



**SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
A D S  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health**

# **Breaking the Poverty Cycle: Creating Social and Economic Opportunities**

**February 28, 2012**



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

## Archive

This training teleconference will be recorded. The PowerPoint presentation, PDF version, audio recording of the teleconference, and written transcript will be posted to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) ADS Center Web site at <http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/default.aspx>.



## Disclaimer

The views expressed in this training event do not necessarily represent the views, policies, and positions of the Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.







SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
Accceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health

# Entangled in the Safety Net: The Poverty Trap of Disability Benefits



Crystal R. Blyler, Ph.D.  
Senior Researcher  
Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
www.samhsa.gov

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
Accceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health

# Mental Illness and Poverty

- Mental illness is associated with low income and poverty.
- Unemployment is the critical link.
- Poverty and unemployment increase with severity of the disorder.
- Among those with severe disorders, those receiving disability benefits are most likely to be poor.

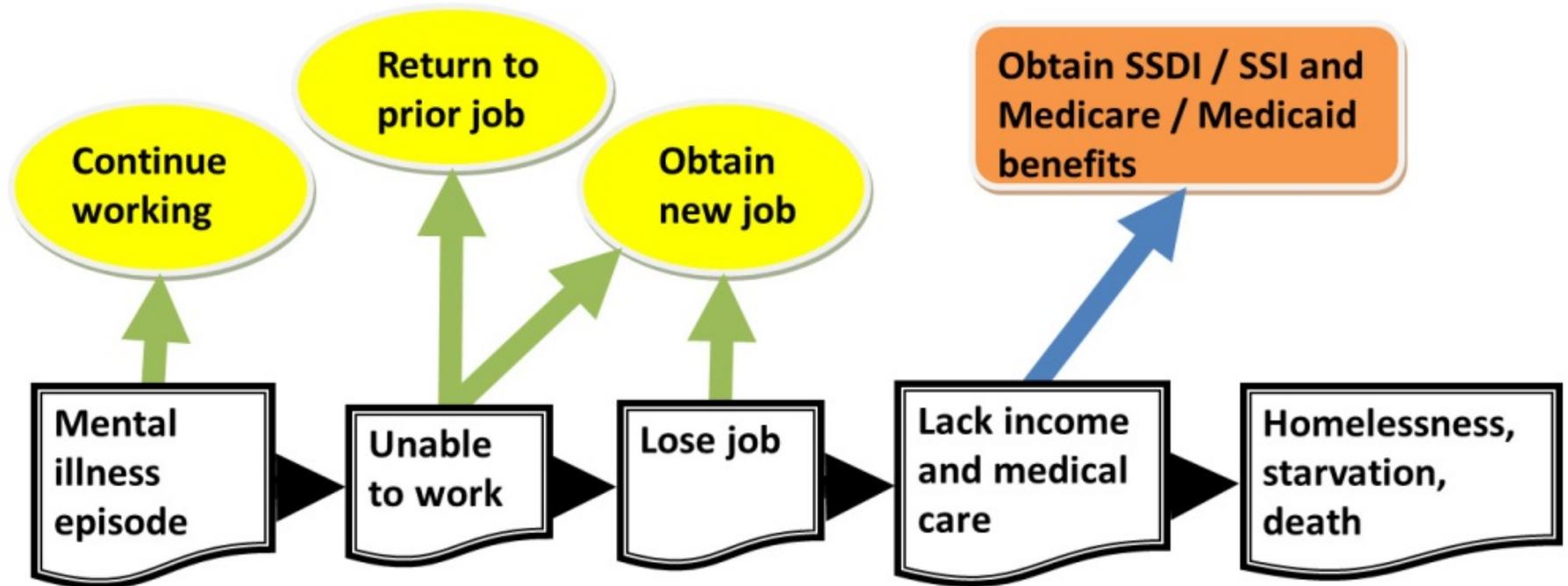


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
www.samhsa.gov

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



# Entering the Trap





SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
A D S  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health

## Life in the Safety Net

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) = \$674/month, 71% of poverty level
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) = \$1,064/month, 112% of poverty level
- In 2006, 50% of beneficiaries in poverty
- The national average rent for a studio/efficiency = \$695/month
- < 4% leave SSDI due to work within 10 years of enrollment



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
www.samhsa.gov

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

## You Are Not Alone

- Almost 11 million working-age people with disabilities receive SSI and/or SSDI; 4.6% of Americans ages 25–64 receive SSDI.
- 4.4 million people with disabilities earn less than \$8,500 per year.
- 856,425 people with disabilities are homeless or living in group homes; 400,000 are living in nursing homes or public mental health institutions.





