

Co-Creation of Onboarding Tools for Participatory Autism Research

Liliane Savard, Zeph Lodestone, Jennifer Lagro, Michael Shor, Stasha Medeiros, Matthew Lefluer, Melissa Houser, Emily Coderre, Laura Lewis, Deborah Hirz, Molly Bumpas, Patricia Prelock.

Background

Autism research should be done in collaboration with people with lived experience. Researchers and community partners need training in how to work together.

Method

- Participatory Action approach
- Team included people from the autism community
- Reviewed existing research training
- Co-created new content through:
 - Multi-stakeholder workgroups
 - Weekly 1:1 work meetings
 - Monthly planning team meetings

CPAR Community Partnerships in Autism Research

- Participatory Research Training
- Working Together Training



Resources include:

- Survey template of access needs
- Infographic for autism-friendly language
- Compensation guidelines
- Meeting slides for inclusive norms

Results

Community partners need to understand the research process and constraints.

Working together requires a better understanding of the real life impact of autism in order to create a safe, accessible and effective research team.

Conclusion

Our team developed collaborative skills through the process of creating these resources.

A next step is to assess if the training tools we created lead to more accessible and productive autism research partnerships.