

Sumithra Murthy, MBBS, MPH, PhD
Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Disability Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2022
Master of Public Health (MPH), Northwestern University, 2007
M.B.B.S., University of Mumbai, India, 1997

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor – January 2023 to present

Visiting Senior Research Specialist – July 2021 to December 2022

Research Director, Ford Foundation and Project Coordinator, DRRP Projects, Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Visiting Research Specialist – January 2016 to July 2021

Project Coordinator, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects (DRRP), Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Business Manager, Family Support Research and Training Center (FSRTC), Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Senior Research Associate, Partners of Refugees in Illinois Disability Employment (PRIDE), Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Visiting Project Coordinator – February 2011 to January 2016

Research Coordinator, Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Developmental Disabilities-Lifespan Health and Function, Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Projects: Longitudinal Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Study (LHIDDS) & A Randomized Controlled Trial to Reduce Risk of Falls in Older Adults with Intellectual Disabilities

Research Specialist in Public Health – May 2010 to November 2010

Research Specialist, Institute for Health Research and Policy (IHRP), University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Project: Bridging the Gap – Community Obesity Measures project

Research Specialist for Health Nursing Services – April 2010 to August 2010

Project Coordinator, College of Nursing, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Project: Impact of a new WIC food package Fruit and Vegetable Cash-Voucher on WIC vendor participation, Accessibility, and Fruit and Vegetable Characteristics

Research Specialist for Kinesiology – March 2009 to August 2010

Community Assessor/Data Manager, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Project: WIC Vendor Access and Fruit and Vegetable Availability in Northern Illinois

Data Consultant – June 2008 to August 2008

Data Manager, Northern Illinois University, School of Nursing and Health Studies

Project: Understanding the Relationship between Food Environments and Food Access in African American and Latino Elementary School Children and their Families

General Physician – January 1997 to October 1998

General Physician, Hyderabad, India

GRANTS

The Midwest Roybal Center for Health Promotion and Translation, *MindWalk: A Mindful Walking Intervention for Older South Asian Family Caregivers of People with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities (IDD) with Perceived Psychological Stress*, 2023, \$50,000. Principal Investigator. Co-PI Katie Arnold.

Office of Women's Health and Family Services, Illinois Department of Public Health, *Disability-focused training to the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP), the Illinois Wisewoman Program (IWP), and the Illinois Family Planning Program (IFPP)*, 2022-2025, \$100,000. Principal Investigator.

Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, *Ligas Compliance Review*, 2022-2023, \$595,602. Co-Investigator.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, *Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families across the Aging and DD Networks*, 2023, \$139,633. Co-Principal Investigator

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- Balcazar, F. E., **Murthy, S.**, Gibbons, T. M., Sefandonakis, A., Renko, M., Parker Harris, S., & Caldwell, K. (2023). Supports and barriers that entrepreneurs with disabilities encounter when starting their businesses. *Rehabilitation Psychology*, 68(1), 91.
- Murthy, S.**, & Hsieh, K. (2021). Examining Association Between Reported High Cholesterol and Risk Factors in Adults With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD): A Five-Year Follow-Up. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 59(2), 112-122. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1352/1934-9556-59.2.112>
- Hsieh, K., Scott, H. M., & **Murthy, S.** (2020). Associated Risk Factors for Depression and Anxiety in Adults With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Five-Year Follow Up. *American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 125(1), 49-63.
- Mirza, M., Hasnain, R., Duke, K., & **Murthy, S.** (2019). Formative Evaluation Of A Multifaceted Vocational Rehabilitation Program For Refugees With Disabilities. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, 100(10), e78.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.**, Heller, T., Rimmer, J. H., & Yen, G. (2018). Reported gum disease as a cardiovascular risk factor in adults with intellectual disabilities. *Journal of Intellectual Disability Research*, 62(3), 187-198.
- Murthy, S.**, Hsieh, K., & Heller, T. (2017). Prevalence and associated factors of multimorbidity in adults with intellectual disabilities. *Innovation in Aging*, 1(Suppl 1), 1236.
- Hsieh, K., Hilgenkamp, T.I.M., **Murthy, S.**, Heller, T., & Rimmer, J. (2017). Low Levels of Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities. *International Journal on Environmental Research in Public Health*. DOI: 10.1111/jir.12438
- Hsieh, K., Heller, T., & **Murthy, S.** (2017). Lifestyles, Health, And Preventive Health Care of Older Adults with Intellectual Disabilities. *Innovation in Aging*, 712-712.
- Grobman, W., Feinglass, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2006). Are the agency for healthcare research and quality obstetric trauma indicators valid measures of hospital quality? *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 193(3), 868-874.

