

# The Social Return on Investment of a Supported Employment Occupational Therapist



An **SEOT** specializes at addressing how a person's mental health impacts their ability to work and in connecting people to various healthcare and employment supports. **Other professionals specialize in mental health or employment, but not in both.**

**Results** Our **estimated SROI ratios** for every **\$1** invested in the SEOT in the different settings:

with SJHH,  
close to



with PATH,  
about



with 360[4]Youth,  
a little over



of **social value** is created.

One SEOT Produced Over **\$1 Million** in Social Value Across Three Settings

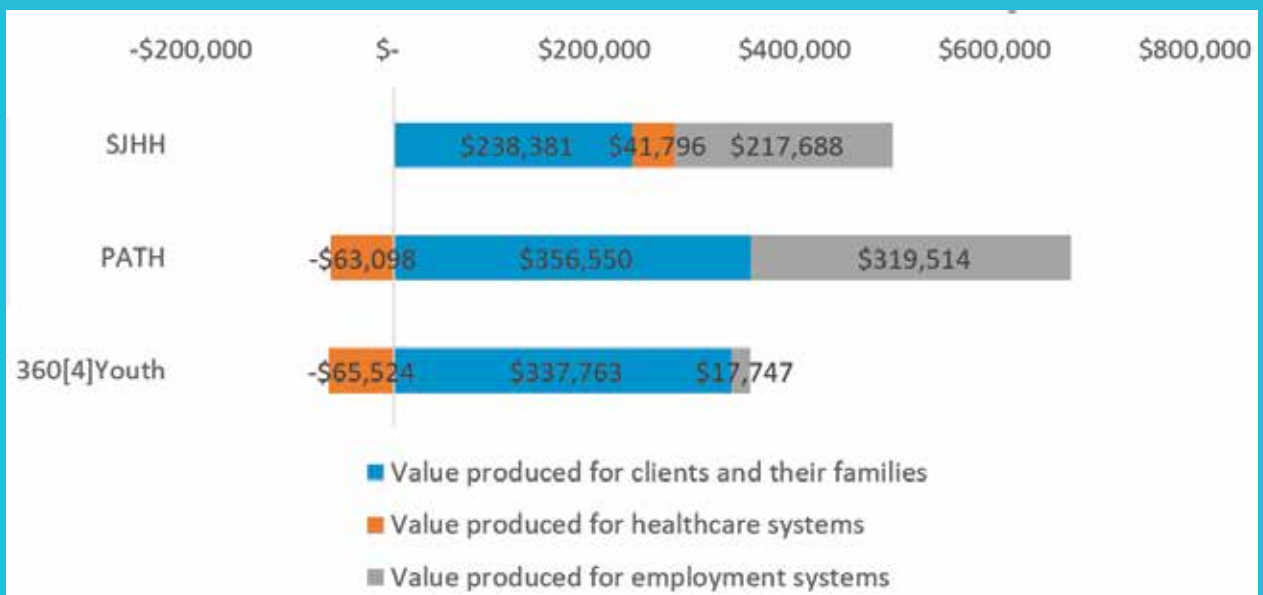


Figure: Social Value Created by the Addition of the SEOT Role at SJHH, Path, and 360[4]Youth

# Impacts

We measured the degree to which the SEOT role creates the following impacts, and then used various financial proxies to estimate the social value of those impacts.

Impacts Experienced by Clients & Their Families	Impacts on Employment Systems	Impacts on Healthcare Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in employment</li> <li>• Decrease in parental financial support</li> <li>• Increase in income</li> <li>• Increased amount of social support</li> <li>• Increased self-efficacy</li> <li>• Increase in mental wellbeing</li> <li>• Increase in physical and mental health</li> <li>• Increase in life satisfaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease in unemployment payments</li> <li>• Increase in income tax</li> <li>• Increase use of employment services and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in mental health outpatient visits</li> <li>• Decrease in mental health outpatient visits</li> <li>• Decrease in mental health ED visits</li> <li>• Decrease in mental health inpatient stays</li> <li>• Increase use of primary healthcare</li> </ul>

Table: SEOT Impact Valued for SROI Analysis



*“She helped me overcome my anxiety about job hunting to apply for and secure a great new job with a former employer” (SEOT Client)*

*[the SEOT’s support improved] “my awareness of my mental and physical health from work related experiences. How to balance employment and personal life. How to use coping methods to better perform at work and the awareness of my physical and mental state in relation to daily work experiences” (SEOT Client)*



*“I am in safe, secure, and affordable housing, and I have a good employer and job for the first time in years.” (SEOT Client)*

## Conclusions and Recommendations

- OT’s abilities can **fill gaps in both health and employment services**.
- The SEOT role can bring considerable **value within just a few visits**.
- Based on SEOT’s SROI ratios, we would describe the SEOT as having **medium to high impact**, which qualifies the role as a **Promising Practice**.
- The model should be further **scaled within and beyond Hamilton**.
- Enhanced impact evaluation methods are recommended in order to establish the SEOT as a “Best Practice.”



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