Currently, North Carolina has few options for affordable, inclusive communities where older adults and people with I/DD can live with a sense of purpose and belonging.

To better understand the housing needs of the I/DD population in central North Carolina, researchers from UNC TEACCH are partnering with HOPE NC to conduct a research study. We are asking parents and caregivers of adults with I/DD to be a part of our study. If you take part in our study, you will answer survey questions about the current and future housing needs of the adult with I/DD that you care for.

HOPE is a local non-profit organization whose mission is to create communities where people of all ages and abilities experience a sense of belonging. HOPE envisions a community model with 25% of the units for adults with I/DD, 40% for older adults, and the remaining units for families. We are bringing together partners from across different sectors, not only to build this innovative model, but also to utilize the expertise of community partners to replicate this model across the state. There is not good data available that indicates how many adults with I/DD are interested in living on their own in the community. We would like to hear from people with lived experience what are the needs and preferences for housing for the person with I/DD that you support. This research study is one step in that process.

You may take the online survey by visiting
https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3gG7mn6HILFCbt4 .
Your response will be completed entirely online with no in-person visits needed. If you complete the survey, you will be mailed a $15 gift card to thank you for your response. We think the survey will take about 30 minutes to finish.

If you have questions about the research study contact Elena Lamarche, elena_lamarche@med.unc.edu, for more information. If you have questions about HOPE visit their website, https://hopenorthcarolina.org.

This study, #22-3185, has been reviewed by the UNC Institutional Review Board. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject you may contact the UNC-CH Institutional Review Board at 919-966-3113 or IRB_subjects@unc.edu.

As a family or caregiver, your experience and expertise are central to this initiative. If you're a family member or caregiver your suggestions and ideas are what will drive this project forward. Will you take a few minutes and complete this survey to assist us in understanding your needs to design this inclusive housing community?

Please complete the survey within two weeks of receiving this message.

We're excited to hear from you!