

2022 Annual Report

January 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- Research with AIR-P, INSAR, and AWN.
- Podcast appearances on behalf of Advocacy Without Borders.
- Board meetings with AWN, IACC, and MHDD.
- Decoding Discrimination.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Roles for January include several co-lead positions in ongoing research projects, consulting in conjunction with podcast appearances, and board positions with several organizations whose missions align with Advocacy Without Borders. Events for January are listed under subsections of Research and Regular Meetings, but at this juncture, there is significant overlap in all sections and roles. Board meetings overlap with research and consultations, so these breakdowns are to provide a picture, although it isn't comprehensive of all events, positions, and roles.

Research:

- ★ INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) and the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.
- ★ Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics. Several organizations are affiliated with this research: Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).

Regular Meetings:

- ★ AWN Board Check-in--Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as Equity, Justice, and Representative AWN branch as Co-Chair.
- ★ Autism Committee as Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) Member. IACC falls under the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- ★ MHDD Advisory Board as Board Member--Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities National Training Center (MHDD).

Training & Speaking Engagements

- ★ Guest Speaker Podcast--Intersections on the Spectrum podcast
 - Interview with Doug Blecher and Kelly Bron Johnson.
 - **Intersections on the Spectrum:** The was created to discuss intersectional issues within the autistic community, and give visibility to commonly marginalized, repressed, underrepresented, or erased identities and issues.
 - *Dr. Onaiwu, acting on behalf of Advocacy Without Borders, consulted with the hosts about multiply-marginalized autistic issues, and subsequently appeared as a guest on their podcast to further the dialogue.*

- ★ Guest Speaker Podcast--Adulthood on the Spectrum Podcast
 - Interview by Andrew Komarow & Eileen Lamb.
 - **Adulthood on the Spectrum:** Podcast created by Autism Speaks to inspire the autism community, spark dialogue and make society a more understanding and accepting place for people with autism and their families. This podcast features autistic adults from various backgrounds to learn about their life, talents, challenges and the ups and downs of being on the spectrum.
 - *Dr. Onaiwu, acting on behalf of Advocacy Without Borders, consulted with the hosts about advocating for BIPOC autistics and about addressing community infighting, provided them with several resources, and subsequently appeared as a guest on their podcast to further the dialogue.*

- ★ Decoding Discrimination Justice Work & Webinars
 - National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) and Foundations for Divergent Minds, WITH Foundation: Equitable Access to Healthcare and Vaccine Distribution During the Coronavirus Pandemic.
 - Co-Lead with Justine (Justice) Shorter.
 - Collaborative project emphasizing informed consent, self-advocacy, determination, and protection against abuse/neglect. In addition, raising awareness and educating healthcare providers and self-advocates to include people with IDD from geographically diverse regions and POC in complete and comprehensive health care.

Events Timeline, January 2022

- INSAR Policy Brief--International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node/ as Project Co-leader
 - ◆ January 5

- Autistic Researchers Board Meeting--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P)/AIR-P ARRB (Autistic Researchers Review Board)
 - ◆ January 11
- AWN Board Check-in--Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN)/ Equity, Justice, and Representative AWN branch as Co-Chair
 - ◆ January 13
- Webinars on Decoding Discrimination--Decoding Discrimination with National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)/ as Project Co-Lead
 - ◆ January 14
- Autism Committee--National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/NIMH: Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) as IACC Member
 - ◆ January 22
- MHDD Advisory Board--Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities National Training Center (MHDD)/Advisory Board Member as Board Member
 - ◆ January 24
- Podcast--Intersections on the Spectrum podcast/Interview with Doug Blecher as Guest Speaker
 - ◆ January 24
- Podcast--Adulthood on the Spectrum Podcast/Interview by Andrew Komarow & Eileen Lamb as Guest Speaker
 - ◆ January 31

DECODING DISCRIMINATION DEBRIEF

Three main R's emerged from a recent national discussion with BIPOC members of the intellectual and developmental disabilities community and healthcare professionals. All intersect across another **R, race**.

- Diagnosis is a form of **ranking** that is required to receive care; "how impaired" one is
- Accessing resources you qualify for which directly impacts one's **rights**
- The level, quality, and speed of care varies according to **resources** that are available

RANKING

What was said	What it means
Price of Care	The cost of medical care; an "acceptable" amount
Scoring system/metrics	Using a scale to decide who gets medical care
Life expectancy rate/survivability	How likely a person is expected to live
Prioritization	Deciding who gets care first
Quality of life	Whether a person's life is "worth" living or not
Medically vulnerable	At higher risk of getting sick
"Normal"	Does not have a disability or medical condition

(DENIAL OF) RIGHTS

What was said	What it means
Noncompliant; Nonprogressive	Not "following directions." Not recovering quickly
"Sheep" and/or "Sheeple"	Insulting people by saying they are easily led or "follow" the crowd instead of thinking for themselves
Multiple disability; dual diagnosis	Having more than one disability; when one of your disabilities is treated negatively (mental health, substance use)
Insufficient informed consent and/or influence	Agreeing to something without getting all of the

February 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- Various AIR-P events, meetings, and webinars.
- AWN meeting as EJR Co-Chair.
- Numerous consultations with various organizations.
- Event with Felicity House.
- Decoding Discrimination event.
- Arizona Center for Disability Law events.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Roles for Advocacy Without Borders in February include several consultations for various organizations. For those consultations, Dr. Onaiwu assumes multiple roles, as an educator, as EJR Co-Chair for AWN, as an educated expert with a relevant doctorate involving Black Disability Justice, as a global activist, as a parent, and as a person of color with autism and several interacting marginalizations. While one or two of these roles may appear on paper, they are interlayered. In addition, Dr. Onaiwu occupies several board positions. The roles of leadership are all interconnected, which is important to keep in mind while reviewing the various facets of their work.

Research:

- INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) and the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.
- Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics. Several organizations are affiliated with this research: Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).
- Autism Webinar--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA Presents: *How can we use an understanding of the neurodiversity movement to develop socially valid supports for autistic people?*

Regular Meetings:

- AWN Executive Committee Meeting--Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network
- (AWN) Equity, Justice, and Representation Committee Chair

Event Planning & Events:

Felicity House--Planning and presentation (as Facilitator) for Autism Discussion Group with Felicity House as Self Advocate Advisor.

Consulting & Speaking Engagements

Invited Speaker for Decoding Discrimination Resource Reveal

Foundation for Divergent Minds (FDM), National Disability Rights Network (NDRN), WITH Foundation, Equitable Access to Healthcare and Vaccine Distribution During the Coronavirus Pandemic. Co-Lead (under Advocacy Without Borders) with Justine (Justice) Shorter.

Consulting--Female Diagnosis Workgroup call with Autism Science Foundation (ASF) and Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN)

Autism Science Foundation (ASF): ASF is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting people with autism and their families by funding scientific research to understand the causes of autism and to develop better treatments.

Advocacy Without Borders consulted with the ASF Chief Science Officer and several others for over a year on a project focused on autism and gender disparities culminating in a publication in The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health Journal and a podcast episode.

Sarasota County ADA Coordinator

Sarasota County: The Sarasota County ADA and Title IV program aims to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and to offer accommodations to increase accessibility in the county's communication, employment, programs, activities, policies, and services.

Dr. Onaiwu, on behalf of Advocacy Without Borders, consulted with the Sarasota County ADA Coordinator to provide guidance on inclusive and neurodiversity affirming techniques in various trainings being offered to the public and to departments within the county, including libraries, emergency services, sustainability, and others. Subsequently, Dr. Onaiwu helped with development of topics for their "Culmination of Autism Awareness" event.

