



National Trends in Disability Employment Lunch & Learn Series

Episode 11 nTIDE Update

November 2, 2022 | 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET | Free | Online | [Register](#)

Website: researchondisability.org/ntide | Contact: karen.volle@unh.edu

Welcome to the National Trends in Disability Employment (or nTIDE) Lunch & Learn series. On the first Friday of every month, corresponding with the Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs report, we will be offering a live broadcast via Zoom Webinar to share the results of the latest nTIDE findings. In addition, we will provide news and updates from the field of Disability Employment, as well as host an invited panelist who will discuss current disability related findings and events.

AGENDA

Time	Item
12:00 PM ET	Introduction & Welcome Andrew Houtenville, University of New Hampshire
12:10 PM	Overview of National Trends in Disability Employment (nTIDE) Jobs Report Release John O'Neill, Kessler Foundation The Numbers Andrew Houtenville, University of New Hampshire
12:15 PM	Announcements from the field of Disability Employment Denise Rozell, Director of Policy Innovation, AUCD
12:30 PM	Guest Presenters Jhillika Kumar, Founder and CEO of Mentra
12:45 PM	Question and Answer for Attendees

Note. All webinars will be recorded and closed captioned and will be added to our website archives along with full transcripts following the live broadcast.

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PRESENTERS



Jhillika Kumar is the founder and CEO of Mentra, Georgia Tech founder, and honorary degree recipient, and previous Grace Hopper Keynote speaker for neurodiversity empowerment.

Kumar's passion for neurodiversity advocacy stems from her life experiences growing up as the sister of a nonspeaking autistic individual named Vikram and ADHDer herself. After 27 years of being unable to communicate his thoughts, Vikram learned how to type through an accessible letterboard. Uncovering his vast intelligence and eloquence inspired Kumar her to search for a solution to the need to empower those who society has overlooked.

At Georgia Tech, Kumar partnered with Conner Reinhardt to found Mentra: the world's largest neurodiversity employment network. After understanding the innate barriers to employment through community driven research, Mentra focused on the candidate experience to build a tech-platform that intelligently matches neurodiverse individuals with inclusive companies that value their unique abilities.

In 2019, Jhillika was recognized for her work and won the AbitaB.org Student of Vision Award, where she delivered a Keynote speech at Grace Hopper to an international audience of women in technology. In her captivating speech, she called upon the audience of 15,000 women and young girls to leverage the power of empathy and technology to enable the one billion people who live with some form of a disability today. In her video, she brought awareness to the neurodivergent community that is often sidelined by society's policies, technologies and employment opportunities.



Andrew Houtenville, PhD, is a Professor of Economics and Research Director of the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire. Dr. Houtenville is extensively involved in disability statistics and employment policy research. He has published widely in the areas of disability statistics and the economic status of people with disabilities. He is the Principal Investigator on the NIDILRR-funded Employment Policy and Measurement Rehabilitation and Research Training Center. Dr. Houtenville received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of New Hampshire in 1997 and was a National Institute on Aging Post-Doctoral Fellow at Syracuse University in 1998/1999.

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John O'Neill, PhD is the director of employment and disability research at Kessler Foundation and has over 28 years of experience in vocational rehabilitation as a rehabilitation counselor educator, disability employment researcher, and advisor to state vocational rehabilitation agencies. Dr. O'Neill has been a PI or co-PI on six NIDILRR funded, five-year research and training centers focusing on TBI and community integration, disability statistics, disability employment service system, and how individual and contextual factors relate to employment outcomes among people with disabilities.



Denise M. Rozell, JD is the Director of Policy Innovation at the AUCD. Prior to joining AUCD, she spent fifteen years as Assistant Vice President for State Government Relations with Easter Seals. Denise was the primary resource to Easter Seals 75 affiliates in building capacity to increase awareness of and support for Easter Seals in state government. Prior to that, Denise was the Executive Director of the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, an international membership organization for the professionals serving individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Denise holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Occidental College in Los Angeles and a juris doctorate from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California in Berkeley.

Brought to you by the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability and the Employment Policy and Measurement Rehabilitation and Research Training Center, funded by the Kessler Foundation.

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