HEALTH EQUITY:
Inclusion of Diverse Populations

Monika Mitra, PhD
Nancy Lurie Marks Associate Professor of Disability Policy
Director of the Lurie Institute for Disability Policy

Brandeis | THE HELLER SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
Lurie Institute for Disability Policy
The Lurie Institute for Disability Policy
Working to improve the lives of people with disabilities across the lifespan
Our Research helps shape policies, programs and practices which improve the lives of people with disabilities across the lifespan.
RESEARCH
Federal & foundation supported
Peer reviewed publications
Policy Briefs & Webinars

ENGAGEMENT
Public events with researchers & activists
Partnerships with grassroots orgs

MENTORSHIP
Undergraduate and Postdoctoral fellowships
Graduate research experience
The National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities conducts research and provides training and technical assistance to improve the lives of parents with disabilities and their families.
The Community Living Policy Center

A cross-disability initiative to engage in research and knowledge-translation activities to improve policies and practices that promote community living and participation outcomes for people with disabilities of all ages.
1. Measures and Outcomes of Person-Centered Planning

2. Evaluation of Managed LTSS Partnerships with Disability Organizations


4. Research on Housing for People Transitioning Out of Institutions or at Risk of Institutionalization

5. Unmet Needs for HCBS, Consequences, and Impact of Program Characteristics on Outcomes

6. Policy-Driven Data Analyses to address urgent and developing policy issues
The Community Living Policy Center

• **Partner organizations:** Lurie Institute for Disability Policy at Brandeis University, the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN), the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF), the Disability Policy Consortium (DPC), Centene Corporation, the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD), the Topeka Independent Living Resource Center, and national policy expert Henry Claypool

• **Disability and Aging Collaborative:** a coalition of 40 national disability and aging organizations
How do we build the research pipeline?
ARRT Postdoctoral Program @Lurie
ARRT Postdoctoral Fellowship

The Fellowship Program prepares early career scholars to conduct rigorous research that acknowledges the complex realities in which people with disabilities live. Lurie Postdoctoral Fellows engage in interdisciplinary, intellectually rigorous research on the health, wellbeing, and social inclusion of people with disabilities.
Network of Support

- Project Director: Mitra
- Lurie Institute Admin
- Knowledge Translation
- Postdoctoral Fellows
- Primary Mentors
- Secondary Mentors
- Community Advisory Board
Cascading Mentorship

Primary Mentors
Secondary Mentors
Postdoctoral Fellows
Graduate Students
Undergrad Fellows
Recruitment

Disability Networks
Targeted recruiting through disability conferences and organizations and a national network of colleagues

National PhD Programs
Email recruiting materials to PhD program directors in allied health, rehab and social sciences at the top 50 ranked US programs and all US minority serving institutions;

Professional Organizations
Email recruiting materials to the UCEDD and LEND programs; email materials to the disability section listservs of research organizations

Accessible through web search
Advertise through paid posts to diversity-related resources; social media; robust Lurie email list; website
Doctoral Program

Through mentorship, research opportunities, and a weekly seminar, we encourage students to apply their research and advocacy prowess to ensuring the full social and legal equality of people with disabilities across the United States and worldwide.
Natalie Chong

Health policy issues that impact older adults with long term services and support needs;

Dissertation: The role of caregiving network configurations, supports, and provider engagement for older adults
Emily Crandall

Improving service systems, substance use/abuse, and healthcare access for people with disabilities
Gabby Katz

Understanding disparities in health access and quality of post-acute and long-term support services for older adults and adults with disabilities in the U.S
Kartik Trivedi

Workplace inclusion, career pathways, and economic self-sufficiency as related to persons with disabilities

Dissertation: Impact of algorithmic biases on employment of people with disabilities
Undergraduate Fellowship

Enables Brandeis undergrads to develop research skills and expand knowledge of disability policy.
Undergraduate Fellowship

Established in 2019, the fellowship offers Brandeis University undergraduate students the opportunity to develop research skills and expand their knowledge of disability policy through direct research training with established Lurie Institute investigators. As of spring 2020, we have trained thirteen fellows, and are currently training 6 in the '20-'21 academic year.
Select Research Projects

- Housing and neighborhood quality for households with people with LTSS needs (CLPC project)
- Experiences of individuals receiving HCBS and self-directing their services during COVID-19 (Commonwealth Fund)
- Outcomes of person-centered planning in partnership with Centene, the largest provider of Medicaid managed LTSS (CLPC project)
- Relationship between unmet need for LTSS (as SDOH) and health and CL outcomes (CLPC project)
- Racial and ethnic disparities in unmet need for HCBS (CLPC project)
- Community needs of parents with psychiatric disabilities (Parenting Center project)
- Opioid use among deaf and hard of hearing adults (INROADS project)
- Formative evaluation of two promising practices of OneCare, MA dual eligible demonstration program
Learn more

lurie.brandeis.edu

@LurieInstitute

lurie@brandeis.edu