# **Baltimore HEARS**

**Final Presentation** 

### **Our Team**



Kayla Ingram



Peggy Liao



**Carly Wais** 



Echo (Yu Sheng)

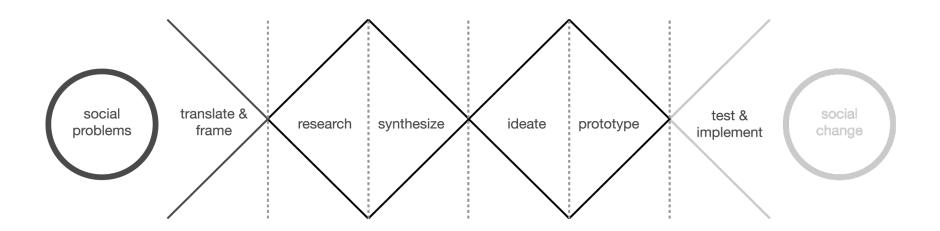


**Justin Wuetcher** 



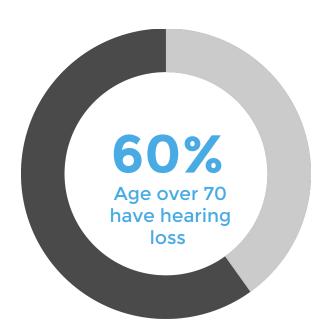
**Becky Slogeris** 

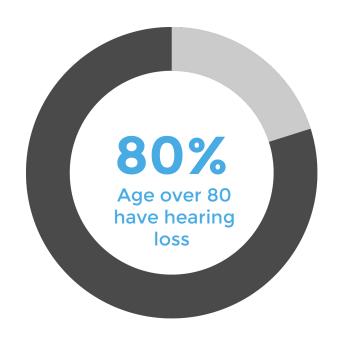
### **Our Process**



# **CONTEXT**

### **Hearing Loss and Older Adults**

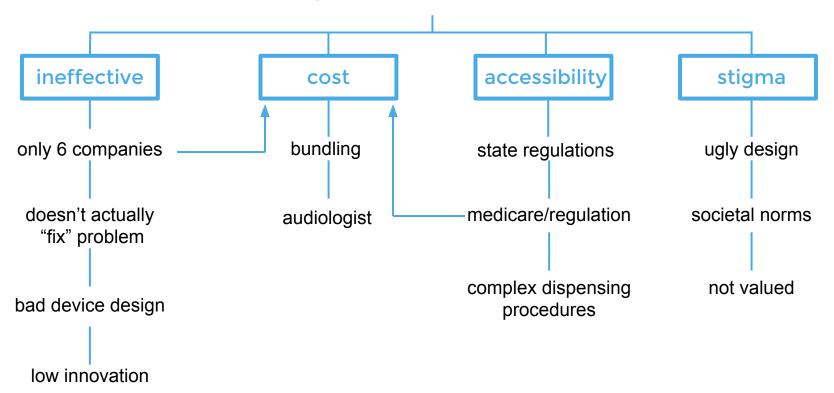




# Why does hearing loss matter?

- Aging well + dignity
- Self isolation + depression
- Increased risk of dementia

# Why is there such huge gap between hearing loss and device use?



### **Baltimore HEARS**

A Community-Delivered, Affordable, Accessible Hearing Care Intervention for Older Adults













### MICA + HEARS

#### Year 1

Finalizing Baltimore HEARS intervention content + Protocol

Year 2

Recruiting and training trainers

Year 3

Clinical trial, recruiting and retraining participants

### MICA + HEARS

Challenge

How might we take the Baltimore HEARS intervention to the next level?

### **MICA + HEARS**

Goal

Create prototypes for Baltimore HEARS to test in the fall.

# **RESEARCH**

# **Research Topics**

Hearing Loss and Living Well

Adopting Solutions for Hearing Loss

Tech & Older Adults

Learning + Self
Advocacy







### **HEARS** Users



Tim, the TV Watcher



On the Go Anne



Sara, the Sweetheart



Unsure Erick

### **Hearing Partner**



Harold, the Helpful Husband

### **Potential User**



**Curious Carol** 

# Tim, the TV Watcher HEARS USER







"It's very important for me to be able to hear my shows... oh, and my wife!"

