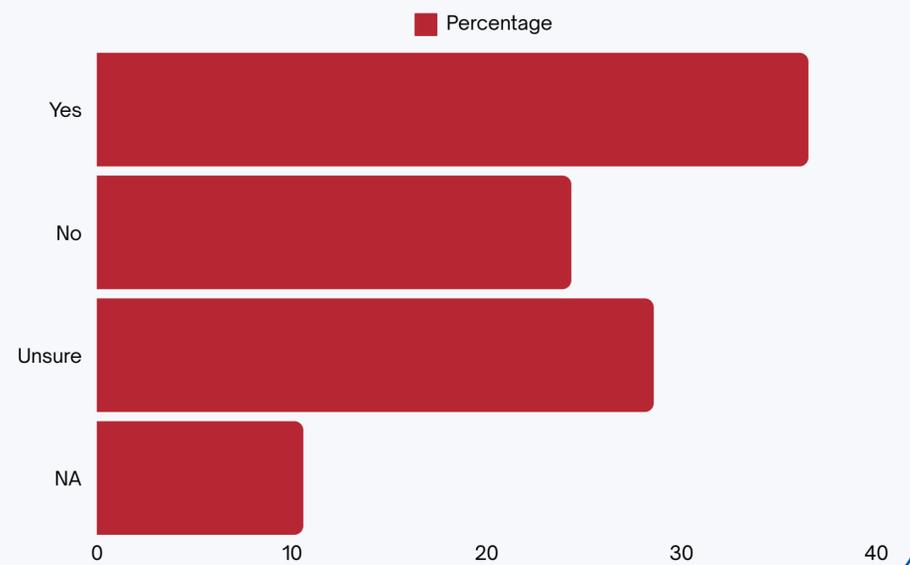
Professional Training



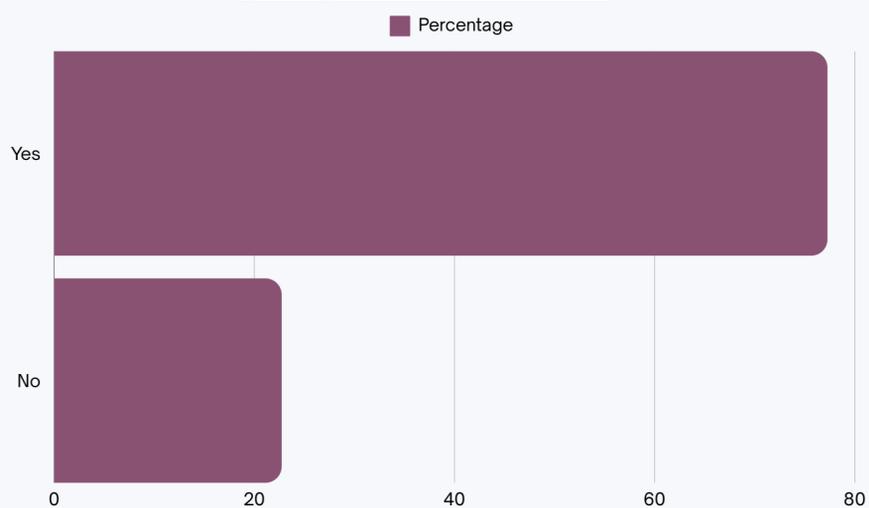
Does your employee provide IDD Training?



Does your organization include disability as a demographic question?



Do you want resources/technical assistance to help increase inclusion of people with IDD?



How useful would you find an online resource hub?

