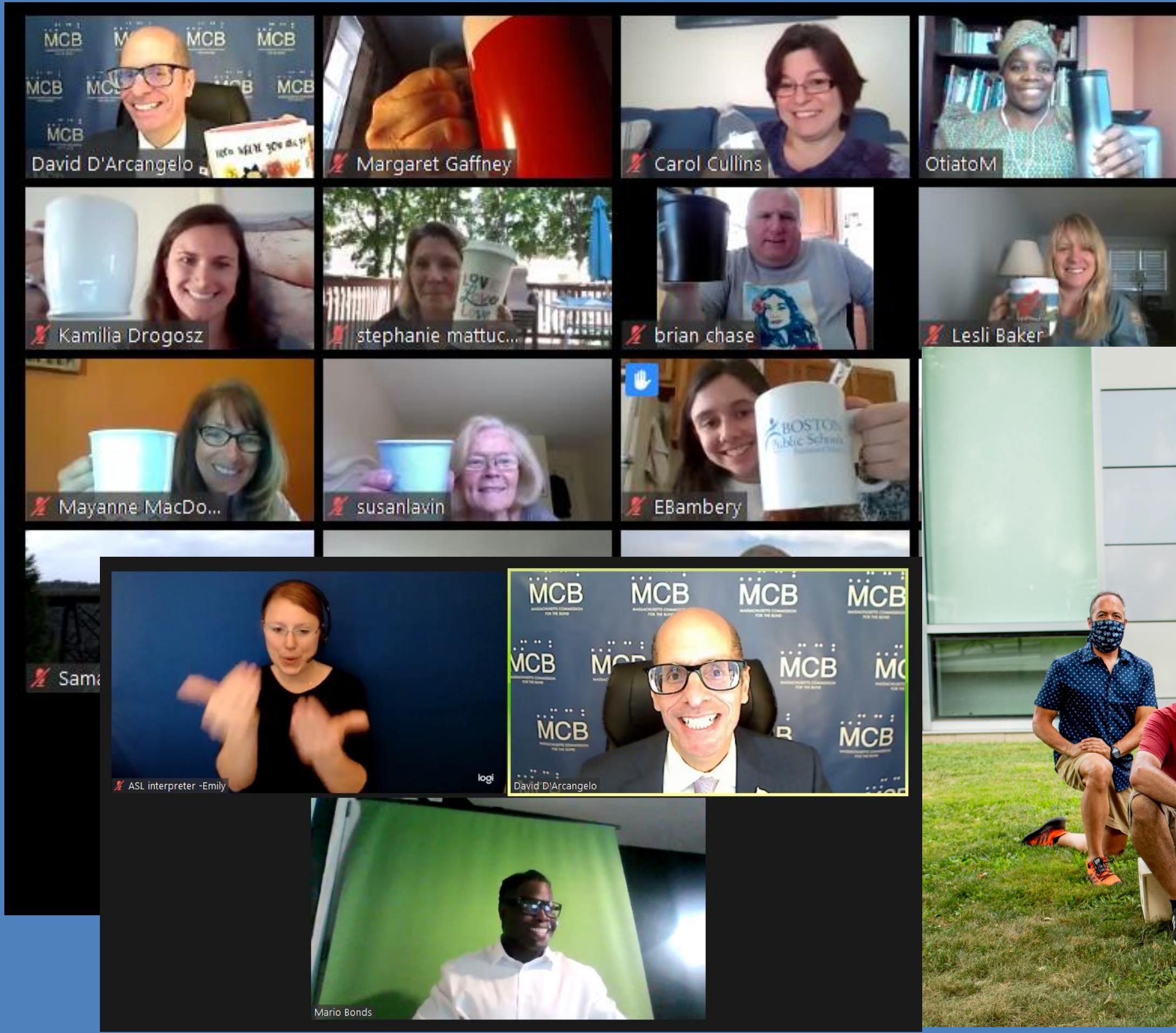


“The Path to
Prosperity
is Paved by
Perseverance”

⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠
MCB
MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION
FOR THE BLIND





Today's Feature Presentation

- Overview of Strategy and Process
 - 24 Project Snapshots
- Questions & Partner Discussion



David D'Arcangelo

MCB Commissioner

Foundation

Evaluated our core policies, programs, and services to ensure our day-to-day operations are aligned with industry standards

Future

Studied new and emerging trends to benefit our community to understand current assets and prospective gaps

Accelerate Innovation

Challenged our partners to present studies, plans, and analysis with new ideas and information to take steps forward

