

PRESENTERS

Reviewing the Evidence: What Works in Disability Employment Services

June 22, 2017 • 12:00–1:30 p.m.

MODERATOR



Craig Thornton, Mathematica Policy Research

Craig Thornton is an expert in health services research, disability policy, evaluation design, employment and training programs, and benefit-cost analysis. In his 35-year career at Mathematica, Dr. Thornton has directed and advised on studies of programs and policies that are designed to improve people's lives. Much of his work has focused on initiatives to help people with disabilities participate fully in economic and community life. Dr. Thornton has also studied how well managed care and care management serve people with chronic illnesses and functional impairments, and he has examined how modifications to the Medicare and Medicaid programs could support people with such conditions. Dr. Thornton publishes widely in peer-reviewed journals and has written book chapters on research design, benefit-cost analysis, and disability issues. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the Johns Hopkins University.

PRESENTERS



Priyanka Anand, Mathematica Policy Research

Priyanka Anand is a researcher at Mathematica and an expert in disability policy, employment, and program evaluation. Dr. Anand's work on disability policy includes analyzing the trajectory of people who receive federal disability benefits, estimating the effect of the Medicaid expansion on the number of applications for federal disability insurance, and understanding how working-age people with disabilities use their time. She has also studied federal employment and training programs for vulnerable populations, as well as the long-term outcomes of laid-off workers who received unemployment insurance benefits during the great recession. Dr. Anand holds a Ph.D. in economics from Yale University.



Heinrich Hock, Mathematica Policy Research

Heinrich Hock is a senior economist at Mathematica and an expert in unemployment, education and training, and quantitative evaluation methods. He is directing the quantitative analysis in an evaluation of the first four rounds of the Disability Employment Initiative program, which was established by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to expand the capacity of the American Job Center system to serve people with disabilities. His research also focuses on other federal and state efforts to improve the work outcomes of people with disabilities who receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits and/or who participate in vocational rehabilitation programs. Dr. Hock also has designed and directed several studies of the unemployment insurance system and of reemployment programs intended to support dislocated workers and veterans in their effort to return to work. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Brown University.



Gina Livermore, Mathematica Policy Research

Gina Livermore is an expert in employment and health care policy and programs for people with disabilities. She is deputy director of Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy and co-director of the Mathematica Disability Research Consortium cooperative agreement with the Social Security Administration (SSA). Dr. Livermore also directs the national evaluation of SSA's Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income (PROMISE) demonstration. Her work focuses on improving the economic well-being and self-sufficiency of transition-age youth and working-age people with disabilities. This includes research on the prevalence of long-term poverty and material hardship, as well as access to health care for people with disabilities. Dr. Livermore has described the limitations of, and suggested improvements to, the national disability data system. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an M.P.H. in epidemiology from Tulane University.

DISCUSSANT



David Stapleton, Mathematica Policy Research

David Stapleton is a nationally recognized expert on disability policy and the director of Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy. He also directs Mathematica's Disability Research Consortium cooperative agreement with SSA. Since 1991, Dr. Stapleton has analyzed how public policy affects the employment and well-being of people with disabilities. He was senior advisor and subject matter expert for the Department of Labor's Policy Collaborative, and he has played a similar role in studies of disability and employment programs funded by SSA, DOL, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Education. Dr. Stapleton co-directs the evaluation of SSA's Benefit Offset National Demonstration and regularly presents at policy research conferences. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

