

Over 46 percent of 1,400 respondents reported that the work of the IACC has affected their life either “not at all” (24 percent) or “negatively” (22.21 percent). Conversely, 4.93 percent stated that the work of the IACC has affected their lives positively.

Further, over 56 percent of 1,370 respondents said that the work of the IACC is not improving the lives of people with autism and their families, while 38 percent stated that they did not know if it was. Conversely, six percent stated that the IACC is improving the lives of these stakeholders.

When asked if the IACC members represented their interests when it comes to addressing autism in the United States, nearly 60 percent of the 1,402 respondents answered “no.” and 33.38 percent of respondents said “I don’t know.” Conversely, seven percent of respondents found that the IACC members represented their interests when it comes to addressing autism.

By way of example, a self-identified service provider to people with autism stated, “The autism community is not being well represented by the IACC. If the IACC wants to make a positive difference in the lives of those suffering from autism and their family members, you must seek out and listen to organizations which represent that demographic.” It seems that outreach to the leadership of the many autism nonprofit organizations representing people with autism and their families would be in order.

When asked if they think the IACC is accountable to its autism community stakeholders, 56 percent of the 1,375 respondents reported that they did not, and 31 percent stated they didn’t know if the IACC is accountable to its autism community stakeholders. Twelve percent of the 1,375 respondents answered that they did think the IACC was responsible to autism community stakeholders.

It appears there is much to be done to improve the efficacy, responsiveness, and accountability, and responsiveness of the IACC. We hope that we can work together during the year to move forward together, as a community. The full report is available on SafeMinds website, www.safeminds.org.

Thank you.