# Options for Escape



## The Noose Is Tightening

- Employment rate: 24% in 1981, 16% in 2010; decrease for employment, education, and training funding to 1.2% of all disability funding in 2008.
- Rent has increased 51% from 1998–2010; no U.S. housing market is affordable for SSI recipients.
- SSDI beneficiaries: 1.5 million in 1970, 8 million in 2010.
- Share of U.S. adults on SSDI doubled from 1989–2009.
- Federal disability spending rose 56% from 2002–2008.
- SSDI Trust Fund to run out between 2016 and 2018.



# Policy Proposals

- Disconnect income supports and health insurance (this is happening through health reform efforts).
- Modernize definition of disability.
- Consolidate disability programs/funding streams.
  - Prevent loss of employment/entrance onto disability rolls.
  - Provide needed supports to help people return to work.
  - Protect those who cannot work.
- Implement employer incentives.
  - Experience rating
  - Tax credits
- Simplify process of resuming benefits.



## Resources

- Autor, D. H. (2011, December). *The unsustainable rise of the disability rolls in the United States: Causes, consequences, and policy options* (Working Paper No. 17697). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Retrieved from the NBER Web site: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w17697>
- Mann, D. R., & Stapleton, D. C. (2011, November). *Fiscal austerity and the transition to twenty-first century disability policy: A road map*. Princeton, NJ: Mathematica Policy Research. Retrieved from the Mathematica Policy Research Web site at [http://mathematica-mpr.com/publications/PDFs/disability/fiscal\\_austerity.pdf](http://mathematica-mpr.com/publications/PDFs/disability/fiscal_austerity.pdf)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. (2012). *Sick on the job? Myths and realities about mental health and work*. doi: 10.1787/9789264124523-en
- Stapleton, D. C., & Mann, D. R. (2012, January 19). A disability policy for the 21st century [Web log post]. In *The Hill's Congress Blog*. Retrieved from <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/labor/205167-david-stapleton-and-david-mann-mathematica-policy-research>





SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health



# Building a Path out of Poverty and towards Self-Sufficiency

**Oscar Jimenez-Solomon, M.P.H.**  
Economic Development Specialists



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



# The Cycle of Poverty and Mental Health Disability



# The Impact of Poverty on Wellness





**SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health**

# Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Mental Health Disability through Asset-Building

