

Iowa APSE

Employment Fact Sheet-2015

Employment in the general workforce is the first and preferred outcome in the provision of publicly funded services for all working age Iowans with disabilities, regardless of level of disability.

- ✓ In 2011, **employed** Iowans with disabilities on SSI had \$8 million less in Medicaid claims compared to their peer group who were **unemployed** (University of Iowa Public Policy Center & the Center for Disabilities and Development, 2012).
- ✓ In Iowa, for every \$1.00 spent on Supported Employment for individuals with intellectual disabilities, \$1.62 is returned in the form of taxes paid, reduced government subsidies, and savings from not funding alternative programs (Cimera, 2010).
- ✓ Iowa currently spends approximately 88% of its Day and Work Services funding on services provided in primarily segregated setting, while only 12% in community settings. This spending imbalance is comparable with the spending of Rhode Island—the latest state to be found in violation of the Olmstead Decision.
- ✓ You, the legislature, mandated that mental health and disabilities services redesign be based on the Olmstead principles. With such an over reliance on segregated services, clearly it is not.
- ✓ In 2011, 19.8% of Iowans with disabilities lived in poverty, compared to 11.9% for those without disabilities (Iowa State Data Center, 2013).
- ✓ The employment rate for Iowans with a disability is 41.8% while it is almost 90% for their nondisabled peers (Iowa State Data Center, 2013).
- ✓ More than 6,000 Iowans with disabilities work in the nearly 70 sheltered workshops currently operating. More than half of all wages paid are less than \$2.00/hour.
- ✓ Multiple Federal laws, the Supreme Court of the United States, and the Department of Justice require the most integrated setting possible for individuals with disabilities. Iowa is noticeably in violation.

Information provided by IA-APSE: The Iowa Chapter of the Association of Persons Supporting Employment First. For more information, contact your constituent:



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