\$2.5 Million 24 Projects Lasting Impact

MCB made the most of its allotment:
24 innovative projects led by national
and worldwide experts

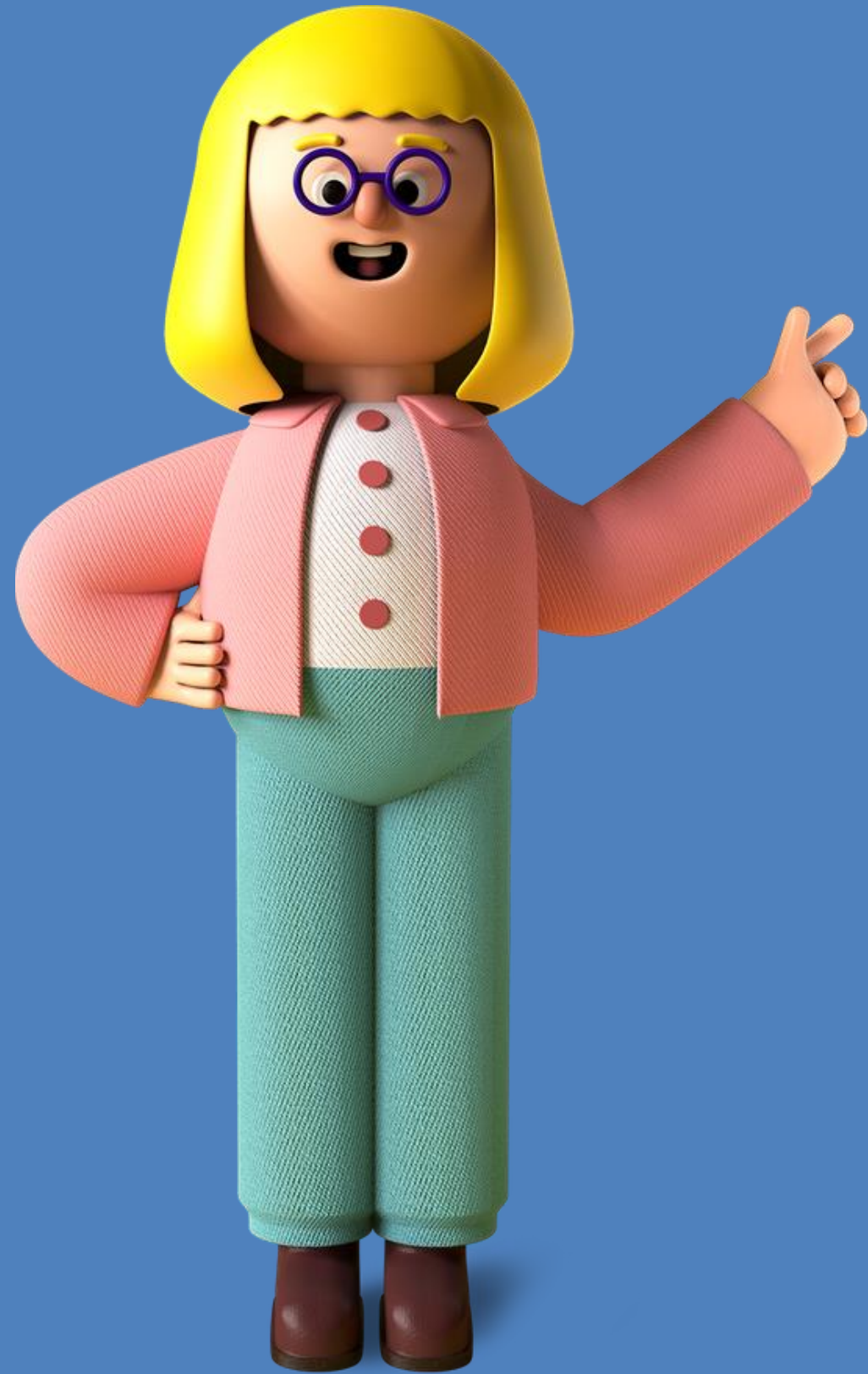
Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment

LEARN MORE ABOUT MCB





VR Closure Findings



VR Needs Assessment

Pre-ETS Assessment



Opportunities

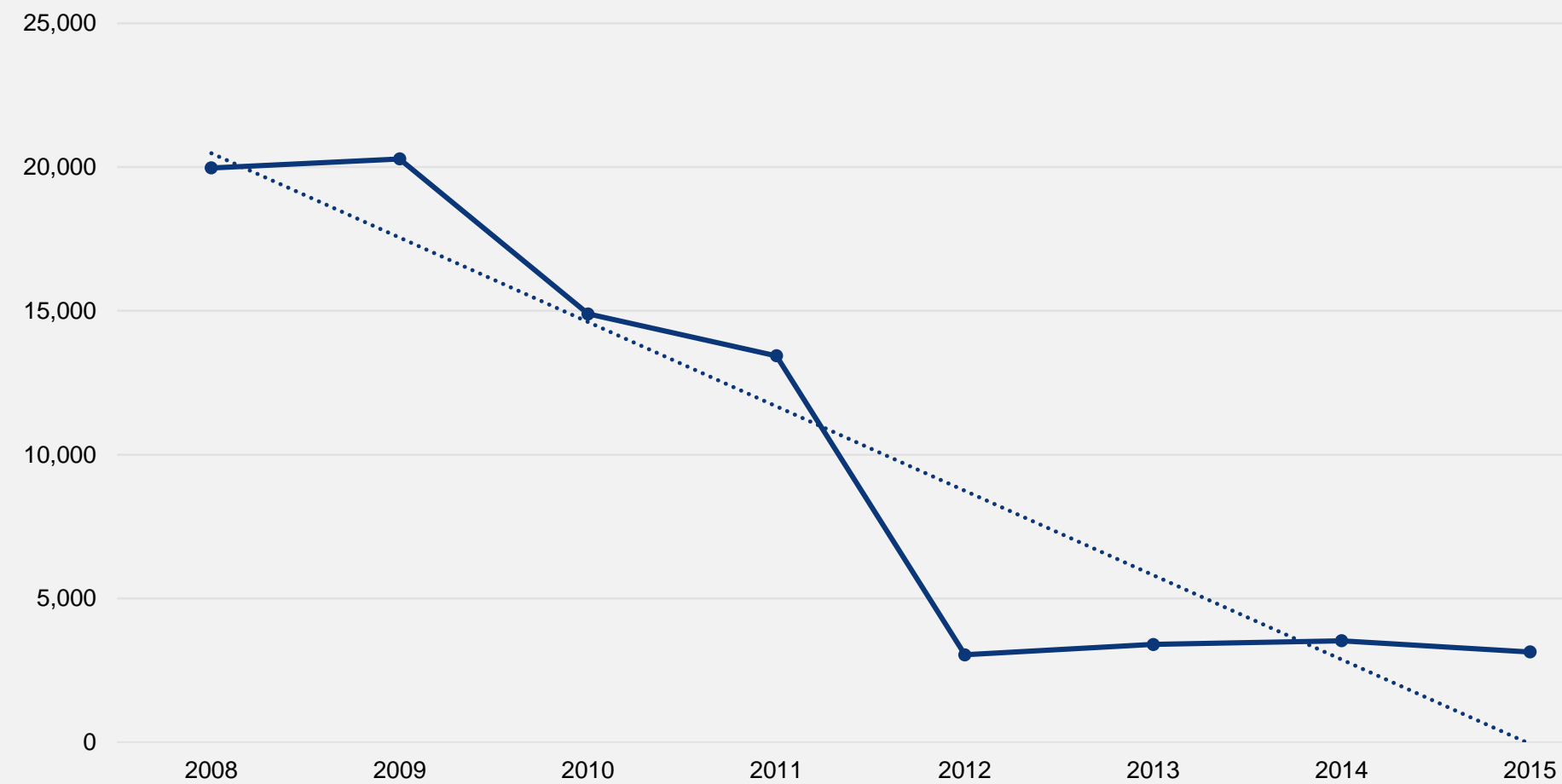
Explore mechanisms for
virtual Pre-ETS
Explore ways to increase
service provision using
current resources
Explore local and
regional mobility
management resources
to address transportation
barriers

Challenges

Employer attitudes
Poor job market or a lack
of opportunities
Limited relevant job
experience
Lack of opportunities to
explore careers

Study of Tax Tables and Publications

Nationwide Total Number of Work Opportunity Tax Credits Claimed on Corporation Income Tax Returns





Feasibility Apprenticeship Study

MCB should integrate use of RAPs as part of Massachusetts' "State as a Model Employer". RAPs are Registered Apprenticeship Program.