Consultation--Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) partnership with Arizona Center for Disability Law

Arizona Center for the Disability Law/Disability Rights Arizona: Non-profit public interest law firm dedicated to protecting the rights of individuals with physical, mental, psychiatric, sensory and cognitive disabilities.

Advocacy Without Borders consulted with their staff on cultural sensitivity and autism acceptance.

Includes various sessions, including: Session 10) The Self Advocacy Movement: A Civil Rights Movement for People with Disabilities; Session 12) Moving from Safe Spaces to Brave Spaces.

Consulting & Public Speaking with The Stemma Project

Shaunta Wright of The Stemma Project with the Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN).

The Stemma Project: Creating Community and Culturing Change: This Georgia nonprofit is "dedicated to providing programs, events and community service projects that advance the cultural framework of African-American families and influence the worldview perspectives of education, wealth and enhanced activities for everyday life." Its areas of focus include "Financial Literacy, Self, Family and Community Defense, Mental Health Awareness, Autism Awareness, Skill Training and Job Readiness, Cultural Awareness, Scholarships, Community Organization, and Community Development."

Dr. Onaiwu, on behalf of Advocacy Without Borders, consulted with the Stemma Project founder and lead coordinator on community participatory strategies related to promoting neurodiversity and autism acceptance in the African American community, particularly in the US South.

Subsequently, Dr. Onaiwu then served as the speaker for their annual African American Autism Awareness on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

Additional Consultations:

Consulting on Training Material--Revisions & final draft for training script for ASD & Foster Parent College, Northwest Media, Inc.

Consultation with College for Creative Studies with Deirdre Young.

Consultation Rowan University Center for Neurodiversity with Amy Accardo.

Consulting--Advised Natalie Cruz of CHLA University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD).

Events Timeline, February 2022

- Autism Discussion Group Planning--Planning Meeting with Felicity House as Self Advocate Advisor
 - February 1
- INSAR Policy Brief--International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node/ as Project Co-leader
 - February 2
- Consulting--Female Diagnosis Workgroup call with Autism Science Foundation and Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as Consultant
 - February 3
- Consulting on Training Material--Revisions for Training script for ASD/Foster Parent College, Northwest Media, Inc. as Consultant
 - February 4
- Consulting on Training Material--Final Draft for Training script for ASD/Foster Parent College, Northwest Media, Inc. as Consultant
 - February 5
- Autistic Research--Autistic Researchers Review Board (ARRB)/Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA Researcher
 - February 8
- Consulting--Provided consultation with Sarasota County ADA Coordinator Bonnie Silvestr
 - February 9

- Consulting--Provided consultation with College for Creative Studies with Deirdre Young
 - February 9
- Consulting--Provided consultation Rowan University Center for Neurodiversity with Amy Accardo
 - February 9
- Decoding Discrimination Webinars--Decoding Discrimination: Resource Reveal (Part 2 of 2) with Foundation for Divergent Minds (FDM)/National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) as Invited Speaker
 - February 15
- Consultation--Session 10: The Self Advocacy Movement: A Civil Rights Movement for People with Disabilities/Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) partnership with Arizona Center for Disability Law
 - February 15
- Autism Webinar--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA/AIR-P Presents: How can we use an understanding of the neurodiversity movement to develop socially valid supports for autistic people? As ARRB Member
 - February 15
- Autism Discussion Group--Hosted Felicity House/Autism Discussion Group C as Facilitator
 - February 15
 - Consulting--Session 12: Moving from Safe Spaces to Brave Spaces/Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) partnership with Arizona Center for Disability Law as Consultant
 - February 17
- AWN Executive Committee Meeting--Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) Equity, Justice, and Representation Committee Chair
 - February 19
- Autistic Researchers Review Board--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA/AIR-P ARRB (Autistic Researchers Review Board) as ARRB Member
 - February 22
- Consulting--Advised Natalie Cruz of CHLA University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD website) as Consultant
 - February 23
- Consulting--Consultation: Shaunta Wright of The Stemma Project, Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN)
 - February 23

March 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- Various AIR-P events.
- Several meetings for Co-authoring and writing projects.
- Regular board meetings such as AWN and AS Workgroup.
- Media interviews
- Several panels, a few speaking events, training, and planning for future public speaking events.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Dr. Onaiwu's roles for March included research, presentations, planning, writing, and consulting among numerous events.

Research:

- INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) and the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.
- Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics. Several organizations are affiliated with this research: Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).
- As Facilitator, Book Planning Meeting for a Neurodiversity Book Chapter with AIR-P.

Meetings for Writing Projects:

- Co-Author for an ASD Female Diagnosis paper, which may include Neurodiversity Book Chapter with the Autism Science Foundation and AWN .
- Co-Author for Autism Research Articles, including a Pediatrics Supplement for April Publication with AIR-P, ARRB, & A.J. Drexel Autism Institute.
- Co-Author of a perspective-piece and workgroup meeting with UPenn and AWN.
- Grant Writing--U01 Planning Grant Meeting for Early Intervention Research Group with Northwestern University as Co-Investigator.

Regular Meetings:

- AWN Executive Committee Meeting as EJR Co-Chair.
- Weekly Autistic Researchers Workgroup Member with Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs.
- SPARK DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Advisory Board.
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup Member. These regular meetings discuss and create fellowships (postdoctorate and predoctorate fellowships) with Autism Speaks--Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs specifically for autistic researchers researching autism.

Media Interviews:

- Arnolt Center for Investigative Journalism with a story on special education services.
- With Kimberly Bleu, who interviewed Dr. Onaiwu about their personal experience as a black nonbinary woman on the spectrum, who has built a career advocating for others with intersecting marginalizations, emphasizing black autistic women.

Panels, Training, & Speaking Events:

- Keynote speaker and panelist for A.J. Drexel Autism Institute's Policing and Autism Symposium/Autism and the Criminal Justice System.
- Virtual Panel Moderator for Kind Theory's event for Transformative Technology: Breaking Down Barriers for Neurodivergent Students.
- Black, Disabled, Deaf and Proud Webinar Panelist provided by National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities (Lurie Institute, Brandeis).
- Facilitator for Autism Discussion C through Felicity House.
- Training with Foster Parent College and Northwest Media Inc., collaborated and created Autism Training for Resource Parents. This was based on scripting that was drafted and finalized in February.

Consulting:

Invited Speaker as an subject matter expert for Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee Meeting for the National Autism Center, May Institute. The meeting was on research evaluating American Disabilities Act (ADA) practices.