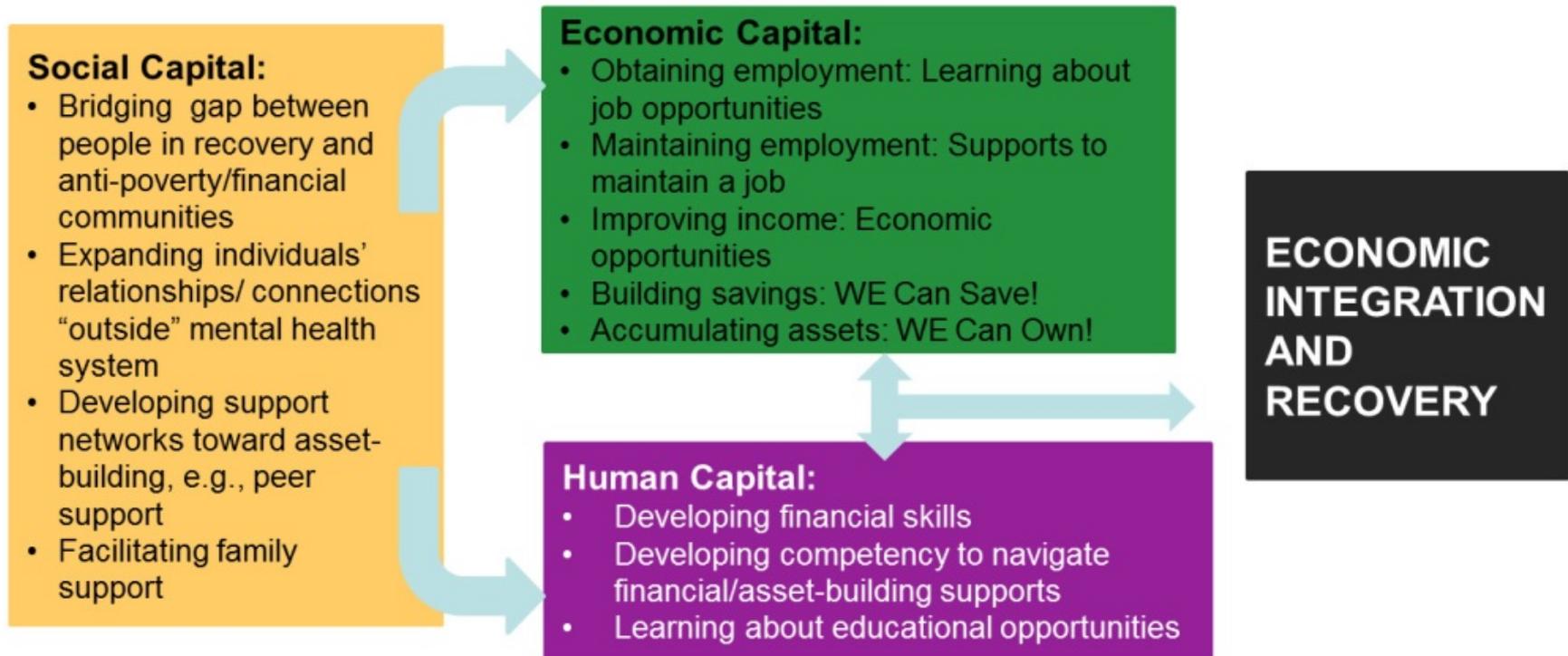


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



## Asset-Building to Support Economic Integration and Mental Health Recovery



# What interventions can we use to break the cycle of poverty and mental health disability?



# Building a Path out of Poverty

- 1. Provider-based interventions to broaden scope of services/supports and:**
  - a. Engage in conversations about life dreams and financial goals.
  - b. Increase access to work incentives.
  - c. Facilitate access to the earned income tax credit (EITC) and other tax credits.
  - d. Promote savings (e.g., individual development accounts [IDAs], plan to achieve self-support [PASS]).
  - e. Provide overall financial education.
- 2. Community-based interventions:**
  - a. Asset development disability coalitions.
  - b. Peer support.
- 3. Statewide:**
  - a. Grassroots campaigns.
  - b. Infrastructure building.



# Having Conversations about Life Dreams

- All people, no matter how affected by psychiatric conditions, substance addiction, or disability, harbor dreams of how they would like their lives to be.
- What are the ***life dreams and aspirations*** of the person we are supporting?



# Increasing Access to Work Incentives

- **Goal of Work Incentives:** Assist Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients in achieving self-sufficiency while keeping some health and cash benefits.
- **Examples of Work Incentives:**
  - Trial Work Period
  - 1619(a): Special Payments to SSI Recipients
  - Medicaid Buy-In



# Increasing Access to the Earned Income Tax Credit

- The EITC is a **refundable** credit.
- The basic requirements for someone to claim the EITC are that he or she must file taxes, be between 25 and 65 years of age, and have earned income and meet income limits.
- The EITC does not affect Medicaid, SSI or SSDI, food stamps, veterans' benefits, or federally assisted housing.
- EITC refunds are excluded for 9 months from the SSI resource test.
- Workers learning about the EITC for the first time may claim it retroactively for a 3-year period.



# Promoting Savings: Individual Development Accounts

- Matched-savings program: For every dollar you deposit into your account, the IDA program will match it with \$1, 2, 3 or 4.
  - For example, if your program has a 3:1 matching system and you deposit \$25, the program will deposit an additional \$75.
- IDA programs help people save money for:
  - Starting a business
  - Buying a home
  - Going back to school



# Promoting Savings: Individual Development Accounts (cont.)

- Eligibility varies by program. Basic requirements are as follows:
  - Have earned income (your deposits have to come from some form of earned income, not from public benefits or gifts).
  - Meet the income limit established by the IDA program.
  - Complete a financial literacy training.
- Many IDAs are available through established partnerships between mainstream credit unions, financial institutions, and not-for-profit organizations.