Feasibility eCommerce Opportunity Study





MCB Tax Guide for Employers and Consumers

An Understanding of the Most Prevalent Essential Job Duties in Successful VR Closures



Feasibility Study to Evaluate the Establishment of a For-Profit Business Employing Individuals who are Blind



Information-Gathering

Review of business structures and governing Massachusetts legislation for each structure



Processing

Identify business structures that align with MCB goals to formulate recommendations for each



Recommendations

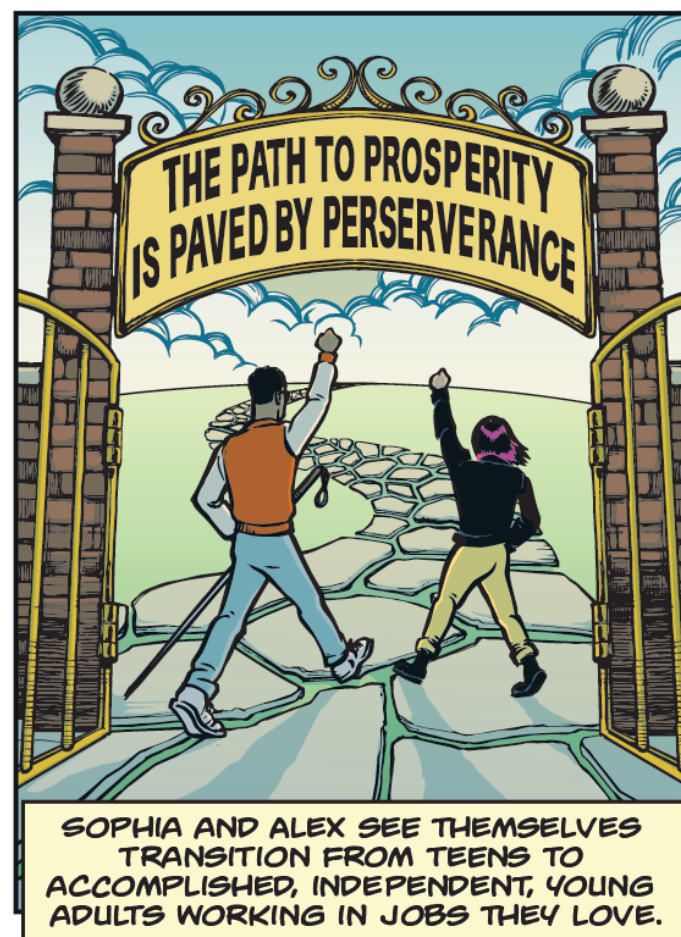
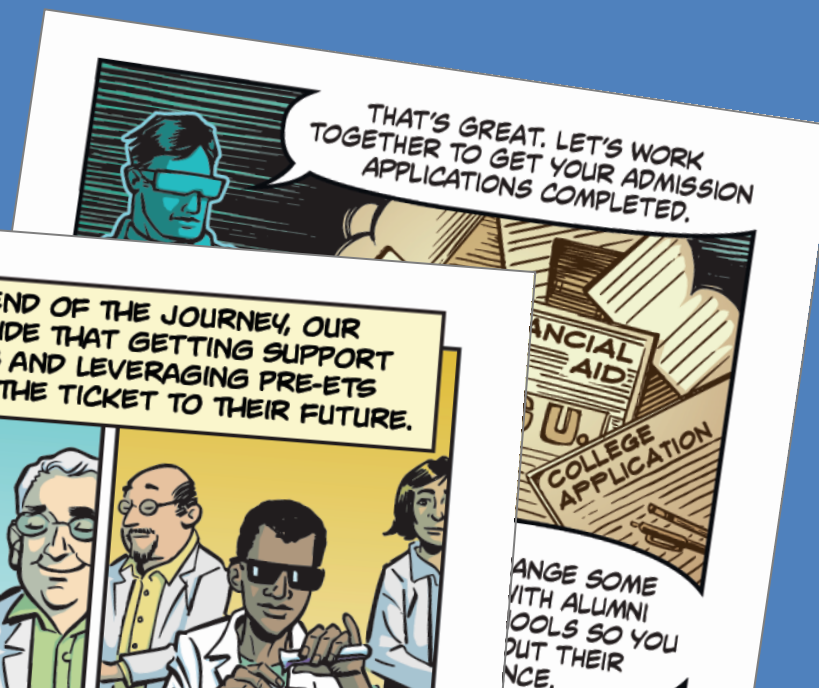
Presentation of all for-profit business scenarios for each business structure and MCB consideration

An aerial photograph of a green grassy field, likely a sports field, with a prominent white yard line running diagonally across the upper half of the frame. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

The Impact of Team Sports Participation on VR Outcomes

THE QUEST FOR INDEPENDENCE

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND
PRE-ETS BEST PRACTICES GUIDE