Event Planning & Events:

- Meeting with JPMorgan about being a keynote speaker as a part of their CB DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Education Series.
- Planning for The Stemma Project Keynote in May 2022
- Summit Planning Meeting Presenter and Co-Host--Virtual Summit: Sensory Health in Autism (June 8-10), STAR Institute
- Planning for Cornell's Autism Awareness Week (3/28-4/3)
 - Featuring Dr. Onaiwu as a speaker and consultant for the event.
 - Office of Staff Diversity and Inclusion at Weill Cornell Medicine.
 - March 2: Planning Meeting
 - March 9: Planning Meeting Follow-up

Events Timeline, March 2022

- Autistic Researchers Review Board--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA/AIR-P ARRB (Autistic Researchers Review Board) as ARRB Member
 - March 1
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Workgroup Member
 - March 1
- INSAR Policy Brief--International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node/ as Project Co-leader
 - March 1
- Summit Planning Meeting--Virtual Summit: Sensory Health in Autism (June 8-10), STAR Institute as Presenter and Co-Host
 - March 2
- Media Interview--Arnolt Center for Investigative Journalism, Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN)
 - March 2
- Autism Research--National Autism Center, May Institute/Steering group for ongoing research on extending evaluation of ABA practices as Invited Speaker
 - March 2
- INSAR Policy Brief--International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node/ as Project Co-leader
 - March 2

- Planning Meeting--Speaker Invitation, Autism Awareness Week (3/28-4/3)/Office of Staff Diversity and Inclusion at Weill Cornell Medicine as Speaker and Consultant
 - March 2
- Advisory Board Meeting--SPARK DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Advisory Board/Simons Foundation as Advisory Board Member
 - March 4
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Workgroup Member
 - March 8
- Media Interview--With Kimberly Bleu and Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN)
 - March 9
- Planning Meeting Follow-up--Speaker Invitation, Autism Awareness Week (3/28-4/3)/Office of Staff Diversity and Inclusion at Weill Cornell Medicine as Speaker and Consultant
 - March 9
- Grant Planning Meeting--U01 Planning Grant Meeting/Early Intervention Research Group - Northwestern University as Investigator
 - March 10
- Written Work Planning Meeting--Perspective piece workgroup meeting/UPenn and Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as Co-Author
 - March 12
- Virtual Panel--Transformative Technology: Breaking Down Barriers for Neurodivergent Students/Kind Theory as Moderator
 - March 12
- AWN Executive Committee Meeting--Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN)/ Equity, Justice, and Representative AWN branch as Co-Chair
 - March 15
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Workgroup Member
 - March 15
- Corporate Presentation--Discussion with JPMorgan as a part of our CB DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Education Series /JP Morgan Chase & Co. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion as Keynote Speaker
 - March 16
- Book Planning Meeting--Neurodiversity Book Chapter/Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA/ as Facilitator

- March 16
- ASD Female Diagnosis paper--Neurodiversity Book Chapter/Autism Science Foundation and AWN as Co-Author
 - March 18
- Stemma Project Meeting--Stemma Project & Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as Invited Speaker
 - March 18
- Autism Research Articles--Pediatrics Supplement for April Publication/AIR-P ARRB (Autistic Researchers Review Board) & A.J. Drexel Autism Institute as Co-Author
 - March 20
- Policing and Autism Symposium--Autism and the Criminal Justice System/A.J. Drexel Autism Institute as Panelist and Keynote Speaker
 - March 20
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Workgroup Member
 - March 22
- Grant Planning Meeting--U01 Planning Grant Meeting/Early Intervention Research Group - Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - March 24
- Autism Discussion Group--Autism Discussion C with Felicity House as Group Facilitator
 - March 24
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Workgroup Member
 - March 29
- Black, Disabled, Deaf and Proud Webinar--National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities/Lurie Institute, Brandeis as Panelist
 - March 30
- Autism Training--Autism Training for Resource Parents/Foster Parent College and Northwest Media, Inc. as Collaborator and Contributor
 - March 31
- Grant Planning Meeting--U01 Planning Grant Meeting/Early Intervention Research Group - Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - March 31
- ASD Female Diagnosis paper--Neurodiversity Book Chapter/Autism Science Foundation and Autism Women's Network as Co-Author
 - March 31

April 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- Chapter published in an anthology.
- Publication for [AIR-P](#).
- Public speaking at four educational institutions, including Cornell and Rowan University.
- Regular Meetings for [Kind Theory](#), EIRG, AS, and others.
- Planning and events for [Uptimize](#), The Frontline, IACC, and [SunStorm Stories](#) (NDRN).
- Live Webinar with FDM.
- Event for The Stemma Project.

Publications

- ★ Contributing Writer to an anthology. Chapter “Contending with the Voices in My Head,” in *For the Love of Autism: Stories of Love, Awareness, and Acceptance on the Spectrum*.
- ★ Brown HM, Dwyer PSR, Gassner DL, Onaiwu MG, Kapp SK, Ne'eman A, et al. The Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health Autistic Researcher Review Board. *Pediatrics*. 2022 Apr 1;149(Suppl 4).
 - The Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) set up the Autistic Researcher Review Board (ARRB) to research the wellbeing of autistic people, based on five different reporting points: positive emotions, engagement, positive relationships, meaning and accomplishments (Seligman’s PERMA model). The research’s goals were to include the voices of autistic people at all life stages and also improve their quality of life.
- ★ Kuo AA, Hotez E, Rosenau KA, Gragnani C, Fernandes P, Haley M, et al (including Onaiwu MG). The Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) Research Agenda. *Pediatrics*. 2022 Apr 1;149(Suppl 4).
 - **Objectives:** *In the United States, autistic individuals experience disproportionate physical and mental health challenges relative to non-autistic individuals, including higher rates of co-occurring and chronic conditions and lower physical, social, and psychological health-related quality of life. The Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) is an interdisciplinary, multicenter research network for scientific collaboration and infrastructure that aims to increase the life*

expectancy and quality of life for autistic individuals, with a focus on underserved or vulnerable populations. The current paper describes the development of the AIR-P Research Agenda.

- **Methods:** *Development of the research agenda involved an iterative and collaborative process between the AIR-P Advisory Board, Steering Committee, and Autistic Researcher Review Board. The methodology consisted of 3 phases: (1) ideation and design, (2) literature review and synthesis; and (3) network engagement.*
- **Results:** *Six core research priorities related to the health of autistic individuals were identified: (1) primary care services and quality, (2) community-based lifestyle interventions, (3) health systems and services, (4) gender, sexuality, and reproductive health, (5) neurology, and (6) genetics. Specific topics within each priority were identified. Four cross-cutting research priorities were identified: (1) neurodiversity-oriented care, (2) facilitating developmental transitions, (3) methodologically rigorous intervention studies, and (4) addressing health disparities.*
- **Conclusions:** *The AIR-P Research Agenda represents an important step forward for enacting large-scale health-promotion efforts for autistic individuals across the lifespan. This agenda will catalyze autism research in historically underrepresented topic areas while adopting a neurodiversity-oriented approach to health-promotion.*

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research:

- ★ INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.
- ★ Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics. Several organizations are affiliated with this research: Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).

Meetings:

- ★ Kind Theory Board Member Meeting.
- ★ Weekly Grant Planning Meeting with Early Intervention Research Group at Northwestern University.

- ★ Perspective piece group meeting or writing a paper with University of Pennsylvania and Autism Spectrum Program of Excellence.
- ★ Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee. Dr. Onaiwu's involvement changed from an invited speaker (March) to a regular collaborator with The National Autism Center - May Institute. This meeting is focused on evaluating ADA practices.
- ★ Autistic Researchers Workgroup Member. These regular meetings discuss and create fellowships (postdoctorate and predoctorate fellowships) with Autism Speaks--Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs specifically for autistic researchers researching autism. This meeting was for the final review of the RFA before distribution.
- ★ Consultation Meeting Julia Barbosa Landois of Fresh Arts.

Speaking Engagements:

- ★ Keynote: Forged by Fire: The Intersection of Race, Disability, and Gender at the Weill School of Medicine, Cornell University.



- ★ Guest Speaker: Neurodiversity x PACT - A Community of Care: Caring for our Autistic Families and Caregivers for Yahoo's Neurodiversity & Autism Acceptance Month.
- ★ Invited Speaker: Rowan University Center for Neurodiversity speaking on Neurodiversity and Intersectionality.\
- ★ Keynote Speaker: University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD) speaking on Intersectionality.

