

# Research at the National Center for Deaf Health Research

Heidi Thompson

CTSI 2cnd 2

Look at me please

- Hi, my name is Heidi Thompson, and I am a medical student here, at the University of Rochester. Currently, I'm between my 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of medical school, doing research with the National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR)

# NCDHR

- CDC PRC doing CBPR (enough acronyms for you?)
- Goals: to improve health and prevent disease in the Deaf community
- Why Needed: we have NO

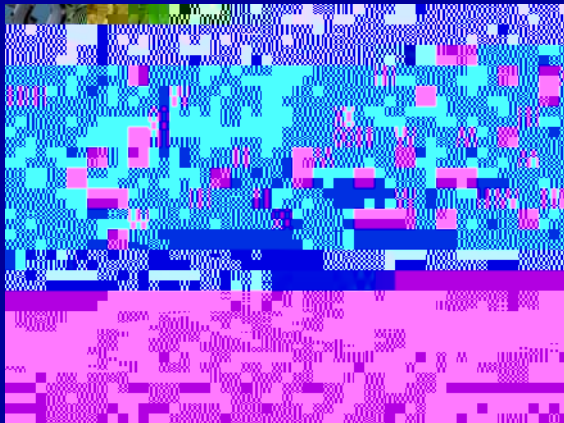
# Deaf culture

- “Big D” Deaf: Cultural model
  - Cultural minority group that shares a common language and background
  - Not a disability group
- ASL: not simply a signed form of English
  - Own grammar and syntax
- Historically, a marginalized group

# My Role at NCDHR



- My Qualitative side-Coordinator and Research Team member for the Rapid Assessment Procedure (RAP)



- My Quantitative side-Research Committee member for NCDHR's core project, the Deaf Health Survey

# Rapid review of RAP

- Background: Qualitative Anthropological Study
  - Looked at communication and cultural interactions at NCDHR
- Methods: Open-ended interviews with 23 Deaf, hearing, researchers and non-researchers with NCDHR
  - Transcribed and coded looking for themes
- Results: Many, many, many, but perhaps biggest was that communication gaps were most evident between researchers and non-researchers
  - Cultural unfamiliarity on for both research and Deaf cultures
- Follow-up: Consistent interpreters and orientation to Deaf and research culture for those new at NCDHR





## Health Status



Additional text and data points are visible at the bottom of the dashboard, including a large blue bar and several smaller text elements. The text is partially obscured by the grid pattern and other visual elements, but it appears to provide further context or details for the data presented above.

# Just a few things I gained during my CTSI year-out

- Appreciation for Deaf culture and communication
- Appreciation for CBPR
- Experience in the importance of communication
- Improved ASL skills and opportunity to take ASL classes- Vital!!
- Chance to coordinate the Deaf Health Pathway, and tie that work in with my upcoming Paul Ambrose Scholars Project
- Computer and tech skills I never dreamed I'd have
- A publication- Finally!!!... (hopefully)

# Thanks!!!

- CTSI for funding me
- Nancy Chin, PhD
- Steve Barnett, MD
- Matthew Starr, MPH
- Susan Demers, MS
- Deirdre Schlehofer, MPhil.

Questions???