

A Qualitative Study of Families of Children with Autism in the Somali Community: Comparing the Experiences of Immigrant Groups

- ▶ Partners: SoLaHmo¹, Confederation of Somali Community in MN², UMN School of Public Health³, MDH⁴
- ▶ Dates: 2012–2013
- ▶ Purpose: Understand 1) what makes it hard for families to get a diagnosis for their child with autism, 2) what makes it hard for families to get autism services, and 3) what would help families of children with autism, and recommend new strategies that will help families to state legislators.
- ▶ Methods: 33 key informant interviews, 70 parent/caregiver interviews/focus groups
- ▶ Results and Applications: MN State Legislature: Full Legislative Report: [Qualitative Study of Families of Children with Autism in the Somali Community: Comparing the Experiences of Immigrant Groups \(PDF\)](#)
 - Executive Summaries:
 - [English \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Hmong \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Somali \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Spanish \(PDF\)](#)
 - LEND Brief (pp. 21–27): http://lend.umn.edu/docs/ASD_and_Culture_FINAL.pdf
- ▶ Funder: MN Department of Health
- ▶ Team Members: Maria Arboleda¹, Xai Gao Sheng Chang¹, Walter Novillo¹, Mai Khou Yang¹, Shannon Pergament¹, Mariam Egal², Mahamud Noor², Kathleen Call³, Donna McAlpine³, Barb Dalbec⁴, Melanie Peterson-Hicks⁴