Event Planning/Events:

- ★ Optimize event as Facilitator:
 - April 8 & April 11: Session Planning--Optimize x Ribbon Neurodiversity & Intersectionality Session Planning/Optimize, an organization promoting neuro-inclusion
 - April 12: Intersectionality Webinar--Optimize Intersectionality Webinar: Intersectionality & Neurodiversity in the Workplace Webinar
 - April 14: Neurodiversity & Intersectionality Webinar--Intersectionality & Neurodiversity in the Workplace Webinar/ Ribbon Home Neurodiversity & Intersectionality Session
- ★ Webinar & Panel as Moderator with The Frontline.

- April 12: Consultant with Cessi Sparrow of The Frontline about the potential of being a guest speaker.
- The Frontline is an organization that protects voters' rights
- April 26: Webinar and Panel. The Frontline: A Conversation About Autism Acceptance & Racial Justice.
- ★ IACC
 - As Committee member: Full Committee Pre-Meeting Session--(NIMH, OARC, IACC) National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/NIMH: Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC)
 - April 13 IACC Full Committee Meeting--April 2022--National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/NIMH: Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) as IACC Member
- ★ April 23: SunStorm Stories Planning
 - Amplifying post-pandemic experiences of people of color with intellectual & developmental disabilities.

Other Events:

- ★ Kind Theory (A Texas-based neurodiversity non-profit) Author Panel and Reading for *Sincerely Your Autistic Child: What People on the Autism Spectrum Wish Their Parents Knew About Growing Up, Acceptance, and Identity* as Co-Editor.
- ★ As Facilitator, including Q&A Session. Several Uptimize events occurred in April.
- ★ As Content Matter Expert, Listening Session for URResearch Support Services for Employment of Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum with Mathematica.
- ★ Live Webinar with New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence (NJACE) & FDM as Board Member.
- ★ Stemma Project Meeting for upcoming event, with AWN.
- ★ Stemma Project's Event.
 - The 4AC: African-American Autism Awareness Conference.
 - Keynote Speaker and Moderator of Q&A Session.
- ★ Advocacy Without Borders was invited to participate in the Simpatico Advisory Board and Mentoring Program. Simpatic is part of the AANE.

Events Timeline

- Speaking Engagement--Forged by Fire: The Intersection of Race, Disability, and Gender/Weill School of Medicine, Cornell University as Keynote Speaker
 - ◆ April 1
- Stemma Project Meeting--Stemma Project as Invited Speaker
 - ◆ April 2

- African-American Autism Awareness Conference--The 4AC: African-American Autism Awareness Conference/Stemma Project as Keynote Speaker and Moderator of Q&A Session
 - ◆ April 2
- Author Panel--Kind Theory panel with book "Sincerely, Your Autistic Child"/Kind Theory-- A Texas-based neurodiversity nonprofit as Author and Contributing Panelist
 - ◆ April 2
- Splunk Session--As Co-Author of book "Sincerely, Your Autistic Child"/Uptimize-- An organization promoting neuroinclusion as Facilitator, including Q&A Session
 - ◆ April 5
- Autistic Researchers Review Board--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA/AIR-P ARRB as ARRB Member
 - ◆ April 5
- Literary Project Committee--Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee/National Autism Center - May Institute as Collaborator
 - ◆ April 5
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Workgroup Member
 - ◆ April 5
- Full Committee Pre-Meeting Session--(NIMH, OARC, IACC) National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/NIMH: Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) as IACC Member
 - ◆ April 8
- Session Planning--Uptimize x Ribbon Neurodiversity & Intersectionality Session Planning/Uptimize, an organization promoting neuroinclusion as Facilitator
 - ◆ April 8 & April 11
- Mentoring Program--Simpatico Mentoring Program/AANE (Association for Autism and Neurodiversity) as Advisory Board
 - ◆ April 11
- Intersectionality Webinar--Uptimize Intersectionality Webinar: Intersectionality & Neurodiversity in the Workplace Webinar/Uptimize as Facilitator
 - ◆ April 12
- Listening Session--UResearch Support Services for Employment of Young Adults on the Autism Spectrum/Mathematica as Content matter expert
 - ◆ April 12
- Consultation--Cessi Sparrow of The Frontline/The Frontline, an organization protecting voters' rights as a Consultant and Guest Speaker
 - ◆ April 12

- Autism Public Speaking Engagement--Neurodiversity x PACT - A Community of Care: Caring for our Autistic Families and Caregivers/ Neurodiversity: Autism Acceptance Month as Guest Speaker
 - ◆ April 13
- IACC Full Committee Meeting--April 2022--National Institute of Mental Health/ Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) as IACC Member
 - ◆ April 13
- Live Webinar-- LIVE Webinar /New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence & Foundations for Divergent Minds as Board Member
 - ◆ April 14
- Grant Planning Meeting--U01 Planning Grant Meeting/Early Intervention Research Group - Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - ◆ April 14
- Neurodiversity & Intersectionality Webinar--Intersectionality & Neurodiversity in the Workplace Webinar/ Ribbon Home Neurodiversity & Intersectionality Session/ with Uptimize as Facilitator
 - ◆ April 14
- Perspective piece group meeting-- University of Pennsylvania/ Autism Spectrum Program of Excellence as Collaborator
 - ◆ April 15
- Literary Project Committee--Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee/National Autism Center - May Institute as Collaborator
 - ◆ April 19
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--Priorities discussion Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Consultant
 - ◆ April 19
- Consultation--Meeting Julia Barbosa Landois of Fresh Arts as Consultant
 - ◆ April 20
- College Speaking Event--Neurodiversity and Intersectionality/Rowan University Center for Neurodiversity as Invited Speaker
 - ◆ April 20
- College Speaking Event--Neurodiversity and Intersectionality/Rowan University Center for Neurodiversity as Invited Speaker
 - ◆ April 20
- Grant Planning Meeting--U01 Planning Grant Meeting/Early Intervention Research Group - Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - ◆ April 21
- Keynote Speaking Event--UCEDD Intersectionality Talk/University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD) as Keynote Speaker

- ◆ April 22
 - SunStorm Stories Planning--Share pandemic experiences of people of color with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities/Foundation for Divergent Minds (FDM) & National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) as Co-Lead
- ◆ April 23
 - Published Chapter--As contributing writer, "Contending with the voices in my head," in the anthology *For the Love of Autism: Stories of Love, Awareness, and Acceptance on the Spectrum*.
- ◆ April 24
 - Board Meeting--Kind Theory Board/Kind Theory (A neurodiversity nonprofit) as Member
- ◆ April 25
 - Book Reading Webinar--"Sincerely, Your Autistic Child" Book Reading via Webinar with Kind Theory as Member
- ◆ April 25
 - Webinar & Panel--The Frontline: Autism Acceptance & Racial Justice/A Conversation About Autism Acceptance & Racial Justice with The Frontline as Moderator
- ◆ April 26



The Stemma Project

Non-profit organization

May 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- Research and board meetings.
- Finishing up drafting fellowships with Autism Speaks.
- Ongoing collaboration with The National Autism Center - May Institute.
- Panel at UCSB.
- Media interview and podcast appearance.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research:

- Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics. Several organizations are affiliated with this research: Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).
- Co-Lead for Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) with Northwestern University with PCORI grant.

Board Meetings:

- Advisory Board Meeting for National Center for Disability and Pregnancy Research (NCDPR) Community Advisory Board with Lurie Institute at Brandeis.
- Board Meeting for Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC).
- Bi-Annual 2022 Executive Council for Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC).