# The IDA Success Story of Pilot and Joan

## Our plan :

- First Home Club from Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union
- Saving goal = \$1,875
- Saving match = \$7,500 (4:1)
- Total saving goal = \$9,375
- Initial goal timeframe: 1.5 years

## Our success story:

- Savings of \$9,375
- Shorter time! (October 2010 –October 2011)
- \$1,000 grant through Catholic Charities of Onondaga County
- We closed and moved into our brand new home in October 2011!



## Provide Financial Education

- **Goal:** Increase knowledge and empower people through skill-building.
- **Key areas:**
  - Budgeting
  - Work Incentives
  - Taxes
  - Saving
  - Building and Repairing Credit
  - Avoiding the Credit Trap



# Community-Based Interventions

- Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope (CASH) coalitions of financial, poverty-relief, and disability providers/advocates:
  - Bridge - building between financial sector and disability communities to increase access to existing financial resources
- Peer support towards employment and self-sufficiency:
  - Hope- and skill-building, emotional support, linking to resources, and broadening social capital to support full community integration



# Statewide Interventions

## Grassroots campaigns:

- WE Can Work: Building hope and skills towards employment
- WE Can Save: Building hope and skills towards self-sufficiency
  - Key outcomes: Hope-building tools, cultural shift towards supporting employment and self-sufficiency, and a network of peer support facilitators.

## Statewide capacity-building:

- New York Makes Work Pay: A Medicaid Infrastructure Grant– funded initiative to support the employment and economic inclusion of people with disabilities
  - Key outcome: Through a 3-year grant, the New York Employment Services System, or NYESS, created a cross-agency computerized data system that enables sharing of information, service coordination, and job matching technology.



# Resources

## Slide 21 & 27 – Having Conversations about Life Dreams/ Provide Financial Education

- New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS) (Producer). (n.d.). *WE can work: Our stories of recovery and employment success* [Video]. Available from <http://www.nyess.ny.gov/Consumer/index.html>
- NYAPRS. (n.d.). *WE can save: A workbook for people in recovery*. Available through <http://www.nyaprs.org/community-economic-development/we-can-work>
- University of Illinois at Chicago, Center on Mental Health Services Research and Policy. (2010, December 3). *Financial education for persons in recovery*. Retrieved from <http://www.cmhsrp.uic.edu/download/UICFinEdCurriculum.pdf>

## Slide 22 – Increasing Access to Work Incentives

- NYAPRS. (n.d.). *WE can work: The employment tool for people with psychiatric disabilities in New York State*. Retrieved from [http://www.nyess.ny.gov/Consumer/We%20Can%20Work%20bro\\_eng\\_%202nd%20edition%20FINAL%20FINAL%207-30-09.pdf](http://www.nyess.ny.gov/Consumer/We%20Can%20Work%20bro_eng_%202nd%20edition%20FINAL%20FINAL%207-30-09.pdf)
- Social Security Administration. (2012, January). *2012 red book* (SSA Publication No. 64–030). Retrieved from <http://www.ssa.gov/redbook>
- To find a **benefits advisor at a center for independent living, or CIL**: <http://www.virtualcil.net/cils>
- To find a local **Work Incentives Planning and Assistance, or WIPA**, program: <http://www.ssa.gov/work/WIPA.html>



# Resources

## Slide 23 – Increase Access to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

- To find the closest **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** site online: <http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep>
- To find the closest **VITA** site by phone, call 800–829–1040 or 800–906–9887

## Slide 24 – Individual Development Accounts

- To learn more about IDAs and find an IDA in your State or community:
  - <http://cfed.org/programs/idas>
  - [http://cfed.org/programs/idas/ida\\_listserv](http://cfed.org/programs/idas/ida_listserv)
  - [http://cfed.org/programs/idas/directory\\_search/](http://cfed.org/programs/idas/directory_search/)

## Slide 28 – Community-based Interventions

- CASH Coalition of the Greater Capital Region, <http://www.cashgreatercapitalregion.org>
- C.A.S.H. Coalition of Rochester, NY, <http://www.empirejustice.org/cash>
- United Way of Buffalo & Erie County, <http://www.uwbec.org>
- NYAPRS, & Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey. (2009, December). *Building a cross-disability peer employment support model*. Retrieved from [http://bbi.syr.edu/projects/mig/docs/peer\\_employment\\_report\\_122009/Peer\\_Employment\\_Support\\_Report.pdf](http://bbi.syr.edu/projects/mig/docs/peer_employment_report_122009/Peer_Employment_Support_Report.pdf)

