National Trends in Disability Employment

Lunch & Learn Series

Season 11, Episode 10 nTIDE –

Title: Empowering the Consumer's Journey: Unlocking the Path to Competitive Integrated Employment

October 2, 2026, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. ET | Free | Online | Register
Website: researchondisability.org/ntide | Contact: amy.chamberlain@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 latest nTIDE findings. In addition, we will provide news and updates from the field of Disability Employment and host an invited panelist to discuss current disability-related findings and events.
*This is a **Special Session**, offering a more in-depth discussion.*

AGENDA

Time	Item
12:00 P.M.	Introduction and Welcome Andrew Houtenville, University of New Hampshire
12:10 P.M.	Overview of National Trends in Disability Employment (nTIDE) Jobs Report Release John O'Neill, Kessler Foundation The Numbers Andrew Houtenville, University of New Hampshire
12:40 P.M.	Announcements from the field of Disability Employment Kim Knackstedt, AUCD
12:55 P.M.	Guest Presenter Dr. Charyl Yarbrough, NJ Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development
1:15 P.M.	Questions and Answers for Attendees

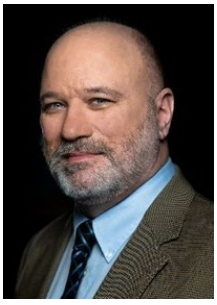
National Trends in Disability Employment

Lunch & Learn Series

PRESENTERS



Charyl S. Yarbrough, PhD, is an industrial and organizational psychologist, New Jersey state agency leader, and researcher committed to strengthening government services and promoting economic outcomes for those facing barriers to employment. As Assistant Commissioner, Dr. Yarbrough leads New Jersey's Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS), Temporary Disability and Family Leave Insurance, and Disability Determination Services. Her commitment to system enhancement, data transparency, collaboration, and shared accountability unified state agencies, providers, advocates, and families around a demonstration project highlighting the feasibility and impact of programs that prioritize Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). Under her leadership, New Jersey launched its first CIE Pilot Program and strengthened the infrastructure needed for systemwide change.



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 doctorate in economics from the University of New Hampshire in 1999 and was a National Institute on Aging Post-Doctoral Fellow at Syracuse University from 1998 to 1999.

nTIDE

National Trends in Disability Employment

Lunch & Learn Series



John O'Neill, PhD, is the director of employment and disability research at Kessler Foundation and has more than 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 principal investigator or co-principal investigator on six NIDILRR-funded, five-year research and training centers focusing on TBI and community integration, disability statistics, the disability employment service system, and how individual and contextual factors relate to employment outcomes among people with disabilities.



Kimberly Knackstedt, PhD, is executive director of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and brings nearly two decades of experience in accessibility and disability policy. As a person living with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome and other chronic illnesses, she brings valuable lived experience to her work in accessibility and policy.

Before joining AUCD, Kim founded and led Unlock Access, LLC, a disability and accessibility strategy consulting firm. She previously served as the first director of disability policy for the Biden-Harris Administration's Domestic Policy Council, disability policy advisor to Chairman Bobby Scott in the U.S. House of Representatives, senior disability policy advisor to Sen. Patty Murray in the U.S. Senate, and a Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Public Policy Fellow.

Kim earned a bachelor's degree in special education and elementary education from Gonzaga University, a master's degree in special education from the University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. in special education and policy from the University of Kansas.

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.



National Trends in Disability Employment

Lunch & Learn Series







Brought to you by Kessler Foundation, Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD), and the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability's Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics (StatsRRTC). The StatsRRTC is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community, Living National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), grant number 90RTGE0005. The information developed by the StatsRRTC does not necessarily represent the policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government (Edgar, 75.620 (b)).