Additional Meetings:

- Autistic Researchers Workgroup Member. These regular meetings discuss and create graduate fellowships with Autism Speaks-Scientific Research Grants specifically for autistic researchers researching autism. This meeting was for the final review of the RFA.
- Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee. Dr. Onaiwu's involvement changed from an invited speaker (March) to a regular collaborator with The National Autism Center - May Institute. This meeting is focused on evaluating ADA practices.

Consultation:

Consultation--Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Grants Info Session 2022.

Panels, Webinars, & Public Speaking:

- Panel at UC Santa Barbara. A.S. Black Women's Health Collaborative with UCSB Center for Black Studies Research. Black Disability Justice Advocate Panel where Dr. Onaiwu discussed the intersectional experience of Blackness, marginalized gender identities, disability, as well as solidarity across movements.
- "Rethinking the diagnostic process for autistic children" webinar as an invited speaker. This collaboration took place with Sam Brandsen of All Neurotypes. Dr. Onaiwu ended up joining the board for All Neurotypes.
- Media interview with Scienceline. Interviewed on Autism, neurodiversity, and race by Allison Parshall - Science Journalist, Multimedia Editor. Interviewer asked questions about aspects of Dr. Onaiwu's (race, gender identity, disability) identity shaped each other, as well as the need for autism research into the intersected life experience of people on the spectrum..
- Dr. Onaiwu was the featured speaker on Anchored Podcast with CLT- Classic Learning Test. The episode topic was "The Consequences of Political Polarization with Morénike Giwa Onaiwu."
 - **Classic Learning Test (CLT):** CLT offers assessments that supplement traditional schooling, including assessments that evaluate reading, grammar, and mathematics.
 - *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with CLT founder Jeremy Tate about their organization's communication strategy on social media and their podcast, specifically about polarizing language and being more culturally sensitive to issues relevant to people of color. Dr. Onaiwu appeared on their podcast, Anchored.*

Events Timeline

- Media Interview--Autism, neurodiversity, and race/ Scienceline
 - May 2
- Literary Project Committee--Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee/National Autism Center at the May Institute as Collaborator
 - May 3
- Consultation--MHFA Doctoral Grants Information Session/Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Grants Info Session 2022 as Consultant
 - May 3

- Community Advisory Board--NCDPR (National Center for Disability and Pregnancy Research) Community Advisory Board /Lurie Institute & Brandeis as Advisory Board member
 - May 3
- Autistic Researchers Workgroup--(final review of the RFA) Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Consultant
 - May 3
- Autistic Researchers Review Board--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA/AIR-P ARRB (Autistic Researchers Review Board) as ARRB Member
 - May 3
- Board Meeting--Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Board Member
 - May 3
- Executive Committee Meeting--Bi-Annual 2022 Executive Council/ Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Board Member and Executive Council Member
 - May 9
- Black disability justice advocate panel--UC Santa Barbara, A.S. Black Women's Health Collaborative /UCSB Center for Black Studies Research as Panelist
 - May 11
- PCORI Planning Grant--Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) Northwestern University /UCSB Center for Black Studies Research as Co-Lead
 - May 12
- Webinar--Rethinking the diagnostic process for autistic children/Collaboration with Sam Brandsen of All Neurotypes as Co-Lead
 - May 13
- Literary Project Committee--Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee/National Autism Center - May Institute as Collaborator
 - May 17
- PCORI Planning Grant--Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - May 19
- Podcast--The Consequences of Political Polarization with Morénike Giwa Onaiwu /Anchored Podcast with CLT- Classic Learning Test as Invited Speaker
 - May 20

June 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- AIR-P and INSAR research continue.
- Full funding for PCORI and EIRG at Northwestern for research project.
- Several board meetings.
- Wrap-up of AS and MHDD projects.
- New project with Black Feminist Future.
- Consultations with WHO
- STAR Institute's 2022 Sensory Health in Autism Presentation.
- NPR interview.
- Other consultations, public speaking & webinar appearances.
- Collaborative writing meeting.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research

- Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics. Several organizations are affiliated with this research: Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).
- INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) and the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.
- Full funding announcement meeting with Jordan Lee of Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) at NorthWestern which creates tools for autism research for early childhood.

Regular Meetings

- IEC Board Nominating Committee Meeting.
- Q:2 2022 IEC Board of Directors.
- Quarterly Parenting Center Advisory Board Meeting for National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities (sponsored through Lurie Institute, Brandeis) .
- Foundations for Divergent Minds (FDM) planning meeting.
- Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee with National Autism Center - May Institute.

Project Wrap-ups:

- Final Review of Autistic Researchers of fellowships offered through Autism Speaks Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs.
- Project Closeout for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities National Training Center (MHDD-NTC), for which Dr. Onaiwu was a board member.

New Project Planning: Planning a Justice Lab: Disability Justice Black Feminist Future Lab planning with Black Feminist Future.

Public Speaking, Panels, & Presentations:

- Amplifying Voices: Parents with Disabilities (Second Year) presentation for Speaker Slam as invited speaker.
- 2022 Sensory Health in Autism Presentation by STAR Institute as Presentator, Panelist, and Co-host.
- NPR Media Interview. With Roe v. Wade overturned, disabled people reflect on how it will impact them.

Multidisciplinary

- Meeting for a perspective-piece about trauma in autism research with Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.
- Consultation with World Health Organization (WHO) as Subject Matter Expert for WHO's Global report on health equity for persons with disabilities.
- Consultation with Enid Amos with Prince George's County Public Schools, the 20th largest school district in the U.S.A. with over 200 schools and learning centers. The school district proactively promotes social justice.
- Consultation-- Kelli Carrier of Lopez Island School District.
 - Lopez Island Education Foundation: This nonprofit supports learning-based and experiential programs and activities for students of Lopez Public Schools via supplemental funding to sponsor various educational projects.
 - *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with the team to discuss neurodiversity affirming strategies for engaging with multiply marginalized BIPoC families in the district.*

Events Timeline

- Committee Meeting--IEC Board Nominating Committee Meeting/ Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Board Member

- June 1
- Consultation--Meeting Enid Amos with Prince George's County Public Schools as Consultant
 - June 1
- Amplifying Voices - Speakers' Session--Amplifying Voices: Parents with Disabilities (Second Year) / Speaker Slam as Invited Speaker
 - June 1
- Policy Brief team--INSAR Policy Brief team/International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node as Co-Lead
 - June 1
- Presentation and Panel Day--2022 Sensory Health in Autism Presentation/STAR Institute as Summit co-host, presenter, & panelist
 - June 10
- Justice Lab--Disability Justice Black Feminist Future Lab planning / Black Feminist Future as Co-Lead
 - June 14
- Board of Directors Meeting--Q:2 2022 IEC Board of Directors /Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Board Member
 - June 14
- Quarterly Meeting--Parenting Center Advisory Board/National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities (Lurie Institute, Brandeis) as Advisory Board member
 - June 16
- Meeting-- Meeting with Jordan Lee of Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) at NorthWestern as Co-Lead
 - June 16
- Consultation-- Kelli Carrier of Lopez Island School District as Consultant
 - June 17
- Consultation with WHO-- Consultation: WHO Global report on health equity for persons with disabilities as Subject Matter Expert
 - June 21
- Advisory Board--GSR Gender, Sexuality, and Reproductive Health) Node Advisory Board/AIR-P ARRB (Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health) (Autistic Researchers Review Board) at UCLA as Board Member
 - June 21
- NPR Media Interview--With Roe v. Wade overturned, disabled people reflect on how it will impact them with NPR/Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as EJC Co-Chair
 - June 22

- Planning Meeting--Planning Meeting/Foundations for Divergent Minds (FDM) as Co-Lead
 - June 22
- MHDD Advisory Final Meeting--Project Closeout /Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities National Training Center (MHDD-NTC) as Advisory Board member
 - June 27
- Literary Project Committee--Pillars Intervention Literature Review Project Steering Committee/National Autism Center - May Institute as Member June 28
- Final Review-- Final Review of Autistic Researchers RFA/ Autism Speaks/Scientific Research Grants and Fellowship Programs as Member
 - June 28
- PCORI Engagement Award-- PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) Engagement Award with Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - June 30
- Perspective piece meeting-- Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania as co-author
 - June 30

July 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- AIR-P publishes Pediatric Publication.
- Research for AIR-P and PCORI continues.
- SunStorm Stories planning
- Lab for Black Feminist Future.
- Webinar and podcast presentations.
- Consulting with Disney on *The Proud Family*.
- Additional consultations.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research:

- ★ Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics (Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health).
- ★ Year 3: Full Application Review for AIR-P & Pediatrics Publication.
- ★ INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.
- ★ Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) at Northwestern which creates tools for autism research for early childhood with PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute).

