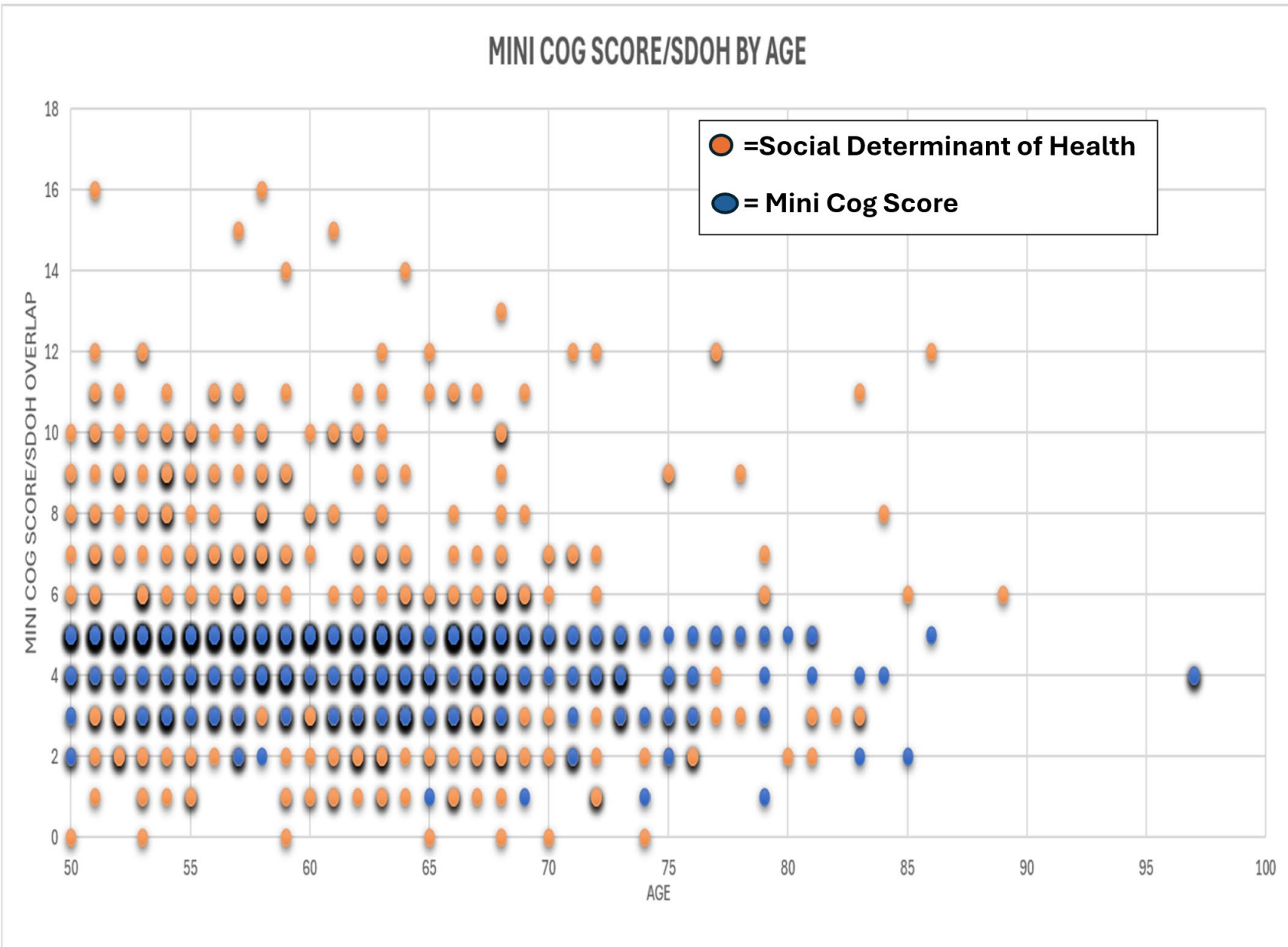


# A Federally Qualified Health Center project for early screening and outreach in underserved patient population in southern Indiana

- Lori Harris, DrPH, RN

The Early Detection US Fellowship project team would like to thank the Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative Healthcare System Preparedness team, study participants, strategic in-kind partners, and funders. This work would not be possible without the partnership and commitment from so many invested in transforming Alzheimer's care worldwide.

- The DAC SP Early Detection U.S. Fellowship program and blueprint have supported design, implementation and population specific adaption of a pathway to support early detection and screening for cognitive impairment in underserved populations.
- Project has provided evidence that early detection and screening should be continued to allow for earlier intervention into additional care for patients with compounding SDOH.

| INTRODUCTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | METHODS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | RESULTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | CONCLUSIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | REFERENCES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Family Health Centers of Southern Indiana (FHCSI) is a non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) serving patient with incomes of 200% and below the US Federal poverty level in southern Indiana (Clark, Floyd, Harrison counties).</li><li>This project was inspired by the work and data gathering as one of ten sites as part of the Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative Healthcare System Preparedness (DAC-SP) Early Detection US Fellowship Program.</li><li>Project Aim: To increase access through community outreach to provide cognitive screening to all patients 50 years and older to determine if presence of greater Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) experience impaired cognition at earlier age than the standard screening category of 65 years and above with 2 or more SDOH present.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Outreach events held at low income senior living communities, libraries and other local community locations.</li><li>SDOH screening performed for all patients during clinic exam.</li><li>EMR alert to support staff to ask patient to enroll in early screening project</li><li>Patients age 50 years old and above</li><li>Consent obtained prior to screening</li><li>Mini Cog test performed and scored</li><li>Provider reviewed results</li><li>Additional intervention based on score: such as counseling, additional screening tests (Moca, etc.) and referral to specialist.</li></ul> | <p>679 patients offered opportunity to enroll in project during timeframe of January 1, 2025 to May31, 2026. 425 patients agreed to participate in study. All 425 had 2 or more SDOH. Of the 425 participants, 50 had both a Mini Cog score of 3 or less (0-2=Cognitive Impairment present) and the presence of 2 or more SDOH. Furthermore, 424 out of 425 patients who had at least one SDOH, had a Mini Cog score of 3 or less.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The DAC SP Early Detection U.S. Fellowship program and blueprint have supported design, implementation and population specific adaption of a pathway to support early detection and screening for cognitive impairment in underserved populations.</li><li>The project has provided evidence that early detection and screening should be continued to allow for earlier intervention into additional care for patients with compounding SDOH.</li></ul> | <p>References:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>UDS years 2024 &amp; 2025 submissions</li><li>Yang, Z. G., Sun, X., Han, X., Wang, X., &amp; Wang, L. (2025). Relationship between social determinants of health and cognitive performance in an older American population: a cross-sectional NHANES study. <i>BMC geriatrics</i>, 25(1), 25.</li></ol> |
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