#### WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED



Bilingual Support: Improving Care and Support for the Latino U.S. Population

DENISE LOPEZ, MS, CCC-SLP

MED-EL Bilingual Consumer Engagement Manager

#### Agenda



- Latino Community and Culture
- **Statistics**
- Challenges the Latino populations face in the United States
- Cultural and Language Barriers
- MED-EL's Bilingual Program and Support



### Bilingual Consumer Engagement Manager

Denise Lopez, MS, CCC-SLP



# My Story







#### Common Core Values

Latinos make decisions differently as a culture

Core values are shared regardless of the country of origin

Music is interwoven into all aspects of Latino culture



#### Familismo

The Decision for a Hearing Implant Will Be a Family Decision

A common core value characterized by:

- Loyalty
- Strong attachment
- Family approval

If family decision-makers aren't fully informed

- >>> decisions aren't made
- >>> treatment is interrupted





#### Simpatia/Personalismo





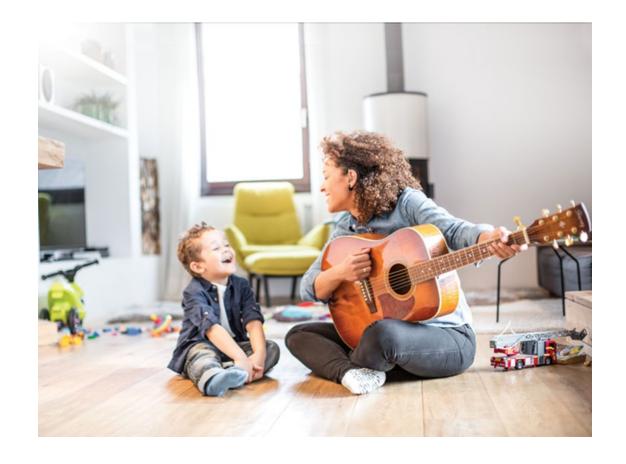


#### This is Why



MED-EL's Mission: Delivering leading-edge technology to restore hearing and empower connection.

- Latinos are the largest minority group in the United States
- Spanish is the most common second language spoken in the United States





# Jnidos Oímos

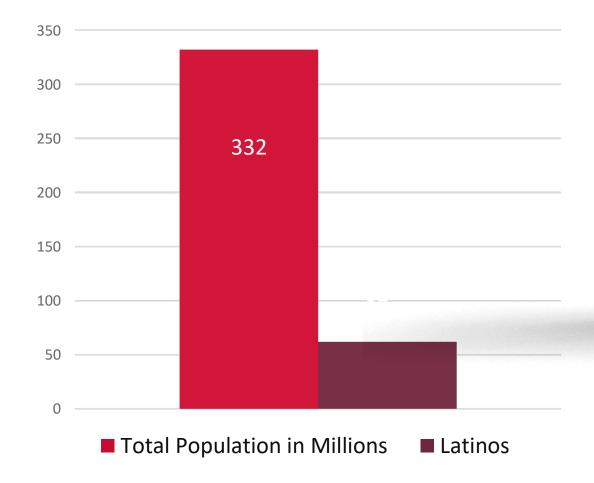


[TOGETHER WE HEAR]

A dedicated program developed to uniquely meet the needs of the Spanish-speaking population in the USA

#### **Current US Census Data**

#### Latino Population







Up from 13% in 2000

### Hearing Loss Incidence

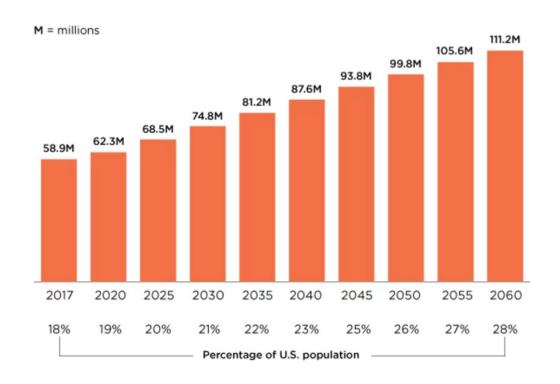
- 8% of the US Spanish-speaking population reports a hearing loss
- This means, there are currently 4.3 million Spanishspeakers with hearing loss in this country







