

# MICHAEL T. CASSIDY

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## EDUCATION

**Rutgers University**, Ph.D., Economics (Fifth Year; Expected Graduation 2020)  
**Princeton University**, M.P.A., Economics and Public Policy, *with distinction* (2014)  
**University of Pennsylvania**, B.A., Communication and Political Science, *summa cum laude* (2007)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **The Century Foundation**

Fellow (2015-Present)  
Policy Associate (2014-2015)  
Intern (2013-2014)

### **New York City Office of Management & Budget**

Unit Head, Administration of Justice Task Force (2012)  
Analyst, Social Services Task Force (2007-2011)

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH FIELDS

### **Primary Fields**

Applied Microeconomics  
Labor Economics  
Econometrics

### **Secondary Fields**

Education, Health, and Welfare Economics  
Public Economics  
Urban Economics

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

### **National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship (2019)**

\$27,500 grant for dissertation research related to education

### **Peter Asch Memorial Scholarship, Rutgers Economics (2019)**

Prize for distinguished performance in applied microeconomics

### **Sidney I. Simon Research Award, Rutgers Economics (2018)**

Prize for best second year research paper

### **Teaching Assistantship, Rutgers Economics (2016-Present)**

Competitive departmental funding for teaching and research

### **Presidential Fellowship, Rutgers University (2015-Present)**

Annual university-wide grant for exceptional doctoral students

**Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers Economics (2015)**

Competitive departmental grant for first-year graduate study

**George H. Frazier Award, University of Pennsylvania (2007)**

Award to graduating student-athlete with the highest grade point average

**Kathleen Hall Jamieson Award, University of Pennsylvania (2007)**

Award to graduating Annenberg School for Communication student with the highest GPA

**Phi Beta Kappa, University of Pennsylvania (2007)**

Liberal arts and sciences honor society

**RESEARCH PAPERS**

**“Family Homelessness and Educational Outcomes in New York City” *Job Market Paper* (2019)**

I construct an original administrative dataset and capitalize on a scarcity-induced natural experiment to identify the effects of a neighborhood-based family shelter placement policy for homeless students in New York City. I find that homelessness does not cause educational impairment as much as reflect large preexisting deficits; local shelter placements help. Homeless primary school students placed in shelters near their schools have 8 percent (2.4 days) better attendance, are a third (18 percentage points) less likely to change schools, and exhibit higher rates of proficiency and retention. Homeless high schoolers have 5 percent (2.5 days) better attendance, 29 percent (10 pp) lower mobility, and 8 percent (1.6 pp) greater retention when placed locally. A complementary instrumental variable strategy exploiting eligibility policy reveals a subset of proximity-elastic students benefit considerably more; the pace of shelter entry heterogeneously affects the quality of families' school-shelter matches.

**“A Home Away From (or Nearby) Home: Homeless Family Responses to Exogenous Benefit Variation in New York City” (2019)**

Despite the fundamental importance of housing in human endeavors, family homelessness remains remarkably ignored by economists. Using an original administrative dataset in the context of a scarcity induced-natural experiment in New York City, I investigate how exogenous variation in government benefits affects decision making by homeless families. Proceeding from the potential outcomes framework, I find that families placed in their neighborhoods of origin remain in shelter longer but have higher earnings and public benefit receipt while there. These results are robust to rich covariates, multidimensional fixed effects, and a variety of methods that account for censoring; at the same time, a novel instrumental variables technique suggests ability bias plays a leading role. A search effort model neatly organizes these observations in a coherent, illuminating framework. Bringing homeless families into the microeconomic mainstream yields behavioral insights that can be applied to the design of poverty alleviation programs more generally.

**RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS**

**“Childhood Running, Academic Performance, and Health” (2019)**

**“The Effects Breastfeeding on Childhood and Young Adult Outcomes” (2019)**

## **OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

### **Research Affiliations**

Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI), Office of the Mayor of the City of New York, Fellow (2017-Present)

The Century Foundation, Fellow (2015-Present)

### **Presentations**

Rutgers University, Department of Economics. Applied Microeconomics Seminar. April 13, 2017.

### **Conferences Attended**

NBER Summer Institute. Labor Studies. Cambridge, MA. (2019)

Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA), Philadelphia, PA. (2017)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Instructor**

Econometrics, Rutgers University, Summer 2017, Summer 2018

### **Teaching Assistant**

Financial and Monetary History of the United States, Rutgers, Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

European Economic History, Rutgers University, Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Personal Economics and Public Policy, Spring 2019

Economics of Taxation, Rutgers University, Spring 2018

Environmental Economics, Rutgers University, Spring 2018

Introduction to Macroeconomics, Rutgers University, Spring 2017

Public Policy Towards Business, Rutgers University, Spring 2017

Law and Economics Rutgers University, Spring 2017

## PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING

Data analysis for “Scoring States on Charter School Integration,” Report authored by Halley Potter and Miriam Nunberg, The Century Foundation, 2019.