Public Speaking, Panels, and Webinars:

- ★ Webinar for Advocacy In Action Webinar for Inclusive Workplaces For Autistic Women. Coordinated by Jennifer Brown Consulting and AWN.
- ★ Disability Rights Florida Podcast Episode 38: The Intersection of Disability and Reproductive Justice as a panelist.

Consultation:

- ★ As EJRC Co-Chair for AWN, had a consultation meeting with Neal Morton of The Hechinger Report.
 - The Hechinger Report's mission is to examine the inequality in education, and to do so, believes its necessary to include life experience from diverse perspectives.
- ★ Media Consulting--(The Proud Family) Disney+ Reboot Proud of its Family Autism Diagnosis Storyline/Autistic & Disney via Diane J. Wright.
- ★ Consultation: Meeting with Sehreen Noor Ali of Hello Sleuth

- Hello Sleuth: This nonprofit focuses on peer education and resource sharing for non-emergency concerns about children's health and development. It shares lessons and specific data about symptoms, diagnostic approaches, recommended experts, and treatments and has a specialized app.
 - *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with the founders on how to highlight the experiences of neurodivergent families of color.*

Ongoing Projects:

- ★ Disability Justice Black Feminist Future Lab planning with Black Feminist Future.



- ★ SunStorm Stories.

- In an effort to make sure the pandemic experiences of people of color with intellectual & developmental disabilities have representation and voice, the SunStorm Stories record them. The recordings are available on YouTube.
- In collaboration with Justine (Justice) Shorter, WITH Foundation, FDM, & National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

Events Timeline

- PCORI Engagement Award--PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) Engagement Award with Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - ◆ July 5
- Consultation--Meeting with Neal Morton of The Hechinger Report as Equity, Justice & Representation Co-Chair of AWN
 - ◆ July 5
- Consultation--Meeting with Neal Morton of The Hechinger Report as Equity, Justice & Representation Co-Chair of AWN
 - ◆ July 5
- Media Consulting--(The Proud Family) Disney+ Reboot Proud of its Family Autism Diagnosis Storyline/Autistic & Disney as Consultant
 - ◆ July 8
- SunStorm Stories Planning--Share pandemic experiences of people of color with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities/Foundation for Divergent Minds (FDM) & National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) as Co-Lead

- ◆ July 20
- Consultation: Meeting with Sehreen Noor Ali of Hello Sleuth as Consultant
- ◆ July 21
- PCORI Engagement Award--PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) Engagement Award with Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) Northwestern University as Co-Lead
- ◆ July 21
- Application Review-Part 2-- AIR-P Y3 Scholar's Full Application Review-Part 2/Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA as ARRB Member
- ◆ July 22
- Advocacy In Action Webinar--Inclusive Workplaces For Autistic Women /Jennifer Brown Consulting, Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as EJR Co-Lead
- ◆ July 26
- Pediatrics Publication--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA as EJR Co-Chair
- ◆ July 27
- Podcast--Episode 38: The Intersection of Disability and Reproductive Justice/Disability Rights Florida as Podcast Panelist
- ◆ July 28

Disney+ Reboot Proud of its Family Autism Diagnosis Storyline

Posted by Spencer Johnson | February 7, 2023



Fans are praising Disney Television Animation for the latest episode of *The Proud Family: Louder and Prouder*, which handles the autism diagnosis of main character BeBe Proud.

August 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- AIR-P, PCORI, and INSAR research and meetings continue.
- Board meetings, including NCDPR, ICE, IDDEAL, and Lovevery.
- SunStorm Stories continues

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research:

- Autistic Researchers Board Meeting (ARRB) as Board Member. Taking on a positive perspective of autism, this study focuses on research on autism by autistics.
- INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief as Project Co-Lead.
- Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) at NorthWestern which creates tools for autism research for early childhood with PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute).

Regular Meetings:

- NCDPR Community Advisory Board Meeting with Lurie Institute & Brandeis.
- Q:3 2022 IIDDEAL Advisory Council.
- Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) Board Meeting.
- Brainstorming Session for Lovevery's Disability Expert Council as Advisory Board Member.

Ongoing Project:

SunStorm Stories Planning in collaboration with Justine (Justice) Shorter, WITH Foundation, FDM, Wired Differently & National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

In an effort to make sure the pandemic experiences of people of color with intellectual & developmental disabilities have representation and voice, the SunStorm Stories offer storytelling and recording support.

Consultation with Public Consulting Group of Indiana

- Public Consulting Group (PCG): A multidisciplinary provider serving public and private sector health, education, and human services organizations in the U.S.A., Canada, and the E.U. This was for the Indiana group.
 - *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with the PCG team to discuss collaborating on a training session in Indiana for employment providers focused on the intersectionality of Autism/mental health/cultural diversity and its impact on employment.*

Events Timeline

- INSAR Policy Brief--International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node/ as Project Co-Lead
 - August 3
- SunStorm Stories Videos--Share pandemic experiences of people of color with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities/Foundation for Divergent Minds (FDM), Wired Differently, & National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) as Co-Lead
 - August 8
- Community Advisory Board--NCDPR (National Center for Disability and Pregnancy Research) Community Advisory Board /Lurie Institute & Brandeis as Advisory Board Member
 - August 17
- Brainstorming Session--Disability Brainstorming Session/Lovevery's Disability Disability Expert Council as Advisory Board Member
 - August 18
- PCORI Engagement Award--PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) Engagement Award with Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) Northwestern University as Co-Lead
 - August 18
- Advisory Council--Q:3 2022 IIDDEAL Advisory Council/Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Advisory Board Member
 - August 23
- Meeting for Potential Training--Discuss training need: intersectionality of Autism/mental health/cultural diversity and its impact on employment/Public Consulting Group (Indiana) as Potential Trainer
 - August 24
- IEC Executive Committee--Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Member
 - August 30

September 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- AIR-P, PCORI, and INSAR research and meetings continue.
- Onboarding for AIRB4.
- Board meetings for the Kind Theory, NRCPD, and Lovevery.
- Over six public speaking engagements and panels, including JP Morgan Chase and University of Pittsburg's School of Medicine.
- Planning and panel for SAFE (Supporting Access for Everyone) Initiative;
- Consultation with This Can Happen.

Roles & Development of Praxis

Research:

- Committee Meeting & Scholar Presentations as Board Member. AIR-P Steering Committee with Scholar Presentations for ARRB and AIR-P.
- INSAR (International Society for Autism Research) Policy Brief with AWN and the AIR-P GSR Node, as Project Co-Lead.

