ACCESS TO AFFIRMING SERVICES AMONG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES IN INDIANA

Results from the 2021 Indiana Disability Justice's Community Strengths, Needs, and Desires Assessment

DECLINING SERVICES

64% of respondents reported they would usually feel able to decline services from a service professional. However, 40% of men and 25% of women indicated that setting this boundary with a service professional would depend on the circumstances.

BEING IGNORED

57% of respondents reported that they had at least one experience of a service provider speaking about their body and health to others as if they were not present, or not able to provide information themselves.

COERCED SERVICES

27% of respondents had experienced services being withheld from them until they complied with a "request." This included 33% of men, 19% of women, and 50% of those aged between 56 to 65.

REPORTING BEING HURT

Almost 60% of respondents indicated they would usually feel able to tell a service provider if another service provider was hurting them, and 10% indicated they would fear retaliation for reporting a service professional. Almost 70% indicated they would usually feel able to report a non-service provider hurting them.

Transparency and Important Notes About This Survey
This survey is not peer-reviewed research and is not representative of people with disabilities in Indiana, but it is statistically significant. Data regarding gender is weighted but data regarding age is not.

This survey received 41 responses by participants living in 17 counties (including 9 out of 10 INSILC districts). Among those who disclosed their demographic data, participants included:

- 22 women, 6 men, and 2 non-binary people
- People aged from ranges 18-25 up to 76-85
- 26 White people, 2 Native Americans, 1 Black person, 1 Latinx person, 1 Asian or Pacific Islander person, and 1 multiracial person
- 23 straight people, 7 LGB/SGL people, 1 asexual person, and 1 questioning person
- People raised in mainline and evangelical Christianity, Catholicism, Judaism, and atheism

Participants included people with cognitive and developmental disabilities (9), chronic illnesses (13), physical disabilities (12), sensory disabilities (9) [including Blind and/or Deaf participants], psychiatric disabilities and neurodivergence (21).

indiana disability justice

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