

Supportive Employment for Persons with Disabilities

Presented by:

John B. Allen Jr.

Special Assistant to the Commissioner
New York State Office of Mental Health

Why Should We Care about focusing on Persons with disabilities?

- * 80% of all of New York State's Medicaid expenditures are spent on 20% of the population
- * Who do you think is in that 20%? People with disabilities

Demographics of New Yorkers with Disabilities

- * The employment rate of working-age people with disabilities (ages 21-64) was 33.5% with only 19% working full-time/full-year as compared to 77.9% and 55.7% respectively for people without disabilities, a **gap of 44.4% and 36.7%**.
- * For working-age individuals with disabilities working full-time/full-year, the median annual labor earnings equaled \$32,700 compared to \$40,000 for those without disabilities, a **gap of \$7,300**.
- * The median household income of working age adults with disabilities in New York is \$35,200 and \$71,100 for families without disabilities in New York, a **gap of \$35,900**.

Demographics continued...

- * The poverty rate of working age adults with disabilities in New York is 28.8% as compared to 9.6% for non-disabled adults, **a gap of 19.2%**.
- * One in five working age adults with disabilities in New York are recipients of SSI (279,000 individuals).
- * The composite picture of a working age adults with disabilities in New York is an individual who is more likely unemployed, with no more than a high school education, living in poverty and **dependent on government benefits to survive.**

Work Status of New Yorkers Receiving SSI and SSDI

- * Numbers of beneficiaries has grown exponentially since 1990 (close to one million in 2007)
- * While NYS has experienced annual increases in the number of SSI recipients with disabilities who work up to 7.65% in 2006 we are still below our peak of 8.72% in 1990
- * **Decline in work incentive utilization since 1990 and since passage of the Ticket to Work**

Work Status continued...

- * For example, Blind Work Expense decreased from 425 users in 1990 to 185 in 2006
- * While NYS work incentive utilization has declined it is still above the national mean
- * **Information is not enough to support employment**
- * According to a BPA&O customer satisfaction survey conducted by the SSA (2004)
 - * 94% felt the information they received was correct and 21% began working subsequent to having received benefits counseling
 - * Only 43% stated that the benefits counselor contacted someone on their behalf to move them into employment-documenting a potential disconnect of this service as a vital employment support.

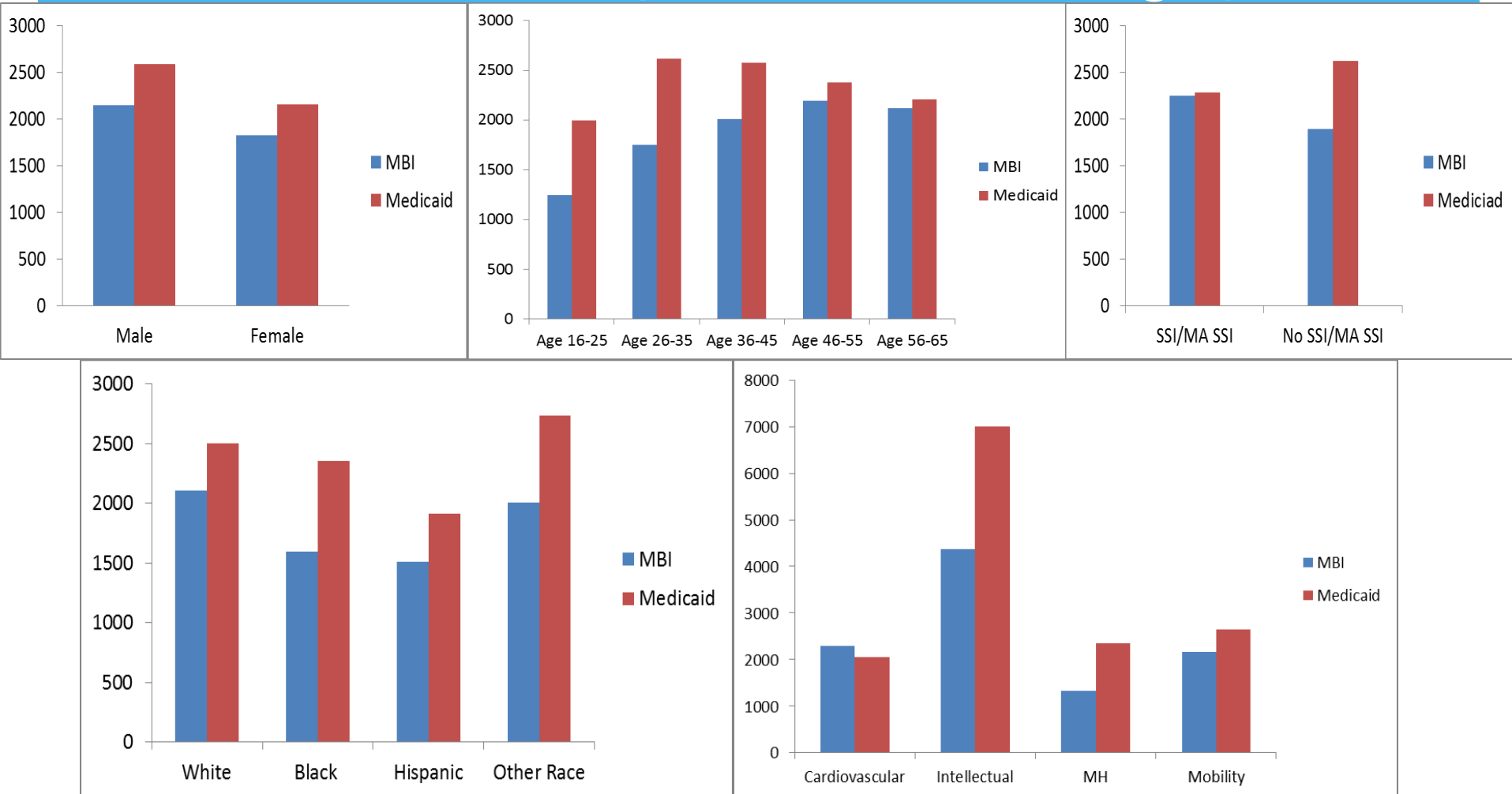
Work Status continued...