Meetings:

- The Kind Theory Board Meeting discussing future programs and updates.
- Parenting Center Advisory Board Meeting for NRCPD through the Lurie Institute & Brandeis.
- Lovevery's Disability Brainstorming during Disability Expert Council Meeting.

Planning Sessions:

- Planning for SAFE Initiative as panelist. The planning and orientation meeting is part of a panel event later in the month. Addressing issue of BIPOC Disabled: Disrupting Danger in Crisis Response/SAFE Initiative.
- College for Creative Studies, Office for Institutional Equity & Inclusion DEI Lecture Series: "Autism, Neurodiversity, & Intersectionality in the Workplace."

Media/Speaking Engagements:

- Interview with Emer Lucey from Arizona State University.
- Invited Speaker for Listening Session on Autism and Environment with the NIH and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).
- JPMorgan Chase's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion education series as Keynote "Neither Created Nor Destroyed."
- Department of Psychiatry event, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine's Irene Jakab Memorial Lecture Series: Workshop & Meetings

Panels and Presentations:

- Supporting Access for Everyone (SAFE) Panelist for Option #2 breakout session
- Virtual Health Advocacy Summit as Panelist/The Generation Patient Team

Onboarding event

Onboarding Meeting for Autism Intervention Research Network on Behavior Health (AIRB4) Community Advisory Board.

Events Timeline

- Meeting/Scholar Presentations--AIR-P Steering Committee- Scholar Presentations/Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA and Autistic Researcher Review Board (ARRB) as ARRB Member
 - September 1
- Future Programs & Updates--The Kind Theory Board as Board Member
 - September 2
- Media Interview--Interview with Emer Lucey with Arizona State University as Invited Speaker
 - September 6
- Panelist Orientation & Planning Meeting--Option #2: SAFE Panelist Orientation & Planning Meeting/Supporting Access for Everyone (SAFE) as Consensus Panelist
 - September 7

- Listening Session--NIEHS/NIH Listening Session on Autism and Environment/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) as Invited Speaker
 - September 8
- Brainstorming Session--Disability Brainstorming Session/Lovevery's Disability Disability Expert Council as Advisory Board Member
 - September 8
- Planning Meeting--BIPOC Disabled: Disrupting Danger in Crisis Response/SAFE Initiative as EJR Co-Chair
 - September 13
- Onboarding Meeting--AIRB4 CAB Onboarding Meeting/AIR-B Network (Autism Intervention Research Network on Behavior Health) as Member
 - September 14
- Lecture Series--Irene Jakab Memorial Lecture Series: Workshop & Meetings/Department of Psychiatry event, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine as Invited Speaker
 - September 16
- Planning Meeting--BIPOC Disabled: Disrupting Danger in Crisis Response/SAFE Initiative as EJR Co-Chair
 - September 13
- Education Series--"Neither Created Nor Destroyed," Keynote/Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - JPMorgan Chase Bank as Keynote Presenter
 - September 20
- Parenting Center Advisory Board--National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities/Lurie Institute & Brandeis as Advisory Board member
 - September 20
- Introduction to This Can Happen--Invited Speaker for This Can Happen/This Can Happen Global (an organization that supports employee wellbeing)
 - September 22
- GSR Meeting--International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN), AIR-P GSR Node/ as Project Co-Lead
 - September 23
- Lecture Series--DEI Lecture Series: "Autism, Neurodiversity, & Intersectionality in the Workplace"/College for Creative Studies, Office for Institutional Equity & Inclusion
 - September 27
- Health Advocacy Summit--Virtual Health Advocacy Summit/The Generation Patient Team as Panelist
 - September 30

Multidisciplinary

- Introduction to This Can Happen
 - This Can Happen Global is an organization that helps foster a positive environment in the workplace to support mental wellbeing.
 - *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with the team on accessible and culturally-sensitive techniques and content and subsequently provided free training for the organization.*
- Assisted community service project with local Girl Scout Kathia R.
 - Collaboration with Advocacy Without Borders, Houston Haitians United, and Papillion Empowerment.
 - The project was a multimedia presentation on Haiti, its culture, history, and people, promoting it with positivity and pride.
 - Intention was to share cultural heritage with the public and dispel stereotypes and stigma.
 - Kathia received a Gold Star from Girl Scouts!

October 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)



- Publication on HIV research.
- AIR-P ICR collaboration
- Carrie Buck Advisory Board.
- National Online Training with AWN and [NCSS](#).
- IACC Meeting.
- Felicity House events.

Publication

Wilkin T, Chen H, Sahasrabuddhe V, Matining R, Mngqibisa R, Chinula L, et al. A **Randomized Clinical Trial of Human Papillomavirus Test-and-Treat as Compared to Cytology-Based Screening for Prevention of Cervical Cancer Among Women With Human Immunodeficiency Virus: AIDS Clinical Trials Group Protocol A5282**. Clin Infect Dis. 2022 Oct 12;75(8):1280-1288.

Summary: HPV can cause cervical cancer. This study looked at women with HIV and HPV, as far as the efficiency of tests and treatment options within this population. The research includes very technical terms, with the conclusion stating:

Conclusions: *HPV test-and-treat was not associated with improved bHSIL outcomes as compared to cytology-based screening. More effective treatment options are required to improve outcomes from screen-and-treat programs.* Dr. Onaiwu was the ACTG Community Scientific Subcommittee Representative for this protocol, A5282.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research:

- ★ Developing the [Infrastructure for Collaborative Research \(ICR\)](#) of the Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P).
- ★ Early Intervention Research Group (EIRG) at Northwestern which creates tools for autism research for early childhood with PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute).

Meetings:

- ★ Advisory Board Meeting. Lurie Institute and Brandeis's Carrie Buck Advisory Board. Carrie Buck is a fellowship position. Carrie Buck was disabled and involuntarily sterilized. This fellowship position recognizes people who fight for and advance disability justice and protect reproductive rights of disabled people.

- ★ National Online Training Series meeting with the AWN and NCSS (National Center for START Services).
- ★ Autism Coordinating Committee Meeting with Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) and the NIMH.
- ★ Felicity House Self Advocate Advisory Board Meeting.
- ★ Interview with Liam O'Dell for his book *Selling Out the Spectrum* to be published by Jessica Kingsley Publishing. Discussion was on autism research.

Workshop

- ★ Felicity House's Circle 8 Virtual Workshop. Dr. Onaiwu was a Facilitator.

Events Timeline

- Circle 8 Virtual--Virtual Workshop at Felicity House as Facilitator
 - ◆ October 6
- Board Meeting--Carrie Buck Advisory Board/Lurie Institute & Brandeis as Advisory Board Member
 - ◆ October 7
- AWN and NCSS Meeting--Topic: National Online Training Series of NCSS (National Center for START Services) as EJR Co-Chair
 - ◆ October 17
- Autism research interview--Interview with Liam O'Dell/Jessica Kingsley Publishing as Guest Speaker
 - ◆ October 24
- ICR & ARRB Coordination Meeting--Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA as ARRB Member
 - ◆ October 25
- Autism Coordinating Committee--Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC)/NIMH as Member
 - ◆ October 26
- Self Advocate Advisory Board--Felicity House Self Advocate Advisory Board as Advisory Board Member
 - ◆ October 27

November 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- AIRP research in the drafting phase. Additional AIRP study on GI and autism.
- Board Meetings with SPARK, [Carrie Buck Fellowship Advisory Board](#), The Kind Theory, This Could Happen, and Simpatico.
- Autistic Faculty AUCD Panel Presentation.
- Felicity House Circle 8 Workshop.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Research

- ★ Drafting manuscripts with Heather Brown of ARRB and AIR-P.
- ★ “Gastrointestinal (GI) Wanna Talk About Autism” research meeting in collaboration with AWN, AIR-P, and Kennedy Krieger Institute.

