

# **2011 State of the Art Conference on Postsecondary Education and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities**

**Educational and Fiscal Support  
Needs of Inner-City Students with  
Intellectual and Developmental  
Disabilities Seeking Post-  
Secondary Education and  
Employment Opportunities**

**MJ Karimi**

President's Committee

**Observations  
of a series of  
interviews with  
students with  
Intellectual  
and  
Developmental  
Disabilities in  
Washington,  
DC**

# Disclaimer

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and do not reflect the position of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.



**Most people see  
what is and never  
see what can be.**

Albert Einstein

# Range of Challenges for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Families



**Students:** Lack of preparation, low expectations, and limited resources and opportunities

**Families:** No expectation of college as student is growing up, affordability, lack of choice and



**The only disability in life  
is a bad attitude.**

**Scott**



# Factors to Motivate the Students with Intellectual and Physical Disabilities to Pursue College (the interviews)



- Social connections
- Connecting to adult career support systems
- Paid employment in an integrated community setting with appropriate support

# The Importance of Employment to Individuals with

Developmental Disabilities  
(To students with the interviews)  
intellectual and  
developmental disabilities  
work experience during  
high school would:

Increase their chance  
for  
competitive





You can observe a lot just  
by watching.



## Presenter's Observations (based on a series of interviews with students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Washington, DC)



- Living in unsuitable accommodation (socio-economic status, family size, and parental involvement and support )
- Less likely to see members of their family and friends
- Having less privacy at home

## Needs for Three Immediate Resources (based on the interviews)



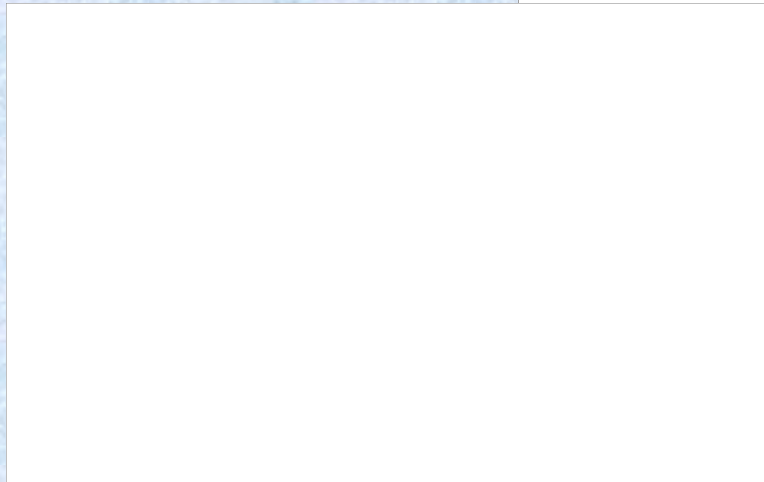
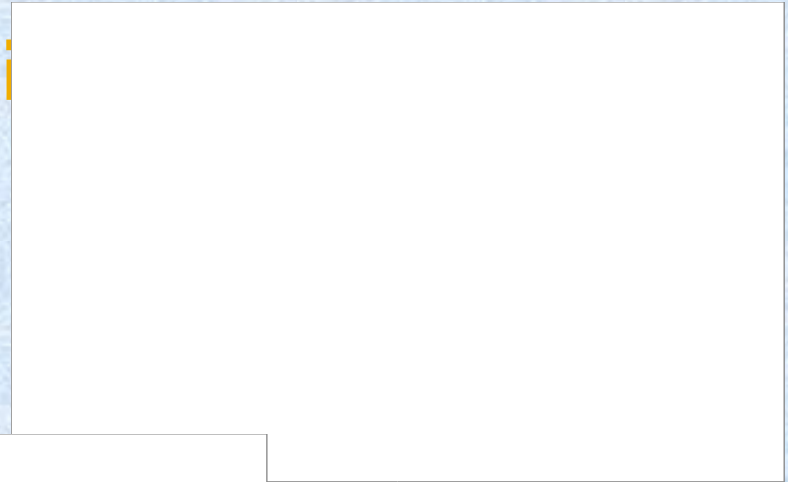
- Access to career centers
- Access to highly trained teachers
- Access to job coaches and mentors who would frequently follow-up on the progress of the student trainees

# Student Trainees Ranking of Project SEARCH

## Program Success

(based on the i

DoED  
DHHS



DOL

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