# Resources

## Slide 29– Statewide Interventions

- NYAPRS. (n.d.). *WE can save: Building hope and skills towards self-sufficiency.* Available through <http://www.nyaprs.org/community-economic-development/we-can-work>
- *NY Makes Work Pay: A Medicaid Infrastructure Grant–supported initiative to support the employment and economic inclusion of people with disabilities.* <http://www.nymakesworkpay.org>
  - Key outcome: New York Employment Services System (NYESS). <http://www.nyess.ny.gov>



## Appendix

### Work Incentives: Examples

#### For SSDI recipients:

- **Trial Work Period:** Allows individuals to try work for 9 months, earn any amount, and keep receiving SSDI (in a 60-month period).

#### For SSI recipients:

- **1619(a):** Provides reduced SSI payments by about \$1 for every \$2 that the individual earns after an \$85 earned income exclusion.

#### For SSDI or SSI recipients:

- **Medicaid Buy-In (MBI):** Many States have MBI programs to allow working people with disabilities to obtain or maintain Medicaid while earning much higher levels of income than allowed under the regular Medicaid program.

## Appendix

### 2011 EITC Income Requirements and Benefits

<b>Earned Income Limits</b>	<b>Other Eligibility</b>	<b>2011 Max. Tax Credit</b>
<b>\$43,998 (\$49,078 married filing jointly)</b>	<b>with 3 or more qualifying children</b>	<b>\$7,476</b>
<b>\$40,964 (\$46,044 married filing jointly)</b>	<b>with 2 qualifying children</b>	<b>\$6,646</b>
<b>\$36,052 (\$41,132 married filing jointly)</b>	<b>with 1 qualifying child</b>	<b>\$4,022</b>
<b>\$13,660 (\$18,740 married filing jointly)</b>	<b>with no qualifying child</b>	<b>\$603</b>



## Appendix

### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Sites

- Internal Revenue Service–certified volunteers at VITA sites provide free tax preparation assistance.
- To receive assistance, people must not exceed income limits.
- Assistance is provided in neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, etc.
- To find the closest **VITA** site online:  
<http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep>
- To find the closest **VITA** site by phone, call 800–829–1040 or 800–906–9887



## Appendix

### Plan to Achieve Self-Support

- A PASS allows an SSI recipient to set aside **other income besides SSI** for a specified period of time to pursue a work goal.
- Income can be from the SSDI check, earnings, or other source.
- Income set aside under PASS is **NOT counted** when figuring the SSI payment amount.
- Other agencies may not count income under PASS when they determine eligibility for housing or food assistance.
- The recipient must develop a PLAN with concrete goals and timeframe. The plan must be approved by the U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA).



## Appendix

### More information about PASS plans

- Get a **PASS Specialist's** telephone number by calling SSA's toll-free number 1-800-772-1213 or visit the SSA website at:  
[www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/passcadre.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/passcadre.htm).
- Ask for pamphlet ***Working While Disabled — A Plan for Achieving Self-Support***, also available online at:  
[www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/11017.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/11017.html).
- Get a copy of this publication from your local SSA office or by calling their toll-free number 1-800-772-1213.





SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
A c c e p t a n c e , D i g n i t y a n d S o c i a l I n c l u s i o n A s s o c i a t e d w i t h M e n t a l H e a l t h

# A Journey from Poverty to Community Inclusion



Maura Kelley, CPRP  
Director

Mental Health Peer Connection,  
Western New York Independent Living



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



**SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health**

## I am Maura Kelley.

In my earlier life I was:

- Homeless (living in my car)
- Diagnosed with serious mental illness
- Told I was unemployable



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

# Maura Kelley: Where I Am Now

In my current life I:

Am a Homeowner

Have had no psychiatric hospitalizations for 17 years

Have been employed for 17 years in a management position

Went from being a client at a peer support agency to writing proposals that grew this agency to 22 staff

Am Director of Mental Health Peer Connection

Am a presenter for the We Can Work campaign

Advocate for other peers

**My story is not unique.**



# How did I get here from there? Interventions

- Positive Peer Role Modeling
  - Support from people like me
  - Hope from others who are in recovery
  - Learning from others' experience



