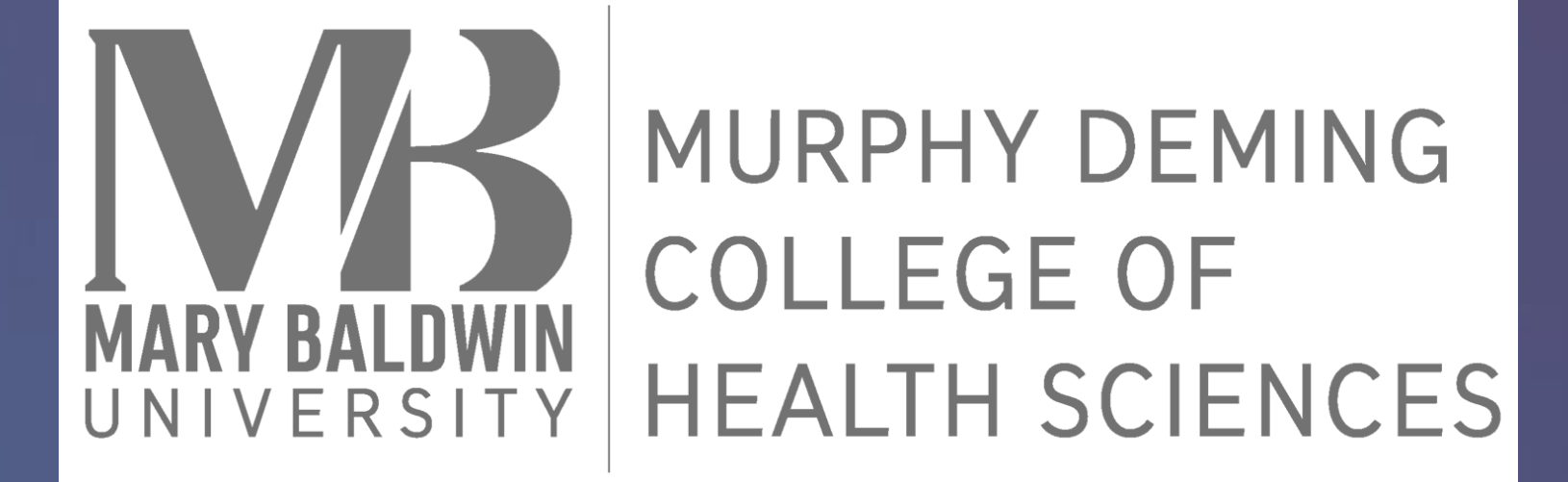




Informing Latinx Families How to Navigate an Autism Diagnosis for Their Children



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Introduction/Need

Care gaps exist among racial and ethnic minorities, lower-income families, households whose primary language is not English, and those most affected by their health conditions.

Significant disparities exist in early identification of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) for Hispanic and Latinx children; reasons are multifactorial.

Belonging to a racial/ethnic minority as well as to a family with low-income negatively impacts the health and well-being of children with ASD.

Virginia Latinx population is:

- 1.9 times more likely to live in poverty
- identified by the VDH as more at-risk for adverse health outcomes due to factors such as education, employment, and housing affordability
- at more risk of low health literacy, due to health care providers and educational materials often NOT available in Spanish



Objective

To increase access to evidence-based information before, during, and after an autism diagnosis for Latinx families.

Methods

- Form stakeholders & meet regularly - UVA Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, UVA School of Education; VCU Center for Family Involvement, and PEATC to create an Autism webinar series in Spanish
- Develop curriculum for webinar topics: developmental milestones; wellness checks and M-CHAT screening; components of diagnostic assessment; treatment options; genetics evaluation; educational resources IFSP and IEP; and community funding supports
- Secure experts and moderators to present and devise a system for Q&A at the end of each presentation
- Utilize STAR technical resources to broadcast and record webinars
- Review materials for medical and cultural accuracy
- Leader's Lived experience with autism and connections with needs of Virginia Latinx population: Ms. Vermillion has worked 3 years in autism family navigation; monthly participation in PEATC Virginia Partners en Español; interview with cultural broker/researcher, participation in national LEND Family Discipline group, AUCD Structural Competence and Cultural Humility to Address Disparities and Inequities

