May 20th, 12:30 PM

Collecting Histories of Education and Employment Activities from Young Adults with Serious Mental Health Conditions

Kathryn Sabella  
*University of Massachusetts Medical School*

*Et al.*

---

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: [https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/cts_retreat](https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/cts_retreat)

Part of the Health Services Administration Commons, Psychiatric and Mental Health Commons, Psychiatry Commons, Psychiatry and Psychology Commons, and the Sociology Commons

---

**Repository Citation**


---

**Creative Commons License**

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/).

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMassChan. It has been accepted for inclusion in UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Research Retreat by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMassChan. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.
Young adulthood is a critical time for establishing the foundation of an adult working life. As adolescents mature and explore career interests, they also begin to focus in on particular career pathways. However, lower levels of employment and educational attainment, as well as the demands of parenting, prevent and delay Youth and Young adults (Y&YAs) with serious mental health conditions (SMHCs) from participating in settings where career development and exploration activities typically occur. Of Y&YA parents who do work, the majority will work part-time, at low-level service jobs, and at low salaries (Osgood, et al., 2005). Y&YA parents with SMHCs are particularly vulnerable as they are more likely than their normative peers to experience unemployment, poverty, and dependence on government assistance (Luciano, et al., 2013). Through a one-time, semi-structured interview, this study seeks to describe the education and employment activities of Y&YAs between the ages of 25-30 with SMHCs, explore barriers and facilitators to these activities, and understand how parenting affects these experiences. Preliminary findings will be presented as they relate to themes of career exploration/development, the barriers and facilitators to education and employment activities this population encounters, including the impact that parenthood can have on these activities in young adulthood. We will also describe the education and employment activities and trajectories that were obtained as part of these interviews.

Contact:
Peter Bui
Research Coordinator
Systems and Psychosocial Advances Research Center (SPARC)
Department of Psychiatry
University of Massachusetts Medical School
222 Maple Avenue  Chang Building
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
P:  508-856-8276  F:  508-856-8700
peter.bui@umassmed.edu