Book Chapters

- Heller, T., Arnold, C., & **Murthy, S.** (2021). Family Caregiving for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. In C. Bigby & M. Putnam (Eds.), *Handbook on Aging with Disability*. Routledge.
- Murthy, S.** (2018). Family caregivers and health. In T. Heller, T., S. P. Harris, C. Gill, & R. Gould (Eds.), *Disability in American Life: An Encyclopedia of Concepts, Policies, and Controversies [2 volumes]*. ABC-CLIO.

Publications Under Review/In Press

- Caldwell, K., **Murthy, S.**, Werner, B., Hasnain, R., & Parker, B. (Under review). Nexus Project: Introducing a Living Framework for Disability Economic Justice. *Canadian Journal of Disability Studies (CJDS)*.

Publications in Progress

- Hsieh, K., & **Murthy, S.** (Manuscript Stage). Health-related quality of life (HRQOL) among adults with intellectual and developmental disability: Five-year follow up.
- Caldwell, K., Parker, B., Hasnain, R., **Murthy, S.**, & Werner, B (Manuscript Stage). Gaps in disability employment research: A literature Review.

Doctoral Dissertation

- Murthy, S. (2022). *Strengths Based Needs Assessment of Caregivers of Adults with Intellectual Disabilities in India* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Illinois at Chicago).

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-reviewed Presentations

- Arnold, K., Heller, T., & **Murthy, S.** (2022, November). *Family Support Strategies: Pathways to Improve Health and Wellbeing of People with IDD and their Caregivers*. [Conference Presentation]. 2022 AUCD Conference, Washington, DC.
- Caldwell, K., Hasnain, R., Parker, B., **Murthy, S.**, & Werner, B. (2022, November). *Nexus Framework: Core Concepts and Principles for Disability Economic Justice*. [Conference Presentation]. 2022 AUCD Conference, Washington, DC.
- Balcazar, F., **Murthy, S.**, Gibbons, T., Sefandonakis, A. & Martinez, K. (2021, November). *Development & Implementation of an Entrepreneurship Curriculum for Youth with Disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. 16th Annual Illinois Statewide Transition Conference, Peoria, IL.
- Balcazar, F., **Murthy, S.**, Gibbons, T., & Sefandonakis, A. (2021, October). *Entrepreneurship Experiences of Individuals with Disabilities: Barriers & Supports*. [Conference presentation]. 2021 NRCA Conference. (Virtual)
- Balcazar, F., **Murthy, S.**, Gibbons, T., & Sefandonakis, A. (2021, October). *Entrepreneurship: The Role of Community Psychologists*. [Conference presentation]. 2021 MPA Annual Conference. (Virtual)

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- Murthy, S.,** & Hsieh, K. (2020, September). *Prevalence and Associated factors of Hypertension in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. IASSIDD 2020 APRC conference, Hyderabad, India. (Conference Canceled)
- Hasnain, R., Mirza, M., Duke, K., & **Murthy, S.** (2019, November). *Partnering with Refugees with Disabilities to Address Long-term Well-being and Quality of Life*. [Symposium presentation]. ACRM 96th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Murthy, S.,** Hasnain, R., Duke, K., Mirza, M., & Sinhal, A. (2019, April). *Empowerment through Education and Employment: A Demonstration Project with Refugees with Disabilities in Illinois*. [Poster session]. 2019 NARRTC Conference, Arlington, VA.
- Hsieh, K., Kitsiou, S., **Murthy, S.,** Gerber, B., & Chen, J. (2018, November). *We Walk Pilot Study: Using Fitbit and text messaging to promote physical activity for adults with intellectual disabilities*. [Poster session]. 2018 APHA Annual Meeting & Expo, San Diego, CA.
- Murthy, S.,** Hsieh, K., & Heller, T. (2017, November). *Prevalence and Associated factors of Hypertension in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*. [Poster session]. 145th APHA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.** & Heller, T. (2017, November). *Risk factors for depression in adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities: A five-year longitudinal study in USA*. [Conference presentation]. 2017 IASSIDD 4th Asia Pacific Regional Congress, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.** & Heller, T. (2017, November). *Employment Status and Social Participation in Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Living in the Community*. [Conference presentation]. APHA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Hsieh K., Heller, T. & **Murthy, S.** (2017, July). *Lifestyles, Health Status, and Preventive Health Care Use of Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. IAGG 2017, San Francisco, CA.
- Murthy, S.,** Hsieh, K., & Heller, T. (2017, July). *Prevalence and Associated Factors of Multimorbidity in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*. [Poster session]. 21st IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, San Francisco, CA.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.,** & Rimmer, J. (2016, November). *Prevalence and Predicators of Falls in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities: Three-year Follow Up*. [Conference presentation]. 144th APHA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.,** Heller, T., & Rimmer, J. (2016, August). *Prevalence and Modifiable Risk Factors of Diabetes in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities: A Three-year Follow Up*. [Conference presentation]. 15th World Congress of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Melbourne, Australia.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.,** & Heller, T. (2016, July). *Prevalence of sedentary behavior of adults with intellectual disabilities*. [Poster session]. AADMD annual meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.,** & Rimmer, J. (2016, July). *Life events and their associations with depression and anxiety in adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. AADMD annual meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Hsieh, K., **Murthy, S.,** Heller, T., & Rimmer, J (2016, April). *Prevalence of predictors of cervical cancer screening among women with intellectual and developmental disabilities*. [Poster session]. UIC Women Research Day.
- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2015, November). *Examining association between obesity and depression adults with intellectual disabilities: Using the longitudinal health surveillance data*. [Conference presentation]. 143rd APHA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL
- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2015, November). *Health and health-related quality of life in adults with intellectual disabilities: Baseline results from the longitudinal health and intellectual disability study*. [Poster session]. 143rd APHA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