Health: Mobility issues

**Interests:** Watching TV!

Technology Use: Low

**Social Life:** Doesn't go out much - prefers staying in to watch TV; Spends most of his

time alone or with his wife

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Watched TV on high volume

Often watched in a separate room from his wife who likes different TV programs Can hear TV on much lower volume that doesn't wake up his wife in the morning

Is able to communicate better with his wife to compromise on shows

# On the Go Anne





**Health:** Active, Overweight

**Interests:** Selling art on her blog, listening to the radio, going out, shopping

Technology Use: Tech-savvy, active online

and social media

Social Life: Still working and goes out to visit

with friends and family

Before	After		
Suffering from tinnitus	The ringing goes away when she puts in her device		
Social, but felt frustrated by hearing difficulties	Able to hear much more clearly and really enjoy socializing		

# Sara, the Sweetheart HEARS USER







"I could barely hear anything my husband said before, but now he says I hear too much!" **Health:** Mobility issues, recently had serious surgery

Interests: Going out and watching people

Technology Use: Low, uses cell phone

Social Life: Interacts with husband and family

members a lot

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Struggled to hear in social situations; felt upset and isolated

Mostly stayed in her apartment

#### **After**

Can hear much better and is generally in a more positive mood

Goes out all the time

# Unsure Erick HEARS USER





"My hearing loss came on so gradually, I didn't realize I had it 'til nearly 70."

"I don't notice that much of a difference, but my wife loves is." Health: Moderate; Mostly healthy but not very active

Interests: Watching TV, talking with wife

Technology Use: Low

Social Life: Interacts mostly with wife but also likes

A CL

to attend Eating Together

Defense

Ветоге	Arter		
Would say "huh?" a lot to his wife	Wife really enjoys being able to communicate better		
Eventually noticed he had trouble hearing people in conversations	Still finds it hard to hear sometimes and can't tell how much his device helps		

# Harold, the Helpful Husband COMMUNICATION PARTNER



Living Situation: Manor East,

Age: 65

"Now when she's in the kitchen and I say 'boo boo!' she can hear me a lot better."

"All I would need to teach somebody is the device!"

**Health:** Active

Interests: Going out with his wife Sara, working

at My Daily Bread

**Technology Use:** Moderate

Social Life: Goes out to work and with Sara;

Loves to interact with family members

#### **Before**

Worried about his wife's safety and health

#### **After**

Feels more at ease knowing she will be able to hear alarms, warnings, sizzling while cooking

# Curious Carol POTENTIAL USER



Living Situation:



Age: 65

"So why do so many people lose their hearing? How does it happen?"

**Health:** Very active

Interests: Socializing, exercising (zumba!), reading,

church, Eating Together

**Technology Use:** Moderate - has iPhone

**Social Life:** Very social; Loves talking with people and interacting with little kids at church

#### **Before**

#### **After**

Very social, can usually hear alright but has been having a bit more trouble lately

Is able to fill in gaps when she misses something

# INSIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES

# **Value of Hearing**

### Insight

Hearing is critical for safety, but safety is often overlooked as a selling point.

### **Opportunity**

How might we highlight the peace of mind and sense of safety that comes with having a hearing device?

# **Value of Hearing**

Insight

It is easy to overlook hearing loss because it doesn't 'hurt'.

**Opportunity** 

How might we help older adults see the invisible value of hearing?

# **Aging Well**

Insight

Opportunity

Even the oldest adults don't want to seem old.

How might we make using hearing devices feel young, cool and sexy?

### Recruitment

Insight

When motivating older adults, even the smallest human interactions can have a big impact.

**Opportunity** 

How might we use personal gestures to encourage participation in HEARS?

# **Daily Life**

### Insight

Living with the 3 Fs (friction, frustration, fatigue) is a full time job.

### **Opportunity**

How might we make HEARS easy to use for older adults who already have a lot on their plates?

### Relationships

Insight

Opportunity

Human connection makes life worth living.

How might we effectively communicate how hearing facilitates human connection?

### Relationships

Insight

Seniors don't like to feel dependent on others, yet social support makes getting old easier. **Opportunity** 

How might we create a social network of independent older adults who trust and support each other?

### **Device**

### Insight

While hearing devices are given to individuals, the benefits that come with hearing are enjoyed by the whole community.

### **Opportunity**

How might we emphasize and communicate the community benefits of a hearing device?

# **Training**

### Insight

As an intervention, the HEARS training has to be delivered the same way each time, yet each participant has unique needs.

#### **Opportunity**

How might we create training sessions that are standard yet respond to individual participant needs?