Meetings:

- ★ Advisory Board for Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative & SPARK Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- ★ Carrie Buck Advisory Board Meeting.
- ★ The Kind Theory Board Meeting.
- ★ Consultation with Jacqui Wilmshurst of Optimize about Intersectionality.

Presentations, Panels, and Workshops

- ★ Autistic Faculty AUCD Panel Presentation for AMCHP’s State Public Health Autism Resource Center (SPHARC).
- ★ Circle 8 Virtual Workshop at Felicity House as Guest Speaker.
- ★ Panelist for the This Can Happen conference - Neurodiversity and mental wellbeing: creating an environment to flourish.
- ★ Simpatico Advisory Committee Meeting for Simpatico Mentoring Program with Association for Autism and Neurodiversity (AANE).
 - *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with AANE to help develop and provide initial guidance and program evaluation for their Simpatico Mentoring program for autistic adults. This collaboration lasted ~one year.*

Events Timeline

- Research--Draft: Heather Brown of ARRB/Autism Intervention Research Network on Physical Health (AIR-P) at UCLA as Researcher
 - ◆ November 2

- Advisory Board Check-in--SPARK DEI Advisory Board Check-in/Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative & SPARK Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as Board Member
 - ◆ November 3
- Board Meeting--Carrie Buck Advisory Board/Lurie Institute & Brandeis as Advisory Board Member
 - ◆ November 4
- Corporate Presentation--Intersectionality: Jacqui Wilmshurst of Uptimize
 - ◆ November 8
- Conference--This Can Happen conference - Neurodiversity and mental wellbeing: creating an environment to flourish/This Can Happen Global as Panelist
 - ◆ November 8
- Simpatico Advisory Committee Meeting--Simpatico Mentoring Program/AANE (Association for Autism and Neurodiversity) as Committee Member
 - ◆ November 14
- Faculty Panel Presentation--Autistic Faculty AUCD Panel Presentation/AMCHP's State Public Health Autism Resource Center (SPHARC) as Faculty Member
 - ◆ November 14
- Circle 8 Virtual--Virtual Workshop at Felicity House as Guest
 - ◆ November 16
- Board Meeting--The Kind Theory Board as Board Member
 - ◆ November 18
- Community Board--GI Wanna Talk About Autism - Community Board/Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network (AWN) as Community Board Member
 - ◆ November 28

The Autistic Faculty will help advise and inform SPHARC on:

- 🟡 improving practices to be more engaging of people with lived experience and more accessible.
- 🟡 the use of language around autism and other developmental disabilities and making materials and communications more focused on autism acceptance and disability justice.

The implementation of the Autistic Faculty will be a model for public health programs and other organizations to show how to include all voices in their work, but especially voices from the disability community and those with lived experience. Although there are many models of "advisory councils" for those with lived experience, our goal is to make the Autistic Faculty unique, in the sense that the members will truly co-design the model.

On this page, you can learn more about each member of the Autistic Faculty, recent Autistic Faculty conference presentations, and podcast episodes featuring the Autistic Faculty.

December 2022

Quick Description (Month-at-a-Glance)

- Published paper on research about the intersection of race and autism in health care and diagnoses.
- Quarter 4 board meetings.
- Office of Personnel Management DEIA Summit 2022 panel.
- Ryan White Conference for next steps as collaborator.
- Bridges 2E Center Symposium.

Publication

- ★ Ames JL, Morgan EH, Onaiwu MG, Qian Y, Massolo ML, Croen LA. *Racial/Ethnic Differences in Psychiatric and Medical Diagnoses Among Autistic Adults*. *Autism Adulthood*. 2022 Dec 1;4(4):290-305.
 - Research affiliated with Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente Northern California. Research looked at the intersection of autism and race as it affects mental and physical health. First, it looked at the correlation between autism diagnosis and psychiatric diagnosis, as well as the general health of autistic vs. non-autistics. Second, it looked at the occurrences of diagnoses based on race, both within autistic and non autistic subjects. Black and latino autistics were more likely to be diagnosed with obesity than white autistics, and the mental health of black autistics was often overlooked when diagnosing psychiatric issues as opposed to white autistic participants, who had the most clinically diagnosed psychiatric issues among participants. This suggests that mental health issues for autistics of color, including autoimmune diseases, are systematically overlooked.

- ★ Academic Paper pending publication (for peer review)--Trauma perspective piece review & feedback with several affiliations, including Stanford School Neuroscience, University of Pennsylvania.

Roles & Expansion of Praxis

Regular Meetings

- ★ Q4 Disability Council for Lovevery's Disability Expert Council.
- ★ Q:4 2022 IEC Board of Directors Meeting.
- ★ Felicity House DEIA efforts as Self-Advocate Advisory Board Member.


Public Speaking

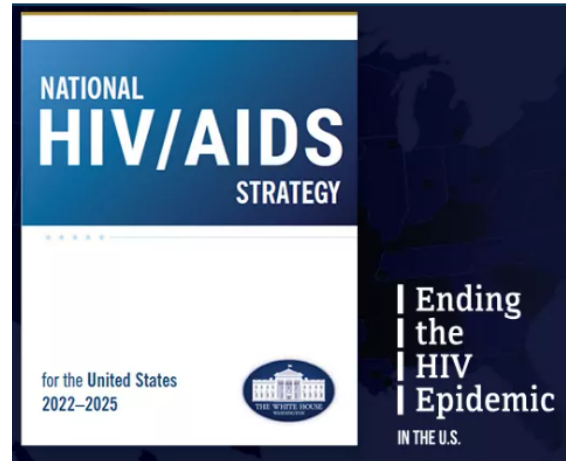
- ★ U.S. Office of Personnel Management DEIA Summit 2022 Leading Inclusion Track with Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility as panelist.

- ★ Ryan White Presentation Planning: Next steps with Elon University and National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) as Collaborator.

- ★ Speaker for The Future is Inclusive - A Neuro and Culturally Diverse Symposium with Bridges 2E Center.
 - Bridges Graduate School “embraces the philosophy of celebrating human cognitive diversity and the belief that education should be strength-based and talent-focused.”

- *Advocacy Without Borders consulted with Bridges Graduate School and the 2E Center on accessible and culturally-sensitive techniques and content and subsequently gave a free presentation entitled “Elevating your 2E culturally diverse child: Fostering the intersection of your child's identities.”*

 An official website of the United States government



Events Timeline

- DEIA Summit--DEIA Summit 2022 - Leading Inclusion Track/Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility- U.S. Office of Personnel Management as Panelist
 - ◆ December 7
- Disability Council--Q4 Disability Council/Lovevery's Disability Expert Council as Expert Council Member
 - ◆ December 7
- Board of Directors--Q:4 2022 IEC Board of Directors/Institute for Exceptional Care (IEC) as Board Member
 - ◆ December 7
- HIV Conference--Ryan White Presentation Parents- next steps/Elon University and National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) as Collaborator
 - ◆ December 9

- Diverse Symposium--The Future is Inclusive - A Neuro and Culturally Diverse Symposium/Bridges 2e Center as Speaker
 - ◆ December 11
- Academic Paper--Trauma perspective piece review & feedback/Stanford School of Medicine B.A. Neuroscience, University of Pennsylvania website as Co-Author
 - ◆ December 14
- Consultation--Felicity House DEIA efforts as Self-Advocate Advisory Board Member
 - ◆ December 16