

LIVE UNITED™

What We Know About People's Experiences With Disabilities...and what research tells us about people in our community:

A just society supports and celebrates the rich array of human differences by accommodating the myriad ways in which all people function.

94,432—about 1 out of 7—Monroe County residents have at least one disability.

Reliance on families and non-paid supports is becoming more important as the cost of care rises and economic resources are diminished.

Nationally, 1 out of 5 adult Americans (more than 44 million) provide unpaid care to adult friends and relatives.

Nationally, more than 3 out of 4 adults with developmental disabilities live with their families.

The average New York Medicaid expenditure for an adult with disabilities receiving services in a nursing home was \$32,134, substantially higher than the \$19,551 average cost for those receiving home/community-based services.

Mental health problems can have a major impact on an individual's quality of life and functioning. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention uses the "Frequent Mental Distress" (FMD) measure to estimate the prevalence of mental health issues in a community.

8% of Monroe County adults reported that they had FMD; Rochester residents (11%) were almost twice as likely to report FMD compared to suburban residents (6%).

There are disparities in employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

The employment rate of Monroe County residents with disabilities is 32%, less than half the 74% employment rate of non-disabled residents; the median earnings of Monroe County working residents with disabilities were \$15,637, about half that of the \$29,686 earned by non-disabled working residents.

Poverty rates for people with disabilities are higher than for non-disabled people.

In Monroe County, 26% of residents with disabilities had not earned a high school diploma or its equivalent, compared to 8.5% of non-disabled residents.

A source of anxiety for aging caregivers is the security of their relative with disabilities when they are no longer able to provide care.

A national survey of mothers 50 years and older who lived with and provided care to adult children with long-term mental illnesses found that 11% had definite plans for their children's future residencies, while 52% had done little or no planning.