# How did I get here from there? Interventions (cont.)

- Independent Living/Recovery Model
  - Living in the community despite disability
  - Not feeling ashamed of disability
  - Hope that living a normal life is possible



# How did I get here from there? Interventions (cont.)

- The Role of Government Benefits
  - Social Security work incentives and continued healthcare coverage
  - Vocational services available

# Large-Scale Benefits of These Interventions

- Peer Support Is a Successful Intervention:
  - From 2008 to 2011, approximately 450 people labeled with serious mental illness have found employment through Mental Health Peer Connection.
- Independent Living Philosophy Works:
  - Last year we saved taxpayers \$25.9 million assisting people coming out of institutions with living independently in the community.
- Benefits Help:
  - We help people understand how to maximize Government work incentives that encourage employment.





SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
A D S  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health

# Professional Recognition



Maura Kelley receiving NYS Office of Mental Health  
Achievement Award  
from Commissioner Stone, 2002

- Numerous awards for leadership, advocacy, and professional services
- Awards from local agencies, including a local mental health association and my employer
- Awards from peer-run agencies and State and local mental health government agencies



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

## Professional Recognition (cont.)

- Awards received from the following agencies and organizations:
  - Erie County Department of Mental Health
  - Mental Health Association of Erie County
  - Compeer of Erie County
  - Group Ministries in Buffalo, NY
  - Found Woman from Women Focus
  - New York State Office of Mental Health
  - New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services





SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
Accceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health

# The best awards are my greyhounds, Ollie and Otis.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

# Resources

- Western New York Independent Living <http://www.wnyil.org>
- Mental Health Peer Connection, an agency of Western New York Independent Living <http://wnyil.org/mhpc>
- National Empowerment Center <http://www.power2u.org/>
- The National Mental Health Consumers' Self-Help Clearinghouse Directory of Consumer-Driven Services <http://www.cdsdirectory.org/>
- Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) Directory of Centers & Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) 2012 (Vol. 34) <http://www.ilru.org/html/publications/directory/index.html>





**SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote  
A D S  
Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion  
Associated with Mental Health**

# What is Your Vision?



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

## Crystal's Vision

Service providers will expend as much energy helping people go back to work as they do helping them obtain disability benefits.

Everyone with serious mental illness will be offered employment support services as long as they need them.

Inclusion in the workforce will

- Empower individuals and improve their mental health
- Educate coworkers and reduce stigma
- Provide money and status that improve political clout



## Oscar's Vision

*The United States is a country where every person enjoys **emotional, occupational, and financial well-being** regardless of his or her mental health or substance addiction experience, socioeconomic background, gender, ethnicity, nationality, or sexual orientation.*



## Maura's Vision

I envision a country that does not stigmatize people with disabilities. A country that has the same expectations for people with disabilities as it does for people without disabilities. Expectations such as community integration, higher education, employment, and home ownership.

This vision can become a reality through empowering people with disabilities, educating the community on disability awareness, and treating all people equally.



## Additional Resources

- Adler School of Professional Psychology, Institute on Social Exclusion.  
<http://www.adler.edu/page/institutes/institute-on-social-exclusion>
- Adler School of Professional Psychology, Institute on Social Exclusion, Institute for Public Safety and Social Justice, & community partners. *Mental health impact assessment*.  
<http://www.adler.edu/page/institutes/institute-on-social-exclusion/projects/mhia>
- American Psychological Association, Task Force on Socioeconomic Status. (2007). *Report of the APA Task Force on Socioeconomic Status*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/pi/ses/resources/publications/task-force-2006.pdf>
- Badenhuisen, P. (2010, fall). Living a dream: Using the individual development account (IDA) to support financial independence. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 34(2), 157–158.
- Boardman, J. (2011). Social exclusion and mental health—how people with mental health problems are disadvantaged: An overview. *Mental Health and Social Inclusion*, 15(3), 112–121.