- * **Close to 6,000 New Yorkers with disabilities have been able to work and access PAS needed to be independent because of MBI-WPD**
- * \$77,420,615 during 2007 in federal and state service expenditures on the MBI-WPD
- * 5,666 individual enrolled in and active in MBI-WPD during fiscal year 2006-2007

MBI Survey

- * **More than half of respondents had a mental disability and about one quarter had both mental and physical disabilities.**
- * **Primarily recipients had learned about the program from their case workers although some reported learning of the program from local advocates.**
- * **Most importantly was that 69% of respondents felt that the program was important in helping them to work and almost three-quarters left the program satisfied their health care needs.**
- * **Interestingly enough, almost three-quarters (73%) of respondents received a cash benefit from Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).**
- * **Of those responding affirmatively that they had received a Ticket to Work, 74% reported using their Ticket.**
- * **Survey recipients were also asked about their ability to save money since joining the MBI-WPD program, 38% reporting affirmatively.**

Healthcare Expenditures by Demographics



Random and Fixed Effects Models

- * Due to varying duration and varying year of entry patterns, a random effects model was developed
- * Estimated average reduction in cost per person per month was \$100 based on random effects and about \$73 based on fixed effects.
- * Fixed effects more appropriate as time invariant covariates are related to MBI participation.

MBI Cost Savings

- * MBI participation reduces healthcare expenditures for people with disabilities
- * Impact of MBI on healthcare expenditures is lower for Caucasians and higher for minority groups
- * Impact of MBI on healthcare expenditures is highest for 36-45 year olds and lowest for 16-25 year old as well as 56-65 year old.
- * Based on fixed model estimates – with 10,000 participants, NYS is estimated to have saved \$8.8 million per year (i.e., \$73 x 12 x 10,000)

Areas for Improvement

- * The survey clearly identify several areas for improvement, including:
 - * strategic outreach to multicultural populations;
 - * customizing marketing and application materials that are accessible and easy to understand;
 - * supporting financial literacy training and planning with recipients to support asset development and accumulation;
 - * **long-term access to benefits and work incentives planning and support;**
 - * increased coupling of the MBI-PWD with the Ticket to Work to promote increased employment outcomes;
 - * skills and knowledge acquisition of recipients; and,
 - * training to support the provider network in identifying jobs with livable wages to support greater economic self-sufficiency.



New York **Makes Work Pay**

Developing a path to employment for New Yorkers with disabilities

New York's Inclusive Workforce

State and Regional Associations in full support of the vision presentation:



CMEP/Coalition of Mainstream Employment Programs

Correctional Educational Consortium, Inc.







New York Employment Services System

NYESS Reports

Number Of Job Placements Within a Date Range

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to show how many consumers were placed in a job within the date range selected. It can be reported by Provider, by State Agency, by Region or by County.

Select a valid date range either by entering a date in the format of mm/dd/yyyy or clicking on the calendar button  and choosing a date from the calendar then click the Apply button

For Job Placements Between **1**  And **2** 

Apply

Reset

3

Statewide

State Agency 4	Number of Job Placements 9
5 Adult Career and Continuing Education Services - Voc Rehab	270
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	170
State Office for the Aging	271
Office for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services	160
Office of Mental Health	225
Office for People With Developmental Disabilities	125
Department of Labor	269
10 Statewide.Total	14,490

11 Number of Job Placements by State Agency

