



National Trends in Disability Employment Lunch & Learn Series

Episode 4 nTIDE Update

May 3, 2024 | 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: Cindy Smith, AUCD
12:30 PM	Guest Presenter Kimberly Knackstedt, Unlock Access, LLC Jenny Leland, Starbucks
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. 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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PRESENTERS



Kimberly Knackstedt, PhD, is the principal consultant of Unlock Access, LLC and brings more than a decade of accessibility and disability policy experience to your projects. She previously served in disability policy positions in Congress and the White House and brings experience as a person with chronic illnesses to her accessibility and policy perspectives. Prior to launching Unlock Access, LLC, Kim was the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Public Policy Fellow, serving on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in 2016. She then served as the disability policy advisor for Chairman Bobby Scott on the Committee on Education and Labor in the U.S. House of Representatives. Next, she was the senior disability policy advisor for Senator Patty Murray on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee in the U.S. Senate. In January 2021, Kim was appointed as the first ever director of disability policy for the Domestic Policy Council for the Biden–Harris Administration. Following her experience in

the White House, Kim was a Senior Fellow at The Century Foundation, Director of the Disability Economic Justice team, and Director of the Disability Economic Justice Collaborative. Kim received her Bachelor of Education in special education and elementary education from Gonzaga University, Master of Science in Education in special education from the University of Kansas, and Ph.D. in special education and policy from the University of Kansas.



Jenny Leland, MA, (*Program Manager for Inclusive Design, Starbucks Store Operations*) is passionate about expanding a culture of accessibility and inclusion at Starbucks and beyond. In her current role, she defines strategy and tactics to scale designing more inclusive physical and digital spaces across Starbucks. She also previously served as a co-chair for the Starbucks Disability Advocacy Partner Network (BRG) for two and a half years and supported the concepting and launch of the first US Signing Store in Washington, DC. Jenny first joined Starbucks in 2001 as a barista in Dallas. She then went on to pursue higher education and work in public policy and international development. This included being based in China, Switzerland, South Africa, and Tunisia as well as at the US Department of State in Washington DC, working closely with several foreign service officers with visual disabilities and members of the US delegation to the negotiating sessions for the UN Convention on the Rights of

Persons with Disabilities. She is currently based in Seattle, Washington.

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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 1999 & was a National Institute on Aging Post-Doctoral Fellow at Syracuse University in 1998/1999.



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. Cindy Smith serves as the Director of Public Policy for AUCD, Cindy works with Congress and the Administration to improve policies for persons with disabilities.



Cindy Smith, MS, CAS, JD, began her career as a Research Coordinator and Database Manager at the Institute for Community Inclusion, one of the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities in Massachusetts. Since 2010, Cindy has worked in federal and state public policy and advocacy for the partners included the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Assistance Act. Prior to joining AUCD, Cindy worked as the Deputy Director for Policy and Public Affairs at the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities. In this role, Cindy advised the Executive Director, staff and Governor-appointed Councilmembers on policy priorities and led the Council's advocacy with the California State Legislature.

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