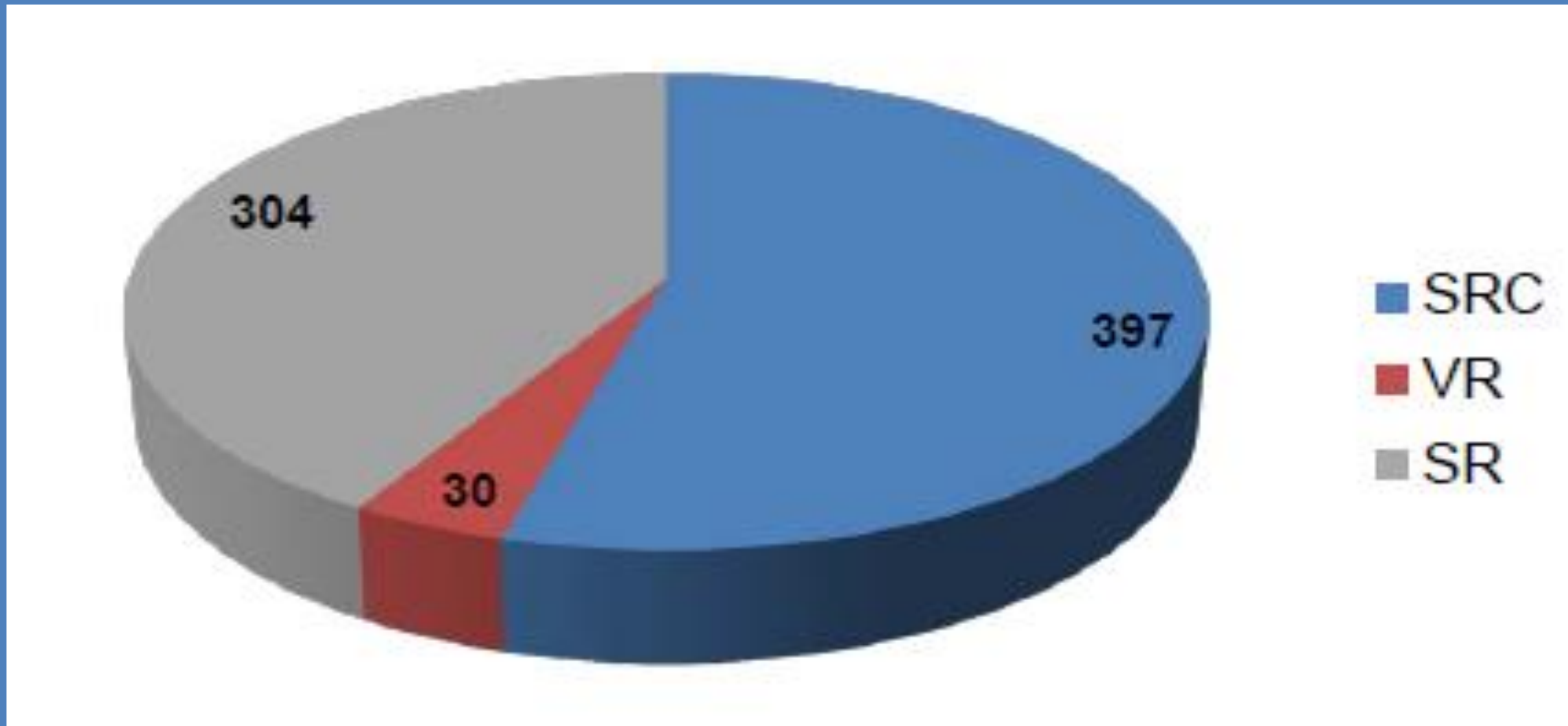
12: Pre-ETS Best Practice Guide for Consumers, Providers, and State VR Agencies

[The Quest for Independence](#)