References

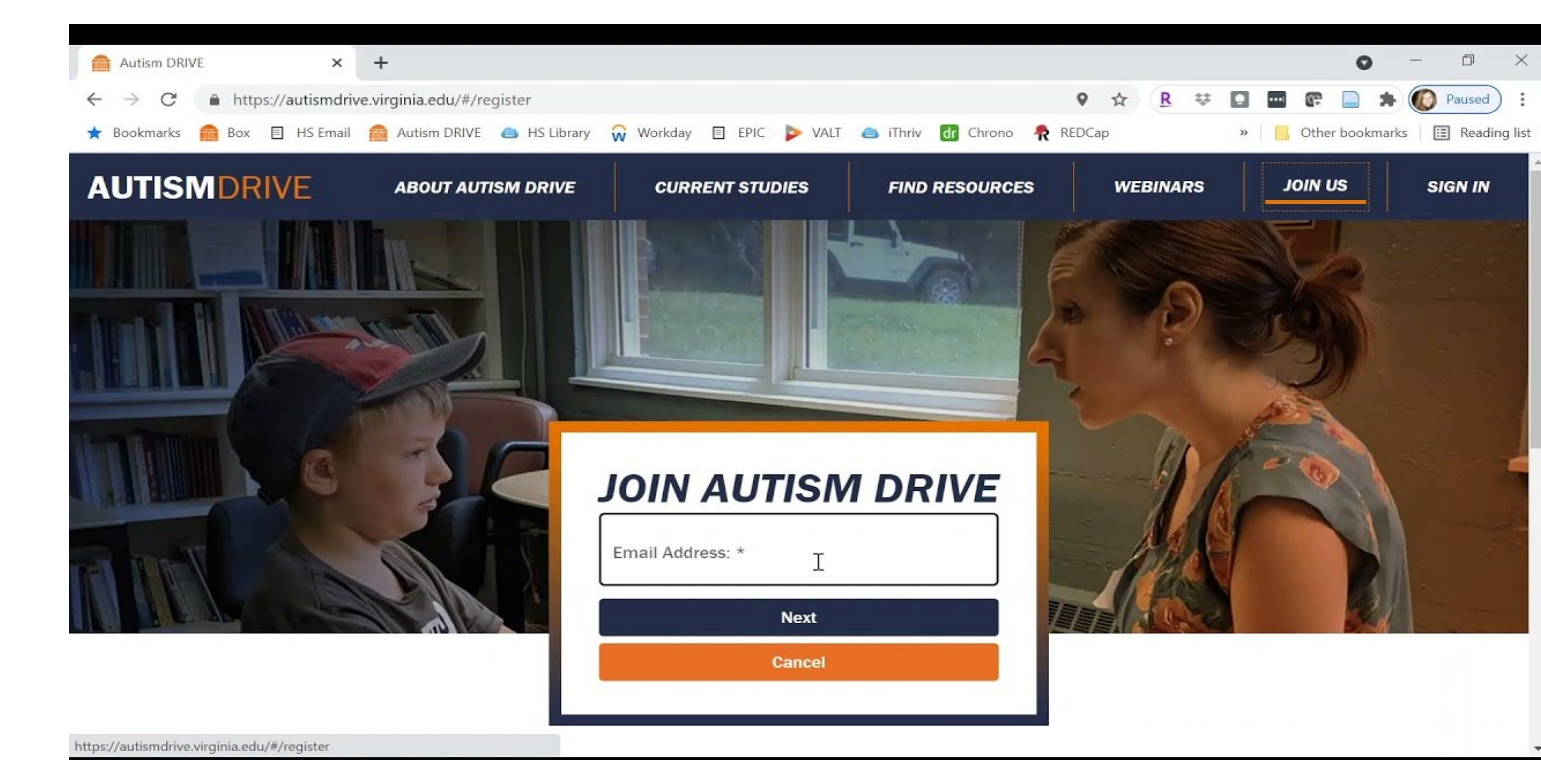
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Dissemination Plan

- Provide brochures to PEATC for Latinx Summit in May 2022
- Develop Commercial for ECHO Autism for Primary Care participants to relay to Spanish clients
- Present and share with UVA Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Pediatric providers and patients
- Present and share with VCU Center for Family Involvement and sites
- Post recordings on UVA Autism DRIVE and STAR Facebook page
- Submit information to the University of Washington and University of Colorado LENDS with similar projects emerging
- Submit abstract and poster for national AUCD presentation
- Feature series recordings in UVA HOPE Summit and other STAR promotional materials

Sustainability Plan

- House recordings at UVA Autism DRIVE
- Provide recordings to VCU and PEATC to feature
- Put links to recordings with materials in Spanish for UVA Division of Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Pediatric patients –for Spanish speaking clinic
- Collaborate on future webinars in Spanish with community partners
- Form Spanish speaking groups with PEATC on WhatsApp



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