

# PRESENTERS

## Aligning Community Practices with Trends in Rehabilitation: **Researching and Validating the Pathways to Careers Initiative**

### PRESENTERS



**Brian DeAtley**, SourceAmerica Institute for Economic Empowerment

Brian DeAtley, a senior research manager at SourceAmerica, focuses on workforce development and disability employment research. Before working with SourceAmerica, Mr. DeAtley managed several national technology and workforce initiatives for the Information Technology Association of America. He was also the manager of employment services at The Arc in the District of Columbia, and he has additional experience in the welfare-to-work arena. Mr. DeAtley has worked with several community-level rehabilitation programs, where his emphasis was helping people with disabilities enter the workforce. He has a B.A. from the University of Maryland and an M.A. in education and human development from George Washington University.



**Therese Fimian**, SourceAmerica Institute for Economic Empowerment

Therese Fimian, a senior research manager at SourceAmerica, has worked in the disability and employment field for 19 years. During that time, she has established and overseen national workforce programs, research efforts, and demonstration projects that promote economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities. Ms. Fimian is part of the team that is directing the Institute's Pathways to Careers demonstration project, a national state-of-the-art employment initiative that is aimed at ensuring that youths and adults with significant disabilities can obtain competitive, integrated, diverse employment options and achieve their career goals.



**Gina Livermore**, Mathematica Policy Research

Gina Livermore, a senior researcher at Mathematica with expertise in evaluation research and design, focuses on employment policy and health insurance for people with disabilities. Dr. Livermore's work focuses on improving the economic well-being and self-sufficiency of transition-age youth and working-age people with disabilities. Her work has included research on the prevalence of long-term poverty and material hardship and access to health care for those groups. Dr. Livermore is deputy director of Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy and co-director of the Mathematica center that is part of the Social Security Administration's Disability Research Consortium. Dr. Livermore developed the Employment Payroll Tax adjustment used in SourceAmerica's Pathways to Careers service model and is conducting the evaluation of Pathways. She is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and was formerly assistant director of Cornell University's Institute for Policy Research and a vice president at the Lewin Group. She has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an M.P.H. in epidemiology from Tulane University.

---

## DISCUSSANT

---

**Christopher Button**, Office of Disability Employment Policy, U.S. Department of Labor

Christopher Button is supervisory policy advisor for the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) at the U.S. Department of Labor, where she leads the Workforce Systems Policy Team and serves as one of ODEP's senior managers. The Workforce Systems Policy Team focuses on removing structural, policy, and other workforce barriers to increase employment and economic advancement for people with disabilities. In this capacity, Dr. Button works with national leaders to conceptualize and validate innovative and best-practice strategies and policies for opening the workforce system to serve job seekers with complex employment barriers. Her 40-year career in the disability arena includes work as a legislative aide on disability issues in the U.S. Senate, senior manager at a private national disability nonprofit organization, special education teacher, school administrator, and university instructor.

