



National Trends in Disability Employment Lunch & Learn Series

March 24, 2023

12 PM to 1 PM EST

nTIDE Deeper Dive –

Employment for African Americans with Disabilities

Live webinar hosted via Zoom Webinar

[Register](#)

- 12:00 PM:** Welcome and Purpose of this Deeper Dive
- 12:05 PM:** Updated numbers pertaining to today's area of focus
- 12:20 PM:** Guest Speaker: Claudia Gordon, T-Mobile
- 12:35 PM:** Open discussion and questions for all

Presenters:

Andrew Houtenville, Institute on Disability/UNH
John O'Neill Kessler Foundation
Elaine Katz, Kessler Foundation
Claudia Gordon, T-Mobile
Denise Rozell, Association of University Centers on Disabilities

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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with the webinar series and other news from the field.

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 National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), grant no. 90RT537.

www.researchondisability.org/ntide

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Presenter Bios:



Claudia Gordon is the Senior Accessibility Strategist with T-Mobile where she leads strategies for disability inclusive culture and accessible work environment. A Jamaican plus graduate of Howard University and American University Washington College of Law, her disability policy and advocacy career spans nearly 30 years. During the Obama Administration, Claudia was Chief of Staff for Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs and Associate Director of Public Engagement for the White House Office of Public Engagement. Claudia has held senior leadership positions with Sprint Corporation, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the National Council on Disability, and the National Association of the Deaf Law and Advocacy Center. Notably, in November 2022, Claudia was appointed by President

Biden to serve as a Council Member on the National Council on Disability and she was subsequently tapped to serve as the Council's Vice Chair. Adding to Claudia's versatile professional expertise is her lived experience as an immigrant at the intersections of race, disability, and gender, which is the foundation for the strong emphasis on disabled individuals with multiple marginalized identities that she brings to her work.



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.



Elaine E. Katz, MS, CCC-SLP is Senior Vice President of Grants and Communications at Kessler Foundation. Elaine Katz oversees the Foundation's comprehensive grantmaking program and its communications department. During her tenure, the Foundation has awarded more than \$49 million in grant support for national and community-based employment programs. For more than 25 years, Elaine has worked with non-profit organizations in the areas of board development, fundraising, marketing, and business development. Elaine often speaks about innovative practices for employing people with disabilities, authors/co-authors articles and papers on related topics, and is a member of several aligned organizations.



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.

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