## Additional Resources (cont.)

- Burke-Miller, J. K., Swarbrick, M. A., Carter, T. M., Jonikas, J. A., Zipple, A. M., Fraser, V. V., & Cook, J. A. (2010, fall). Promoting self-determination and financial security through innovative asset building approaches. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 34(2), 104–112.
- Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH). (2008). *Closing the gap in a generation: Health equity through action on the social determinants of health. Final report of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization.
- Cook, J. A., Burke-Miller, J. K., Jonikas, J. A., & Swarbrick, M. (2010, November). *Asset development for people with psychiatric disabilities: The essential role of financial security in recovery*. Retrieved from <http://www.cmhsrp.uic.edu/download/NRTC4.IDA%20Project%20Report.10.25.10.pdf>
- Cook, J. A., & Jonikas, J. A. (Eds.). (2010, fall). Self-determination [Special issue]. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal*, 34(2).

## Additional Resources (cont.)

- Erickson, W., & Lee, C. (2008). *2007 disability status report: United States*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics.
- Hudson, C. G. (2005, January). Socioeconomic status and mental illness: Tests of the social causation and selection hypotheses. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 75(1), 3–18.
- National Council on Disability. <http://www.ncd.gov/about>
- National Council on Disability. (2008, March 17). *Inclusive livable communities for people with psychiatric disabilities* [Online version]. Retrieved from [http://www.ncd.gov/NCD/publications/2008/03172008#985b48a8\\_d001\\_48e6\\_90dd\\_0be3fa\\_ffc0e9](http://www.ncd.gov/NCD/publications/2008/03172008#985b48a8_d001_48e6_90dd_0be3fa_ffc0e9)
- New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS). (2011). *WE can save: A provider's guide to promoting economic self-sufficiency; A recovery-oriented approach*. Additional information available at the NYAPRS Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS) Curriculum Clearinghouse Web site at <http://pros.nyaprs.org/category/pros-services/community-living-exploration>



## Additional Resources (cont.)

- Northwestern University, School of Education and Social Policy, The Asset-Based Community Development Institute (ABCD). <http://www.abcdinstitute.org>
- Northwestern University, School of Education and Social Policy, ABCD Institute Resources. <http://www.abcdinstitute.org/resources>
- Northwestern University, School of Education and Social Policy, ABCD Institute Workbooks. <http://www.abcdinstitute.org/publications/workbooks>
- NYAPRS PROS Curriculum Clearinghouse. <http://pros.nyaprs.org>
- Schneider, J. A. (2004, November). *The role of social capital in building healthy communities*. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation. Retrieved from <http://www.aecf.org/upload/publicationfiles/cc3622h755.pdf>
- Silver, H. & Miller, S. M. (2006). From poverty to social exclusion: Lessons from Europe. In C. W. Hartman (Ed.), *Poverty and race in America: The emerging agendas* (pp. 57–70). Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- The American Association of People with Disabilities <http://www.aapd.com>



## Additional Resources (cont.)

- Think Beyond the Label. <http://www.thinkbeyondthelabel.com/Default.aspx>
- World Health Organization. (n.d.). *Mental health, poverty and development*. Retrieved from [http://www.who.int/mental\\_health/policy/development/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/development/en/index.html)
- World Health Organization. (n.d.). *Social determinants of health*. Retrieved from [http://www.who.int/social\\_determinants/en](http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en)



## Questions

You may now submit your question by pressing “\*1” on your telephone keypad. You will enter a queue and be allowed to ask your question in the order in which it is received. On hearing the conference operator announce your first name, you may proceed with your question.



## For More Information, Contact

- Crystal Blyler, [cblyler@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:cblyler@mathematica-mpr.com), 202-250-3502
- Oscar Jimenez-Solomon, [oscarj@mh-ed.com](mailto:oscarj@mh-ed.com), 518-728-9447;  
<http://www.economicsspecialists.org/>
- Maura Kelley, [mkelley@wnyil.org](mailto:mkelley@wnyil.org), 716-836-0822 ext. 162





# Speakers

**Crystal Blyler, Ph.D.**, is a senior researcher at Mathematica Policy Research, where she works on projects related to health, mental health, and disability. Before joining Mathematica in December 2011, she spent 12 years as a social science analyst with the Community Support Programs Branch of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services. At SAMHSA, she served as project officer for a randomized cross-site evaluation of eight sites implementing supported employment programs across the country. She was also the agency liaison with the Social Security Administration (SSA) on a program to reduce the disincentives to work inherent in the Federal Government's disability benefits system. In addition, Dr. Blyler served as project officer for the development of an implementation resource kit on evidence-based supported employment. Throughout her tenure with SAMHSA, Dr. Blyler collaborated with SSA, the U.S. Department of Labor, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and the U.S. Department of Education on the Clinton administration's Presidential Task Force on the Employment of Adults with Disabilities, the Bush administration's New Freedom Initiative for people with disabilities, implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, the Interagency Council on Disability Research's Subcommittee on Employment, and the Federal Partners for Mental Health Transformation's Employment Work Group. In her final year at SAMHSA, Dr. Blyler served as the agency employment coordinator for the Recovery Support Strategic Initiative.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



