

PRESENTERS

The Promise of State Initiatives to Prevent Long-Term Disability

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Yonatan Ben-Shalom, Mathematica Policy Research

Yonatan Ben-Shalom is a senior researcher at Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy, with expertise in policies and programs related to the employment and income of people with disabilities—especially those who acquire disability in adulthood, such as workers and veterans. From 2013 to 2016, he directed the Stay-at-Work/Return-to-Work (SAW/RTW) Policy Collaborative, funded by the Office of Disability Employment Policy at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The collaborative focused on advancing policies and programs that promote job retention among workers who have a potentially career-ending medical condition. Dr. Ben-Shalom has served as principal investigator for numerous studies funded by the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). He has a Ph.D. in economics from the Johns Hopkins University.



David Stapleton, Mathematica Policy Research

David Stapleton is 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's research has focused on how public policy affects the employment and well-being of people with disabilities. He was senior adviser and subject matter expert for the DOL SAW/RTW Policy Collaborative. He also co-directs the evaluation of SSA's Benefit Offset National Demonstration and is a senior adviser on many other disability and employment projects for SSA, DOL, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Education. A nationally recognized expert on disability policy, Dr. Stapleton regularly presents at policy research conferences and other venues. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



David Mann, Mathematica Policy Research

David Mann is a senior researcher at Mathematica's Center for Studying Disability Policy, with expertise in the labor force participation and benefit receipt of youth and adults with disabilities. Dr. Mann has examined employment and benefit receipt outcomes of people with disabilities. His SSA- and NIDILRR-funded studies have focused on the outcomes of vocational rehabilitation applicants; Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries; and young adults with childhood-onset disabilities, such as former child SSI recipients. Dr. Mann has helped develop and evaluate multiple SSA initiatives that promote employment among SSI and SSDI beneficiaries, including Ticket to Work, the Benefit Offset National Demonstration, and the Work Incentive Simplification Pilot. He was the principal investigator for the disability employment policy topic for DOL's Clearinghouse for Labor Evaluation and Research, which is improving the accessibility of labor research evidence for policymakers and stakeholders. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

DISCUSSANTS



Teresa Bartlett, Sedgwick CMS

Teresa Bartlett has been a senior vice president and medical director at Sedgwick CMS since January 2009. As medical director, Dr. Bartlett is the senior adviser on matters affecting the design and delivery of medical management services for the company's claims clients. She provides strategic counsel and operational support in all areas of medical management, including managed care, return to work, medical outcomes protocols, and health and safety matters. Dr. Bartlett also advises on best practices to integrate the delivery of occupational and nonoccupational medical services and on matters affecting health care as part of the claims services process. She holds an M.D. from the Yale School of Medicine.



Jennifer Richard, California Assembly Labor and Employment Committee

Jennifer Richard was recently hired as the chief consultant for the California Assembly Labor and Employment Committee. Before that, she served in an appointment from Governor Brown as a senior policy adviser in the Director's Office of the Employment Development Department. Ms. Richard has over two decades of experience in the public policy arena, including serving as chief of staff to Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and as legislative director for Sheila James Kuehl, who is now a Los Angeles County supervisor. Ms. Richard led the legislative campaigns to pass California's landmark Paid Family Leave law and other laws significantly strengthening the civil rights protections for California workers. In 2016, she received the Legislative Leadership Award from the Center for Workers' Rights. Ms. Richard has a B.A. in political economics from Scripps College and is a graduate of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program.