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- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., Heller, T., **Murthy, S.**, & Wang, E. (2015, July). *Longitudinal associations between sex, age, health risk behaviors and health-related quality of life of adults with developmental disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. Global Summit on Innovations in Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disability Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2014, November). *Comparing the health profile of older adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to the general population*. [Conference presentation]. 142nd APHA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2014, November). *Prevalence and predictors of cervical cancer screening among women with intellectual and developmental disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. 142nd APHA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- Murthy, S.**, Hsieh, K., & Rimmer, J. (2015, November). *Health and health-related quality of life in adults with intellectual disabilities: Baseline results from the longitudinal health and intellectual disability study*. [Poster session]. 143rd APHA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2013, November). *Outcomes of Strength and Balance Exercise and Walking Programs Among Older Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. 141st APHA Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Hsieh, K., Rimmer, J., & **Murthy, S.** (2012, October). *Prevalence and Associated Factors of Obesity in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities Living in the Community*. [Conference presentation]. 140th APHA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Murthy, S.**, Hsieh, K., & Rimmer, J. (2012, October). *Dietary Habits and Living Arrangements of Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*. [Conference presentation]. 140th APHA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Webinar Presentations

- Balcazar, F., **Murthy, S.**, Gibbons, T., Sefandonakis, A. & Martinez, K. (2021, October). *Supports and Barriers that Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Encounter when Starting their Businesses*. Department of Disability and Human Development, UIC, Webinar series.
- Hsieh, K., Heller, T., **Murthy, S.**, & Rimmer, J (2016, April). *Falls Among adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and prevention*. The Arc and the RRTC on Developmental and Disability and Health webinar series.

GUEST LECTURES

- “Nexus Work Coalition – Racial bias and equity in disability employment” in DHD 581: Disability Policy, 2022 Spring Semester
- “Care mappings specifically from the sibling perspective - family partnerships panel” in DHD 505 LEND I, 2021 Fall Semester
- “A Call to Action: Improving Employment Opportunities with Refugees with Disabilities in Illinois” in DHD 506 LEND II, 2021 Spring Semester
- “Global Disability Activism Panel” in DHD 303: Disability Activism, 2021 Spring Semester
- “Disability Advocacy and Activism in India” in DHD 303: Disability Activism, 2020 Spring Semester

MEMBERSHIPS

2023- AUCD Public Policy Committee

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2021-2022 Disability Economic Justice Collaborative

AWARDS AND HONORS

2022 AUCD Emerging Leaders Conference Travel Scholarship
2022 IDHD Student Research Award
2021 Ann & Edward Page-El Scholarship
2020 UIC President's Research in Diversity Travel Award
2020 Anne Hopkins Scholarship
2019 Carlos Drazen Memorial Scholarship
2019 DHD Student Travel Award for International Data Collection
1995 Distinction in Preventive and Social Medicine
1993 Distinction in Biochemistry