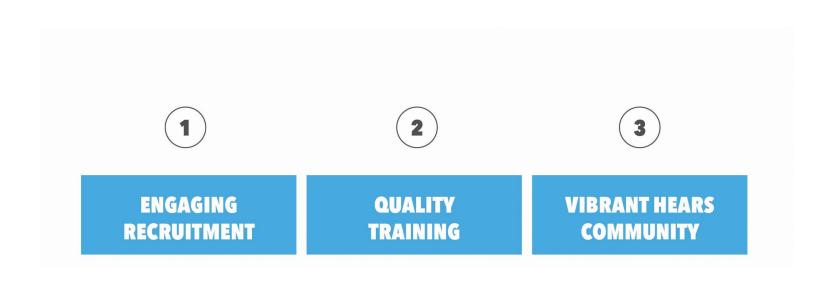
### VISION

#### **ACCESS to HEALTHY AGING through HEARING.**

Available Affordable Desirable Aging with dignity
Feeling good about yourself
Mobility and activity
Independence and agency
Participation in community
Cognitive vitality
Being a leader for others

Narrowing the gap between what you want to do and what you can do

Communication Relationships Safety Activity





# ENGAGING RECRUITMENT

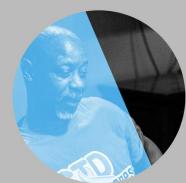
#### **Engaging Recruitment**

- Personal gestures
- Sexy
- Word of mouth
- Interactions with younger people
- 1. What's in it for me?
- 2. How easy is it?
- 3. How do I get it?





















# **Meet the Trainers Party Agenda**

**5pm:** Party Starts!

~ Eating, Dancing, Talking, Checking out Devices, Hearing Situation Cards Activity, Hanging ~!

**5:30pm:** Charlie & Judy Duet Performance!

**5:40pm:** Trainers Demo Devices

**6pm:** Meet the Trainers Panel

~ Party more ~!

#### **Trainer Panel**

- Trainer Introductions
- What are your hobbies?
- What is your favorite thing about living at Weinberg?
- What does hearing mean to you?
- Share something about your HEARS experience. OR Why did you decide to continue on to become a HEARS trainer?
- Q&A with audience







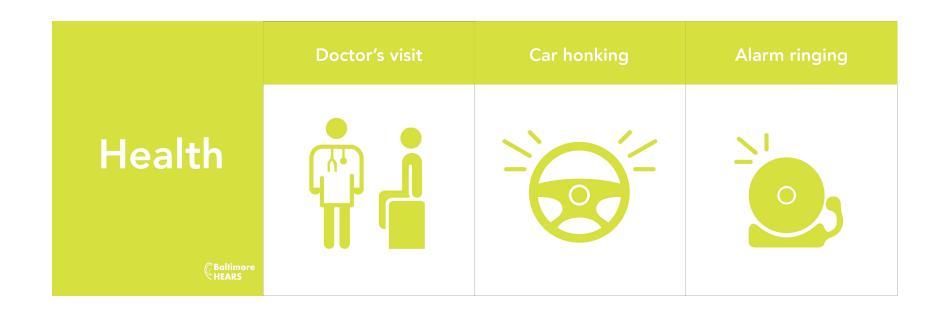


HOW **DOES HEARING IMPACT OUR LIVES?** Baltimore HEARS



	Whispering to your loved ones	Knocking	Ringing phone
Home  Callimore HEARS	DIN ME	-\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	
TV is not loud enough	Grandchildren crying	Sizzling pan	Listening to the radio

	Bird chirping	Someone calling your name
Social		
Going to a movie	Conversation at a restaurant	At a lecture





# **QUALITY TRAINING**

#### **Quality Training**

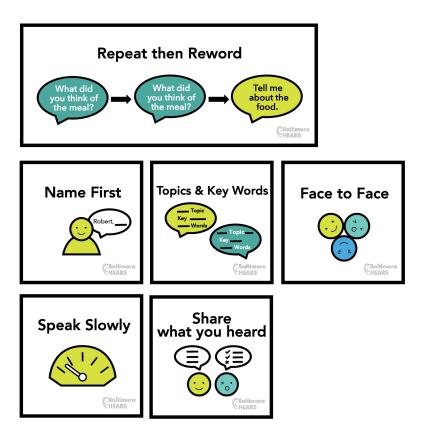
- Individualized
- In service of clients
- Respects and honors participants
- Reproducible
- Interactive
- Small groups to minimize risk
- Immediate application to real life
- Easy to understand

# HOW TO USE A CS-50 DEVICE

Watch it on Youtube

# Baltimore BARS HEARS







AGING WELL VALUE OF HEARING TRAINING RECRUITMENT RELATIONSHIPS DAILY LIFE DEVICE



# VIBRANT HEARS COMMUNITY

#### **Vibrant HEARS Community**

- Gather members together
- Make community visible
- Build trust and support among members
- Informal check-ins for problem solving, reminders, and practice
- Build confidence
- Solidify learning
- Celebrate successes

**HEARS 4 Life!** 

## **Baltimore HEARS Leaders**

- Encourage being active in the HEARS community
- Recognize and reward those who are participating