“Subsidizing the Future: Landing Road Lessons Learned,” Report on the Homestretch Model of Homeless Shelter Development, Prepared for the Bowery Residents’ Committee (BRC), 2018.

## SELECTED NON-ACADEMIC WRITING

“Wild Ride Through The Labor Market: Earnings Variability, Well-Being, & Assets Among Primary Earners in the United States, 2008-2013,” The Century Foundation (2016). Unpublished.

“A New Safety Net for An Era of Unstable Earnings,” (with Andrew Stettner and George Wentworth), The Century Foundation (2016).

“The Job Market Took a Vacation—So Why Can’t More Americans Do the Same?,” The Century Foundation (2016).

“Should You Buy Buying Happiness?,” The Century Foundation (2016).

“Fix for \$15,” The Century Foundation (2015).

“Where Are the Jobs?,” *Working Paper Series*, The Century Foundation (2015).

“Who Are the Unemployed?,” *Working Paper Series*, The Century Foundation (2014).

“Uncovering the Labor Market Recovery,” *Working Paper Series*, The Century Foundation (2014).

“Don’t Forget the Kinda Unemployed,” *U.S. News* (2014).

“Unemployment Rate Hides Who the Jobless Really Are,” *U.S. News* (2014).

“The Jobs Report in Black and White: The Hidden Bias in Hiring,” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Unemployment at 5.8%? Here’s the Number that Really Matters,” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Yeah, Why Are Those Bums Getting Paid So Much?,” *U.S. News* (2014).

“Time to Worry About Long-Term Unemployment,” *Real Clear Policy* (2014).

“Giancarlo Stanton’s \$325 Million Deal Isn’t as Rich as it Seems” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Madison Bumgarner: Exhibit A in Baseball’s Screwball Salary System,” *The Fiscal Times* (2014).

“Inverting the Competition,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Jesus Was a Keynesian,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Vox’s Poor Measure of Food Affordability,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“What the Spurs Can Teach Us About Inequality,” *Real Clear Policy* (2014).

“How the World Cup Helps Us Make Better Anti-Poverty Policy,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Going the Extra 30 Percent,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“The Death Swoosh,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Hawking Yellen,” *Blog of the Century* (2014).

“Laying the Groundwork for a Post-Partnership Health Insurance Marketplace in Illinois,” (with co-authors), Woodrow Wilson School Graduate Consulting Project (2013).

“Welfare Welcome Mats: The Evidence on Welfare Magnets in the Post-Reform Era,” The Century Foundation (2013). Unpublished.

“The Intergenerational Asset Grab,” The Century Foundation (2013).

“Red State/Black State: Taking Fiscal Strength above the Bottom Line,” The Century Foundation (2013).

“The Time of My Life: Staten Island Native Mike Cassidy Shares His Experience Finishing The NYC Marathon Hand-In Hand With His Hero Meb Keflezighi,” *LetsRun.com* (2013).

“On Immigration, the Catholic Church Gets It Right,” *Real Clear Policy* (2013).

“After Boston: Run the Recovery,” *Running Times* (2013).

“America’s Submerged Welfare State,” *Real Clear Policy* (2013).

“Long Run Pain: A Staten Islander’s View on Why the Marathon Should Not Have Been Cancelled,” *LetsRun.com* (2012).

## **SEMI-PROFESSIONAL DISTANCE RUNNING**

2012 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials Participant  
Staten Island Marathon Record Holder (2:18:52)  
24th Place Overall & 11th American, 2016 New York City Marathon  
18th Place Overall & 3rd American, 2016 Houston Marathon  
22nd Place Overall & 4th American, 2013 New York City Marathon  
11th Place Overall, 2012 Philadelphia Marathon  
11th Place Overall, 2011 California International Marathon  
22nd Place Overall & 6th American, 2010 ING New York City Marathon  
Three-Time Staten Island Half-Marathon Champion (2011, 2012, 2013)  
Two-Time Fred Lebow Manhattan Half-Marathon Champion (2014, 2018)

## **PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE SKILLS**

Stata (advanced), Mata, R, Gauss, Java, LaTeX, Crystal Reports, Microsoft Office

## **REFERENCES**

### **Professor Jennifer Hunt**

Rutgers University  
jennifer.hunt@rutgers.edu

### **Professor Carolyn Moehling**

Rutgers University  
cmoebling@sas.rutgers.edu

### **Professor Roger Klein**

Rutgers University  
klein@economics.rutgers.edu

### **Professor Brendan O'Flaherty**

Columbia University  
bo2@columbia.edu