Overview of the Supported Employment Demonstration (SED)

Conducted by Westat under contract to the Social Security Administration
Supported Employment Demonstration (SED)

- Funded by the U.S. Social Security Administration
- 6-year study
- Purpose: To look at how employment services, provided along with integrated behavioral health and social services, can help people with mental health impairments get a good job
Target Population

Social Security disability applicants:

- Age 18 to 49
- Lives in a study site catchment area
- Does not live in a residential/custodial facility
- Alleges or has a documented mental illness
- Denied at the initial level of the application process in past 30-60 days (no technical denials)
- Expresses a desire to work
Intervention Package

Services

• Individual Placement and Support (IPS) employment services
• Behavioral health services (as needed)
• Medication management services (as needed)

Other Supports

• Funding for Individual Work-Related Expenses
• Care Manager services and funding to remove barriers to working
• Funding for treatment-approved behavioral health services
Scope of the SED

- 30 community mental health agencies (CMHAs)
- 3,000 participants
- Study randomly assigns enrollees to 1 of 3 study conditions
- Individuals consent to participate for 36 months
- Individuals complete telephone interviews every 3 months
Randomized Controlled Trial Design

Community Mental Health Agencies

20 Full Sites

10 Half Sites

2,400 Participants*

600 Participants **

Randomization to one of three arms

Full-Service Treatment

Basic-Service Treatment

Usual Services

1,000 Full-Service Treatment participants

1,000 Basic-Service Treatment participants

1,000 Usual Services participants

*120 participants per site

**60 participants per site
Study Design Overview

Usual Services (Control) Arm

Study Design Overview

Basic-Service Treatment Arm

- IPS Supported Employment Integrated with Behavioral Health Care
- Assistance with Behavioral Health and Employment-Related Expenses
- Care Manager to provide and coordinate behavioral health care and other practical needs

Study Design Overview

Full-Service Treatment Arm

- Nurse Care Coordinator
- Medication Management Support

IPS Supported Employment Integrated with Behavioral Health Care
- Assistance with Behavioral Health and Employment-Related Expenses
- Care Manager to provide and coordinate behavioral health care and other practical needs

Primary Outcome of Interest

Any employment
Secondary Outcomes

- **Employment characteristics**
  Earnings, months earning above SGA, months employed, job tenure, time to first job, employment in a competitive job

- **Clinical recovery**
  Mental health, physical health, hospital stays, emergency room visits

- **SSA benefits**
  Number of days to first appeal, appeals, benefit awards, total benefits received

- **Public benefits**
  SNAP, TANF, Medicaid

- **Other**
  Satisfaction with life, encounters with justice system
Study Timeline

- **Year 1**: START UP AND PLANNING
- **Year 2**: INTERVENTION IMPLEMENTATION
- **Year 3**: Conference 9/14/19
- **Year 4**: TRANSITION
- **Year 5**: ANALYSIS AND REPORTING
- **Year 6**:

Timeline:
- **Sept. 2016**
- **Aug. 2022**
Study Contacts

- **Co-Principal Investigator, Evaluation Lead**
  
  William Frey, Ph.D.
  
  (301) 610-5198
  
  williamfrey@westat.com

- **Co-Principal Investigator, Implementation Lead**
  
  Robert Drake, Ph.D.
  
  (603) 678-4528
  
  robertdrake@westat.com

- **Operations Director**
  
  Jarnee Riley, M.S.
  
  (240) 453-2724
  
  jarneeriley@westat.com