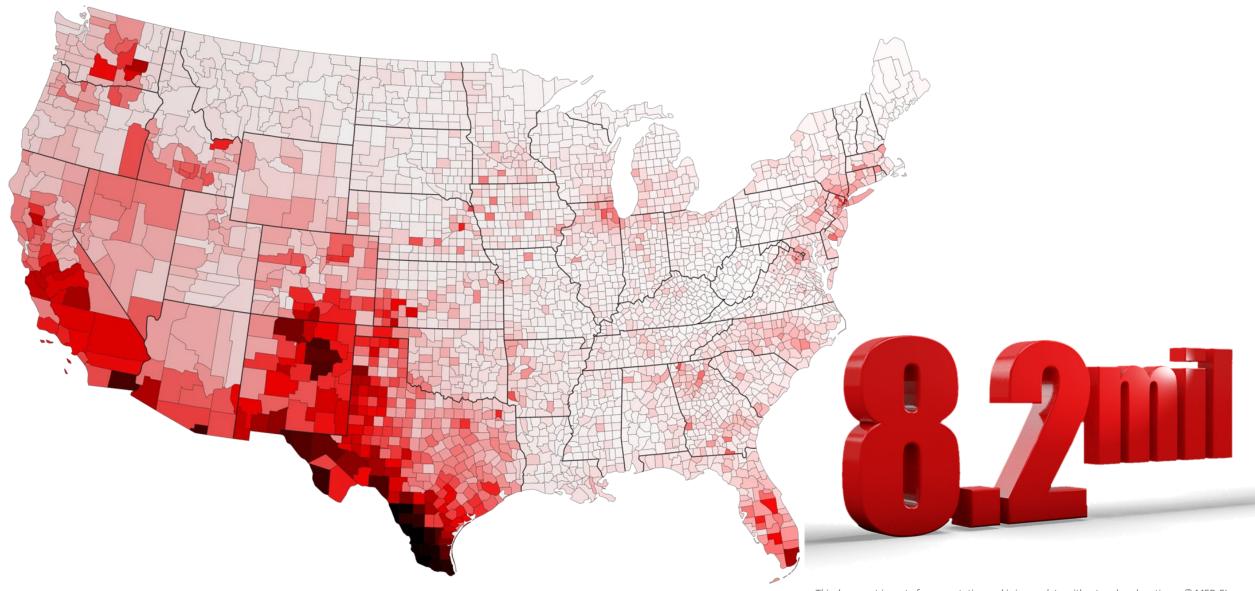
#### Projection of Latino Population



- The Spanish-speaking population is projected to rise to 28% by the year 2060
- By 2060, there could be 111 million Latinos in the US population

# 2060







# **Professional Challenges**

- 6% of providers are bilingual (all languages)
- Out of the 6% of bilingual registered, 64% are Spanishspeaking
- **9** 7,500 SLPs
- 283 Audiologists





# Health Disparities



"Differences in health which are not only unnecessary and avoidable but, in addition, are considered unfair and unjust."

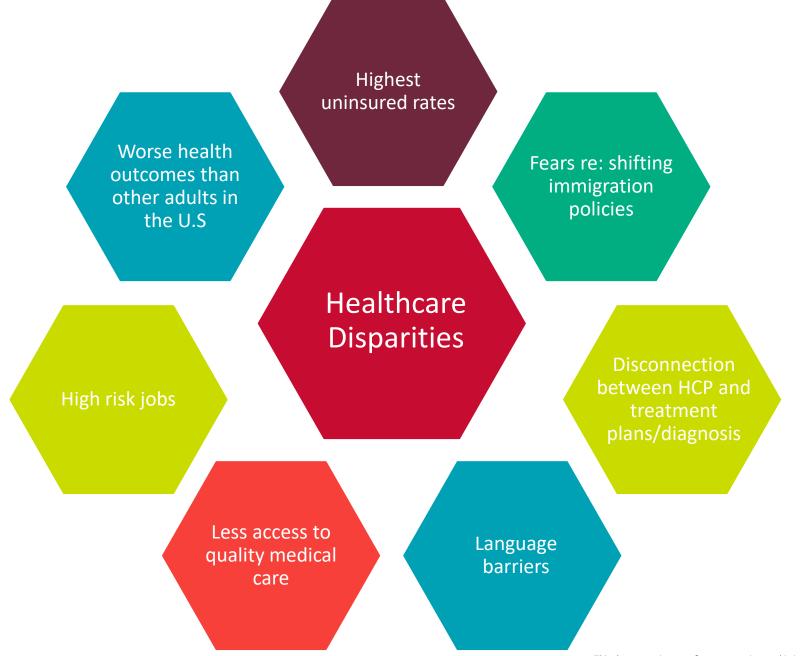
#### **MED**<sup>©</sup>EL

### Cultural Sensitivity (CS)



An awareness that differences AND similarities <u>exist</u> and that they have an effect on values, learning, and behavior (Stafford, et al., 1997).







