

# WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?



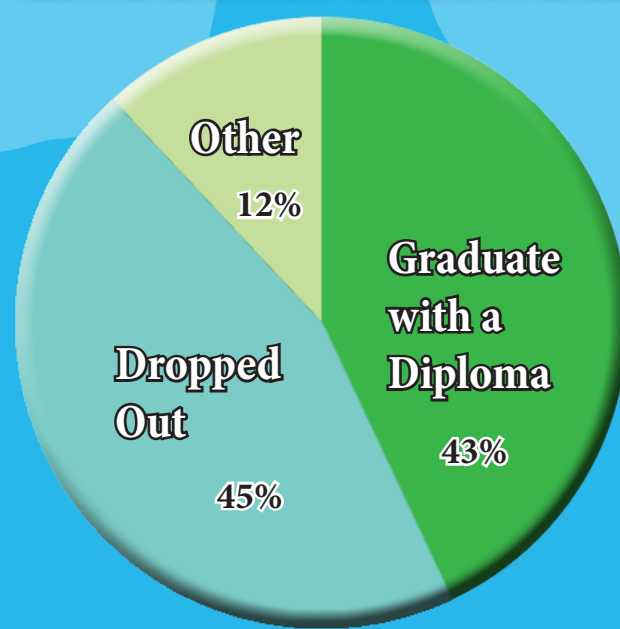
## Transition age youth & young adults with serious mental health conditions face obstacles in learning & working

### The scope is large<sup>1</sup>

6-12% of young adults in this country struggle with a serious mental health condition. (estimated 2.4-5 million)

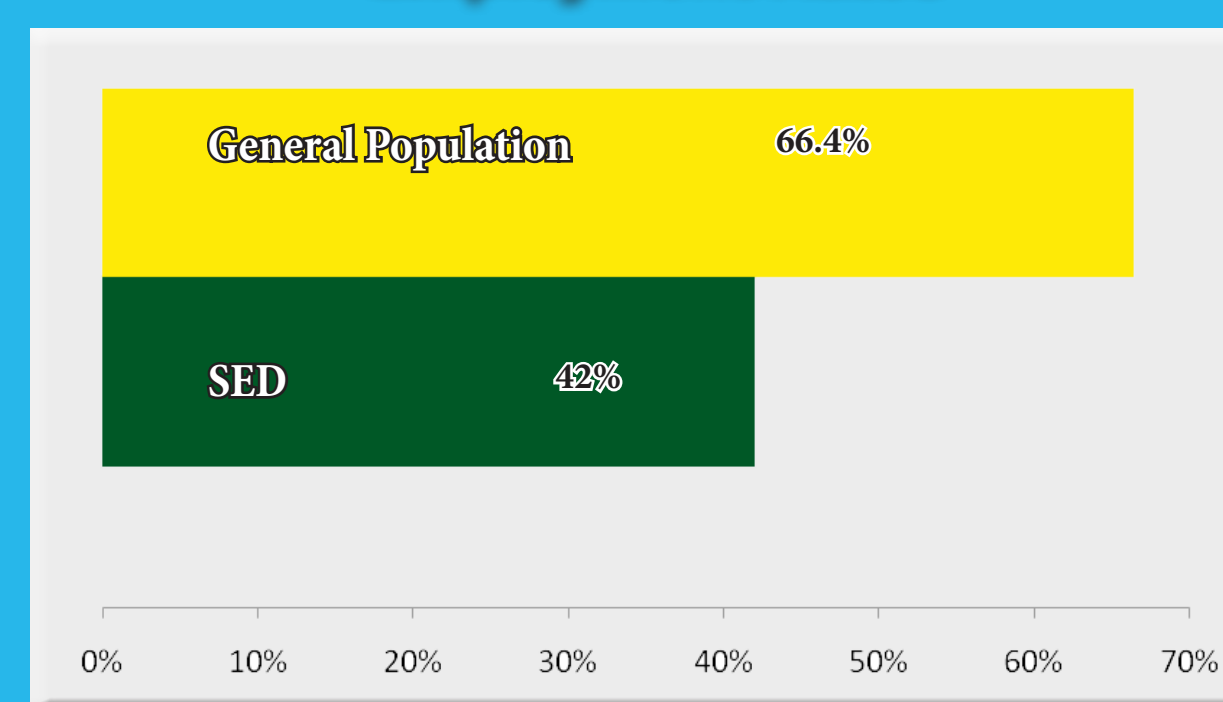
### High school completion is significantly compromised<sup>2</sup>

High School Outcomes for Students with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)



