



Disability Equity Collaborative Research Presentation:

COMMUNICATION ACCESS IN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE FACILITIES FOR DEAF AND AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE USERS

Wednesday, February 1st at 12p ET
[Click here](#) for Zoom link

Community-based advocates, litigation, and a growing body of literature indicates that deaf and hard-of-hearing people who use American Sign Language to communicate are not provided effective communication access in healthcare settings. Using nationally representative data of mental health and substance use treatment facilities in the U.S., James and colleagues applied legal epidemiology methods to understand non-compliance to Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Findings indicate widespread disparities in mental health and substance use facility accessibility, raising a call to action to improve healthcare access for deaf and hard-of-hearing people. [Communication Access in Mental Health And Substance Use Facilities for Deaf and American Sign Language Users](#) was published in the October 2022 theme issue on disability in the leading health policy journal, Health Affairs; it was the journal's 7th most read article during 2022.



Dr. Tyler G. James is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Michigan. He is a disabled health services researcher who focuses on social and legal epidemiology and clinical informatics in disability health.

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 www.DisabilityEquityCollaborative.org