#### Impact of Language Barriers

Studies in the medical field have reported that patients can feel:

- Less satisfied with their health care if providers don't speak their language
- Less valued, and may even be less likely to seek medical care





Expanding health insurance coverage

Increase quality of care

**Improving** Care

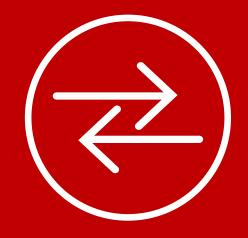
Reducing healthcare costs



#### What is Consumer Engagement?

Group of highly qualified hearing professionals that engage with candidates and family members by offering outreach, education, and support to help them connect within their communities and understand their technology.





Interpreter



Bilingual Hearing Healthcare Professional

#### Interpreter

- Role is to translate word for word
- Sole purpose is to interpret without adding or subtracting anything
- Interactions are job-related
- Serve as an important adjunct to clinical care that may increase appointment time

#### **GOALS:**

- Maintain the flow of the conversation
- Act as an information relay station
- Remain a neutral participant in the conversation

# Bilingual Hearing Healthcare Professional

- Role is to educate in a way that is relatable
- Adds descriptors to compliment new terms/concepts
- Interactions are relational
- Experts in hearing healthcare
- Act as a direct source of knowledge
- Modify content as needed

#### **GOALS**:

- Provide background information and ask questions to assure content retention
- Active participant in the conversation
- Serve as professional partners



#### Cultural Responsiveness vs. Translation

"Channel" Electrode lead

"Canal"

- TV Channel
- Canal or body of water



#### Bilingual Consumer Engagement Managers

- Over 30 years of combined clinical experience in serving this population
- Describe content immediately in a relatable way
- Modify content and rephrase until understood
- Clarify the patient's/family's understanding of information
- Use bi-directional natural communication
- Encourage questions and in-depth discussions outside of clinic time

Customized to your preferences and clinic needs

# MED-EL Customized Support Enhances <u>Your</u> Bilingual Patient Care



# Regional and National Bilingual Support

Culturally appropriate materials – created by audiologists



One-On-One Appointments

Personalized, virtual appointment with hearing healthcare professional

Recipient chooses topics

Rehabilitation

Connectivity

Troubleshooting

Order Forms

All 1:1 interactions result in a report to professionals



#### **Implant Evaluation Process**



- Early Intervention
- Early access to support and resources

**Providing Support and Education** Before, During, and After!



#### The Candidate Experience





Deemed an Implant candidate

Connected with their Consumer Engagement Manager

Receives counseling and support services



Makes a decision on implant manufacturer

Gets connected with a HearPeer Member

Continues to receive support via 1:1 appointments



Working with partnering clinicians to achieve our common goal of IMPROVED OUTCOMES for this population

#### Connect with your Bilingual Consumer Engagement Manager

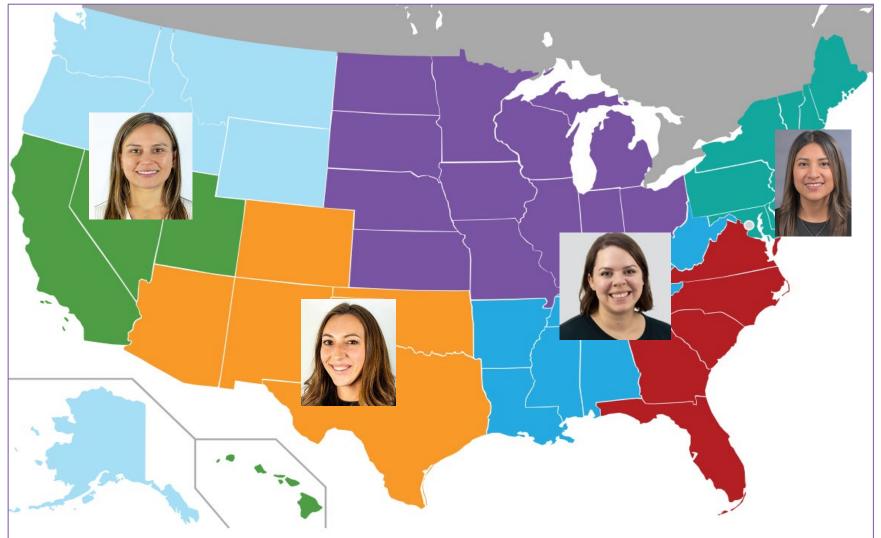


West Region



Southwest Region





Northeast Region



Midwest, South and Southeast Region