### Employment rates are often impacted<sup>3</sup>

Employment Rates



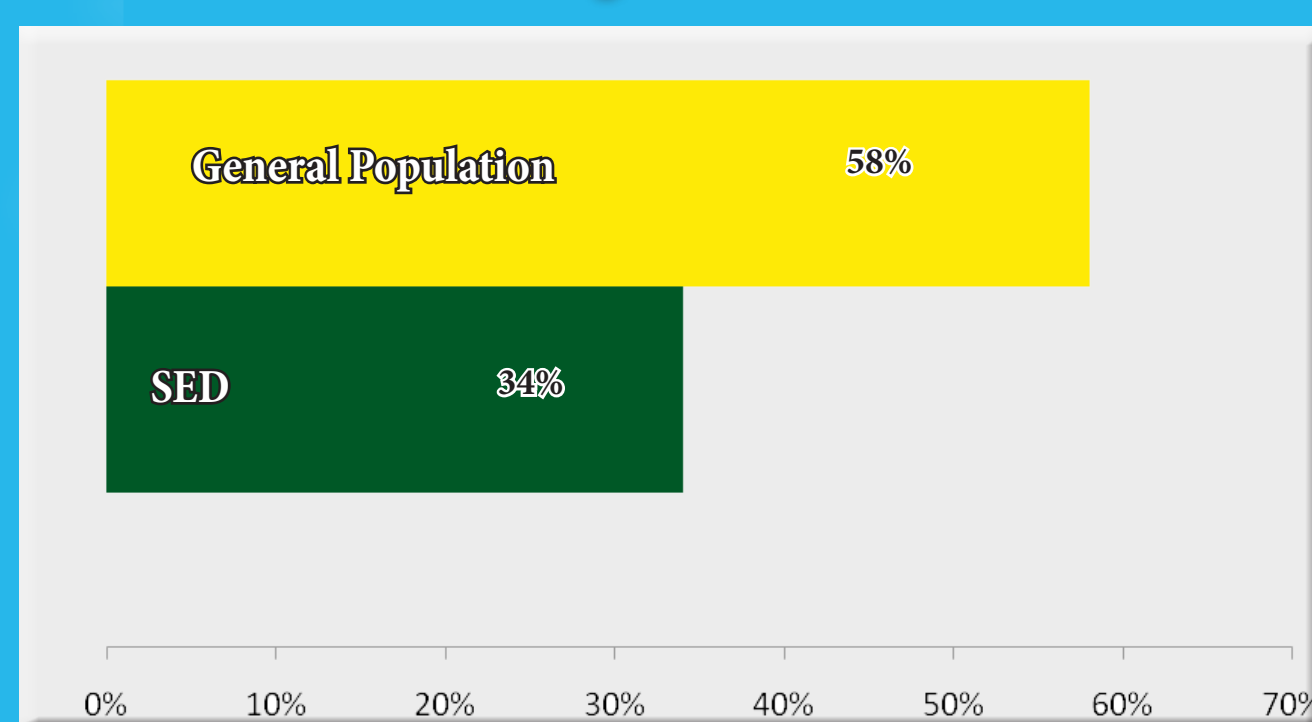
### Average duration of employment is much lower<sup>3</sup>

Duration on the Job



### Many don't go on to postsecondary schools<sup>3,4</sup>

Postsecondary School Enrollment



Effective developmentally appropriate and appealing services are rare

## WHAT IS THE TRANSITIONS RTC?

### Our Goals:

- Support transition age youth & young adults as students, learners & workers
- Examine ways interventions can better address the unique needs of transition age youth & young adults
- Partner with transition age youth & young adults to conduct research & share our findings
- Improve outcomes by effectively disseminating knowledge to key stakeholders

#### References

1. Davis, M. and A. Vander Stoep, The transition to adulthood among children and adolescents who have serious emotional disturbance Part I: Developmental transitions. Journal of Mental Health Administration, 1997, 24 (4): p. 400-427; 2. Planty, M., Hussar, W., Snyder, T., Provasnik, S., Kena, G., Dinkes, R., et al. (2008). The condition of education 2008 (NCES 2008-031). Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. Retrieved June 19, 2009, from <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2008/2008031.pdf>; 3. Newman, L., Wagner, M., Cameto, R., and Knokey, A.-M. (2009). The Post-High Outcomes of Youth With Disabilities up to 4 Years After High School. A Report From the National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) (NCSE 2009-3017). Menlo Park, CA: SRI International; 4. Newman, L., Wagner, M., Cameto, R., Knokey, A.-M., and Shaver, D. (2010). Comparisons Across Time of the Outcomes of Youth With Disabilities up to 4 Years After High School A Report of Findings From the National Longitudinal Transition Study (NLTS) and the National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) (NCSE 2010-3008). Menlo Park, CA: SRI International.

# WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?



Transitions RTC studies concern youth and young adults (ages 14 - 30)

## **Employment**

- **Supported employment & peer mentors**
- **Work & educational supports after justice system involvement**
- **Life coaches as vocational supports**
- **Appealing features of job placement programs**
- **Culturally relevant employment supports for Latinos**
- **Employer perceptions**

## **Education**

- **Special education outcomes**
- **High school factors predicting learning & working success**
- **Training for special education teachers**
- **Supported education**

## **Program & Policy**

- **Clubhouses for young adults**
- **Child & adult mental health system gaps**
- **Federal policy supports**
- **Local service collaboration**

# WANT TO CONNECT?



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Visit us at: <http://labs.umassmed.edu/TransitionsRTC>

- Additional Information
- Technical Assistance
- Valuable Resources

Email us at: [TransitionsRTC@umassmed.edu](mailto:TransitionsRTC@umassmed.edu)

Additional connections for researchers:

[www.TransitionResearch.wikispaces.com](http://www.TransitionResearch.wikispaces.com)

For transition age youth and young adults:

[www.voices4hope.wikispaces.com](http://www.voices4hope.wikispaces.com)



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