# Speakers

**Oscar Jimenez-Solomon, M.P.H.**, is a public health professional and advocate with over 12 years of experience in program development and applied research in health, disability, and economic development issues. Mr. Jimenez-Solomon holds a master of public health from Columbia University and leads a consulting firm helping mental health, substance addiction, and developmental disability services to improve their outcomes through evidence-based program design, monitoring and evaluation, and quality improvement systems. Mr. Jimenez-Solomon is currently developing a program to offer matched savings for people in recovery with the goal of starting a small business or pursuing further education. Between 2008 and 2011 Mr. Jimenez-Solomon was the Director of Community and Economic Development at the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS). In that capacity he provided leadership to the *WE Can Work & WE Can Save* campaigns promoting employment and economic self-sufficiency through hope-building, skill development, and peer support. During his tenure at NYAPRS Mr. Jimenez-Solomon also oversaw a number of programmatic, research, and evaluation initiatives to address the barriers of people in recovery to employment, expand the Ticket-to-Work program, develop effective peer employment support models, improve workplace inclusion, and establish an online university for peer staff and managers. Before NYAPRS Mr. Jimenez-Solomon was Training Coordinator for the NYSARC—Ulster-Greene Counties, Officer of Research at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, International Consultant at the United Nations Population Fund, and Research Associate at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>



# Speakers

**Maura Kelley, CPRP**, is Director of Mental Health Peer Connection, one of the family of agencies of Western New York Independent Living. In 1990 she was homeless, experienced 13 psychiatric hospitalizations, was dependent on social services and Social Security, and was eventually housed in a Federal housing program. In 1995 she began working with Independent Living, first as a peer advocate, then a systems advocate, and now as Program Director, employing 20 peers to increase community living, decrease institutionalization, and increase employment for people labeled with mental illness. Since she started working in 1995, she has not been psychiatrically hospitalized, is now a homeowner, and has received numerous awards for advocating for the rights of people with mental illness.

Ms. Kelley has presented workshops at the National Council on Independent Living, the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, and at numerous local venues in Western New York, including treatment programs, colleges and universities, and conferences. Ms. Kelley is also on the executive committee of the boards of directors of the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services and the Mental Health Empowerment Project. She also serves on the board of directors for the New York State Independent Living Council. She has published articles in *American Rehabilitation*, *Mental Health World*, and a quarterly agency newsletter called *Access News*.



# Survey

We value your suggestions. Within 24 hours of this teleconference, you will receive an e-mail request to participate in a short, anonymous online survey about today's training material which will take 5 minutes to complete. Survey results will be used to determine resources and topic areas to be addressed in future training events.

Survey participation requests will be sent to all registered event participants who provided e-mail addresses at the time of their registration. Each request message will contain a Web link to our survey tool. Please call **800-540-0320** if you have any difficulties filling out the survey online. Thank you for your feedback and cooperation.

Written comments may be sent to the SAMHSA ADS Center via e-mail at [promoteacceptance@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:promoteacceptance@samhsa.hhs.gov).



## Archive

This training teleconference was recorded. The PowerPoint presentation, PDF version, audio recording of the teleconference, and written transcript will be posted to the SAMHSA ADS Center Web site at:

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/default.aspx>.



## Also of Interest

If you enjoyed this training teleconference, we encourage you to:

Join the [ADS Center listserv](#) to receive further information on recovery and social inclusion activities and resources including information about future teleconferences.





## Contact Us

### **SAMHSA ADS Center**

4350 East West Highway, Suite 1100  
Bethesda, MD 20814

*Toll-free:* **1-800-540-0320**

*Fax:* **240-744-7004**

*Web:* <http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>

*E-mail:* [promoteacceptance@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:promoteacceptance@samhsa.hhs.gov)

*The moderator for this call was **Jane Tobler.***



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov>