

Hearing from Afar: Teleaudiology's Role in Supporting South Dakota Families

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ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

- **2001:** SD Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program instituted with CDC funding
- **2015:** SD EHDI receives HRSA funding
- **2016:** HRSA identified SD as a frontier state. 34/66 counties are considered frontier.
- **2018:** SD EHDI Collaborative implemented teleaudiology infrastructure

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – What & Why

EHDI GOAL: For all newborns:

- screen by 1 month
- diagnose by 2 months
- enroll in early intervention by 3 months

SD TELEAUDIOLOGY GOAL: Improve SD loss to screening and diagnostic follow-up rates in South Dakota

CURRENT SITES: Aberdeen (Sanford), Winner (Regional), Pierre (Avera)

HIGHLIGHTS/DATA/PICTURES/DIAGRAMS

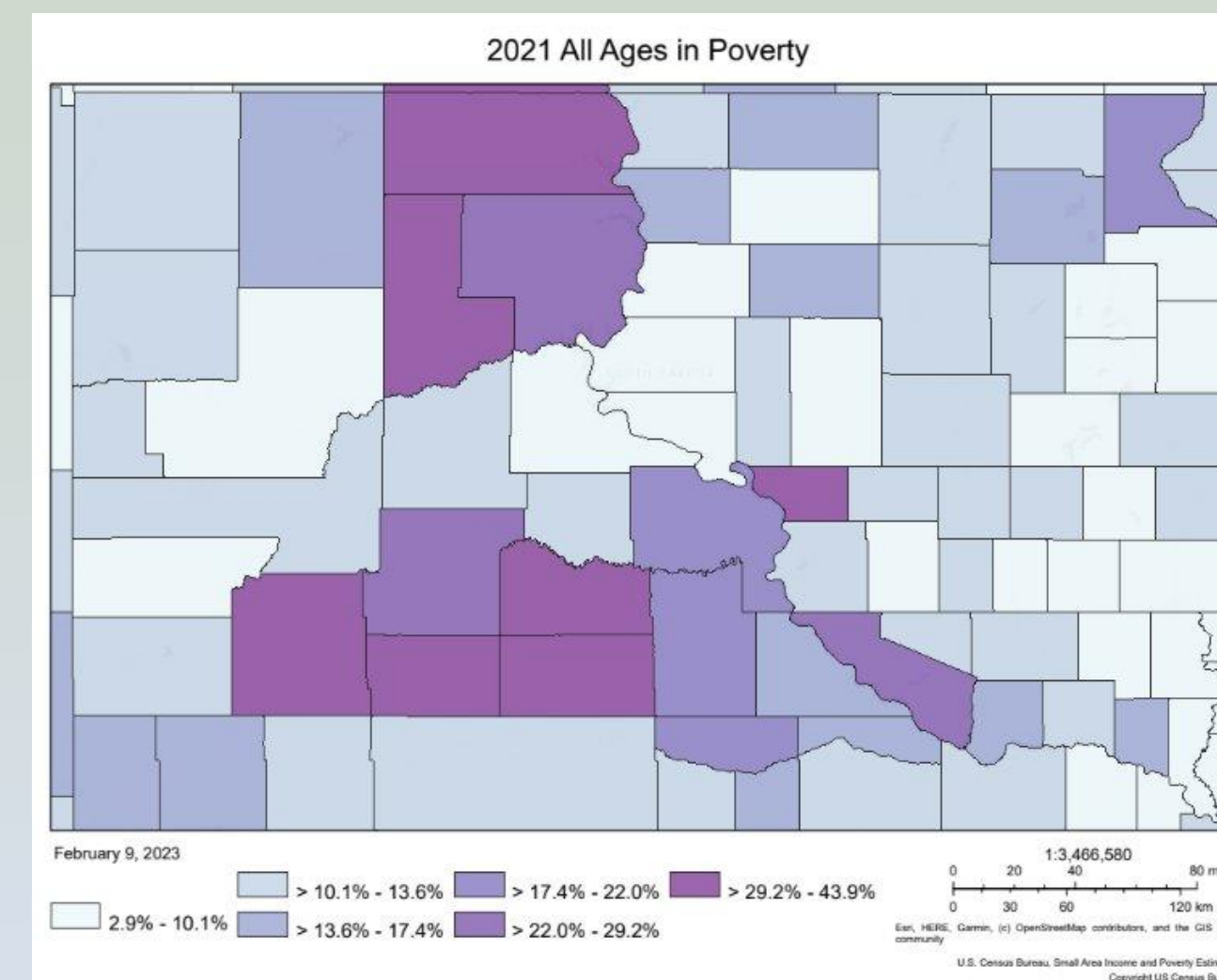


Fig 1: Percentage of SD people living in poverty in 2021

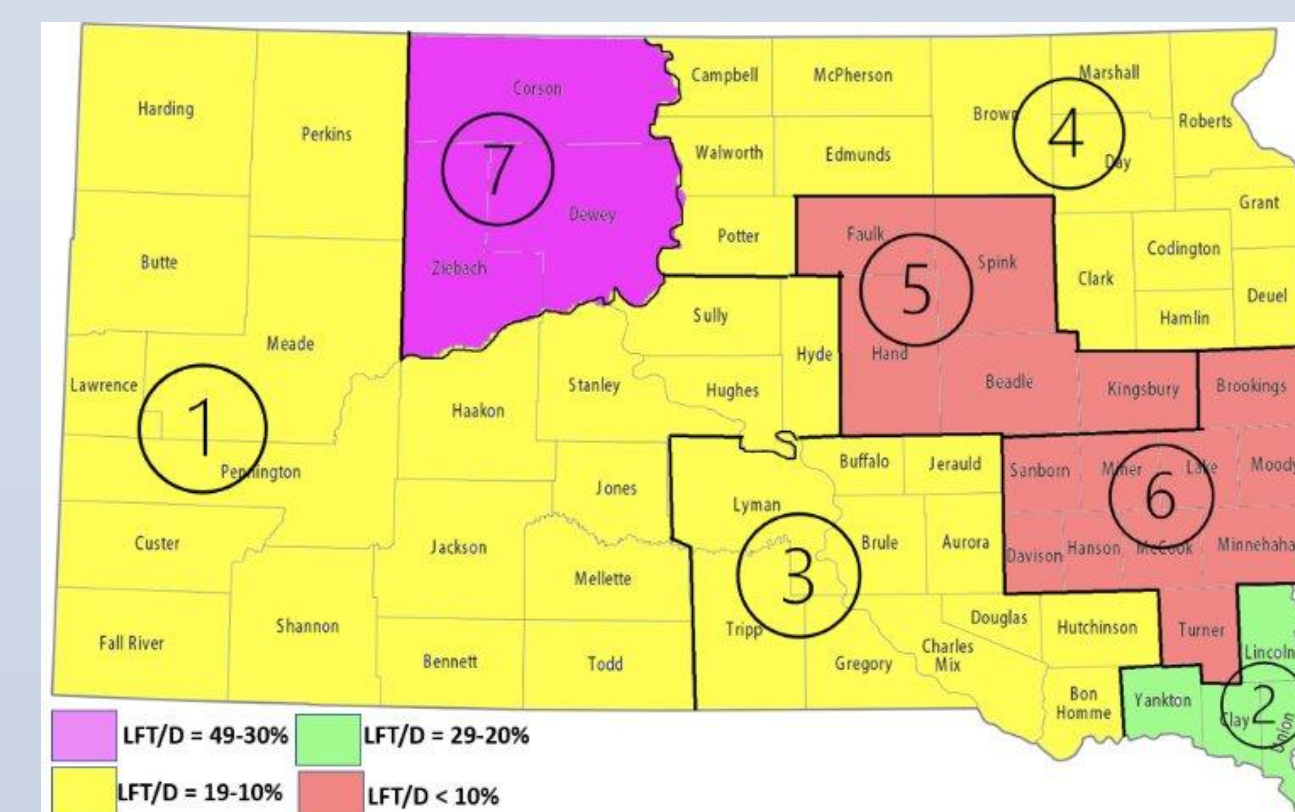


Fig 3: SD loss to follow-up/documentation rates by birth-to-three regions

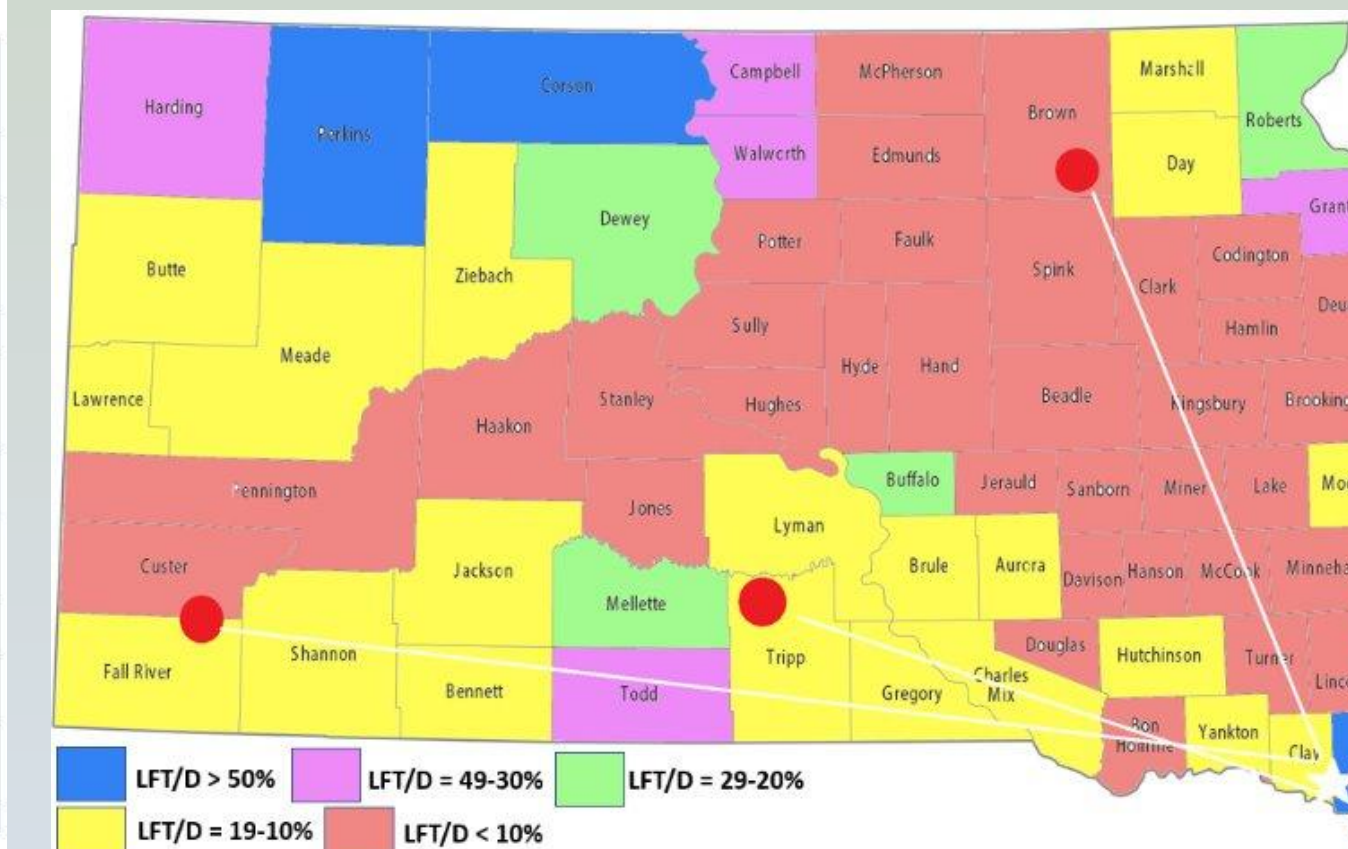


Fig 2: SD loss to follow-up/documentation rates per county 2019-2021



Intelligent Hearing Systems Duet Evoked Potentials Machine

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Collaborative



TELEHEALTH SERVICES

- Otoscopy
- Tympanometry
- Otoacoustic emissions
- Auditory brainstem response

CHALLENGES

- Cultural and financial constraints
- Scarcity of services
- Lack of trained physicians
- Insufficient public transportation
- Poor availability of broadband internet services



FUTURE PLANS, VISION, INITIATIVES / CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Expand services to boothless audiometry, hearing aid + cochlear implant services
- Increase awareness of existing sites beyond host sites
- Streamline hub site design
- Implement Medicaid/third party billing

Kuduwave Pro Boothless Audiometer + Immittance