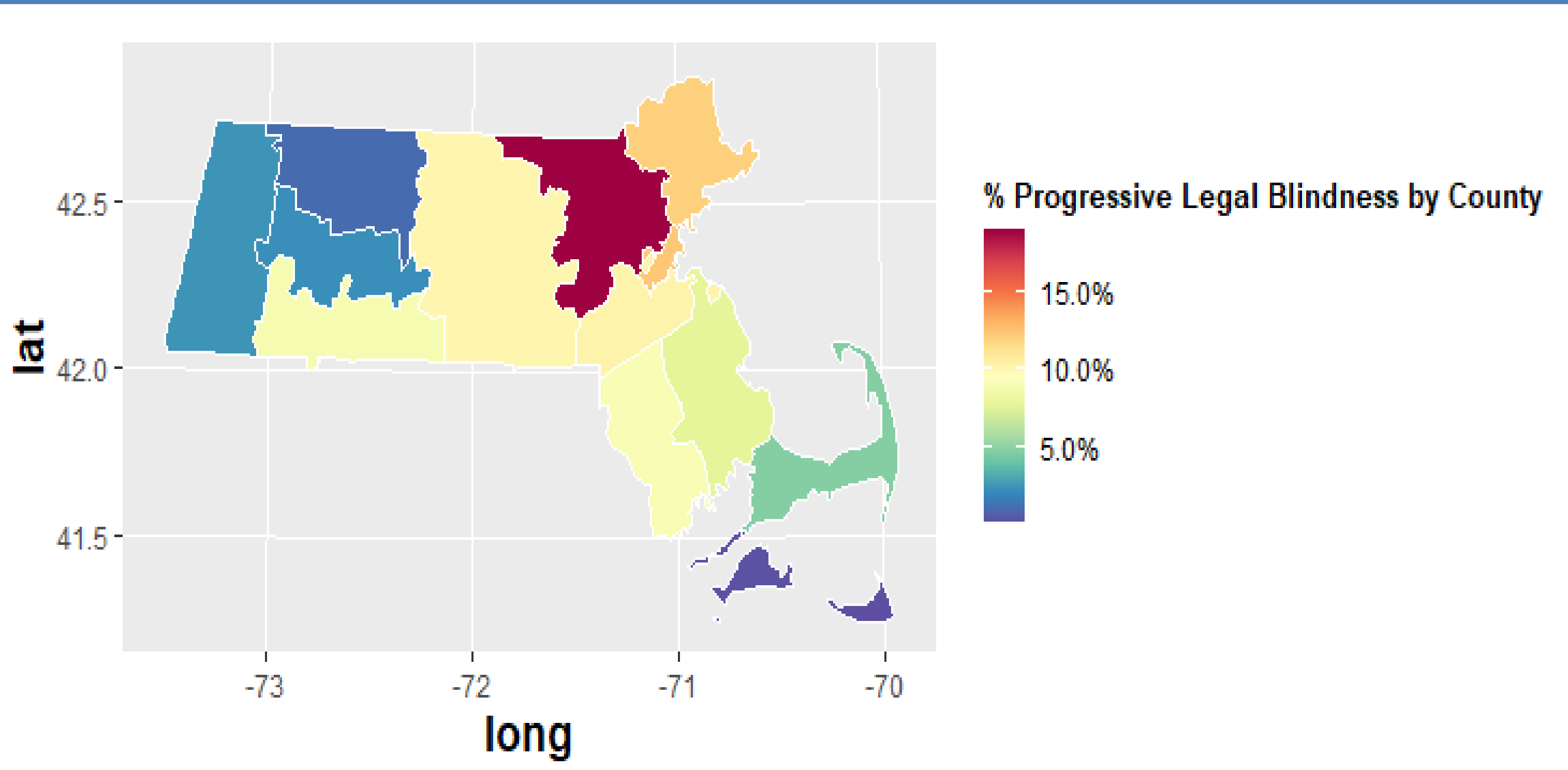


**The Impact the
Inclusive
Design
Principles of
Workplaces
has on VR
Outcomes**

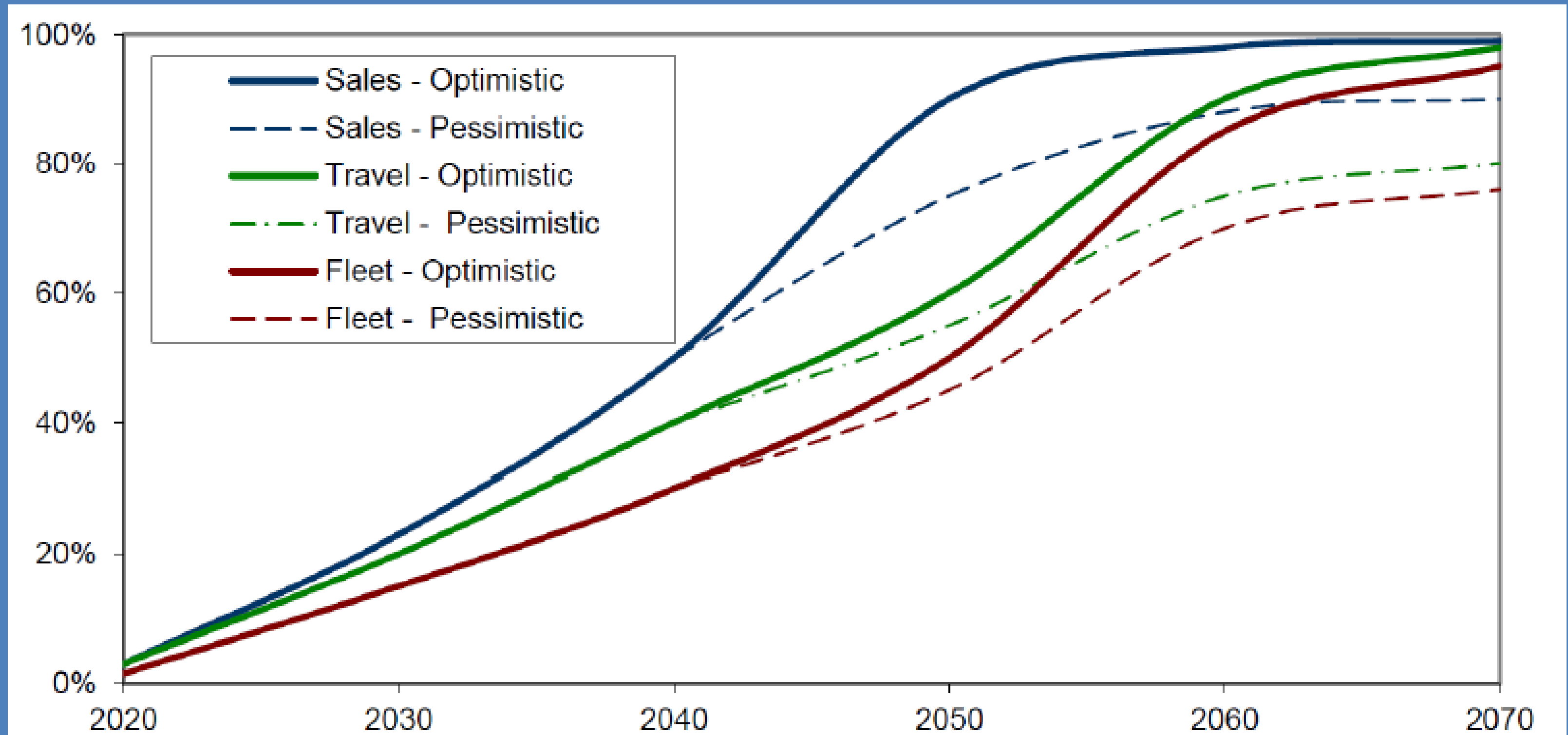
The Implications of Increased Incidence that Cortical Vision Impairments Could Have on VR Outcomes



Understanding the Delta Between Low Vision and Legal Blindness



The Projected Impact that Autonomous Vehicles Could Have on VR Outcomes



News

Putting a Focus on Inclusive Mobility for All


Submitted by Jacobs on 6th Nov 2020.

How we're putting a focus on inclusive mobility with the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind





Production of the MCB Career Views Podcast Series




**Episode 4: Why Soft Skills Matter in the Workplace**


Suzanne Morse talks with MCB's Alan White and Thelma Williams about how MCB works with individuals who are blind and visually impaired to combine soft skills with career experiences in order to achieve workplace advancement. MC...

 Nov 16 - 23 min


**Episode 3: Autonomous Vehicles**


Nahara Caraballo chats with Cathy Burns of Jacobs Engineering about the state of development around autonomous vehicles and ways that this technology can help employees who are blind and visually impaired. MCB Commissioner...

 Oct 28 - 33 min


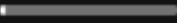
**Episode 2: Creating A Career Ladder**

Nahara Caraballo talks with MCB's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) caseworkers about how they work with individuals who are blind and visually impaired to develop a VR plan to advance their careers. MCB Commissioner David...

 Oct 19 - 28 min

**Episode 1: Welcome To Career Views**

In the first episode of MCB Career Views, a podcast of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB), Commissioner David D'Arcangelo gives an overview of MCB's Vocational Rehabilitation services and highlights how h...

 Oct 14 - 25 mins left 

Study of the Incidence of Addiction/Recovery and the Impact that Alcohol, Opioids and Other Drugs Have on VR Outcomes

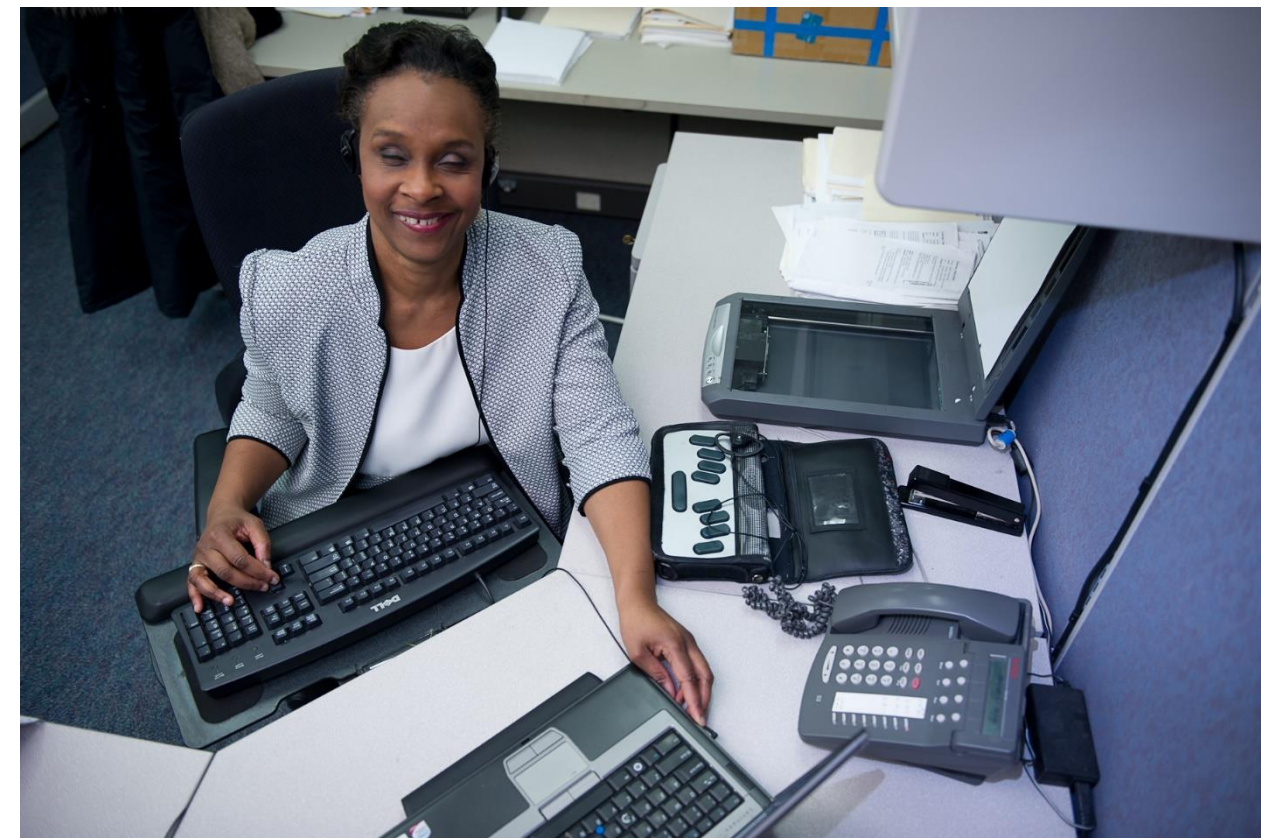


Using Disability as a Qualification for Employment Opportunities



Measuring the Impact that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has had on Vocational Rehabilitation Outcomes: A 30 Year Review

Employer Challenge



MCB
MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION
FOR THE BLIND

**EMPLOYER
CHALLENGE**

college students seeking internships | Interview Adult
ence transitioning back into the workforce | Attend care
employment serv... job seeker(s) or l
support Curr... Vision Loss | V
Orientation... at the work
ers, note... reasonable ac
I the Cap... individuals v
rvisors, an... g and provi
h people w... tion on serv
ampaign at my... a diversity
y share workplace related success stories | with
ision Loss | Ensure workplaces are accessible |

**Do
One More
Thing**

REDUCE STIGMA. INCREASE EMPLOYMENT.

MCB Soft Skills Online Training



Massachusetts Commission for the Blind: Soft Skills Online Training

Develop your soft skills in order to stay
competitive in the job market.

[GO TO COURSE](#)

Course Overview



Module 1: Soft Skills and the Job Search

Soft skills are a key part of what makes you hireable. Are you a team player? Good communicator? Hard worker? Critical thinker? Module 1 gives an introduction to the differences between hard and soft skills, as well as some initial tips to kick off your job search.

Module 2: The Need to Network



Module 2 focuses on the importance of networking, giving you insight into how to make valuable connections.

Module 3: Preparing for the Interview



Module 3 offers tips on preparing for a job interview, including thinking about whether you want to disclose your visual impairment.

What's Your Vision?



Questions & Discussion

Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.

Helen Keller

