

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

**ROUNDTABLE ON THE PROMOTION OF HEALTH EQUITY AND THE
ELIMINATION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES**

November 5, 2015 • Chicago, Illinois

**The Private Sector as a Catalyst for
Health Equity and a Vibrant Economy**

Our country's economic vitality is dependent on ensuring that all Americans contribute and prosper. This vitality includes an intentional focus on achieving the highest level of health possible. This demands a focus on health equity that can only occur when conditions in communities, schools, workplaces and other environments are health promoting. Elements of health promoting opportunities include healthy housing, revitalized and healthy neighborhoods, access to healthy and affordable foods, safe places to play and promote physical activity, good transportation, safe water systems, strong social networks, and good jobs, with living wages and benefits. These opportunity rich environments serve as a buffer from the onslaught of toxic conditions that many people face on a daily basis. An equity-focused agenda must be at the center of all these efforts, making sure that those who are often left out, will have voice in decisions that impact them and that they are offered a range of opportunities that will help them become healthier.

Many business sectors (private and public) have been partnering with others to change these conditions. Many are taking the lead in producing economic growth that is inclusive and responsive to the nation's diverse needs and populations. Increasingly, private-public partnerships are emerging as new ways of doing business. This workshop will explore new business models that offer a triple bottom line: 1) improved employee health 2) healthy community/work environments; and 3) economic opportunity (workforce development) and growth.

Audiences for this workshop include: businesses and corporations, governmental agencies, sectors outside of health (housing, education, planning and transportation), philanthropy, policy makers, and new emerging leaders in health.

8:30 – 8:45

Welcome and Overview

Mildred Thompson, M.S.W.
Senior Director, PolicyLink

Melissa Simon, M.D., M.P.H.
George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical Gynecology
Vice Chair of Clinical Research, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University

Jabbar R. Bennett, Ph.D.
Associate Provost, Diversity and Inclusion
Associate Professor of Medicine
Northwestern University

Clyde Yancy, M.D., M.Sc.
Vice Dean for Diversity & Inclusion
Magerstadt Professor of Medicine
Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University

8:45 – 9:45

Keynote Speaker

Moderator

Mildred Thompson, M.S.W.

William Spriggs, Ph.D.
Department of Economics, Howard University, and
Chief Economist, AFL-CIO

9:45-10:00

Break

10:00 – 11:30 Panel 1: Transforming Communities

Neighborhoods are being improved through enhancements such as having better access to healthy foods, safe parks, bicycle pathways, affordable, mixed income housing, better transportation and extensive community revitalization. These strategies require a multi-sector approach, visionary leadership, and long term investments. Often there are public-private partnerships and broad community engagement. We will learn what it will take to drive this change. What are catalysts for action and what results are beginning to emerge?

Moderator

Mildred Thompson, M.S.W.

Kelly N. Fischer, M.A.
Staff Analyst, Injury & Violence Prevention Program
Los Angeles County Department of Health

Latricia Tillman, M.P.H.
Director for Public Health
Multnomah County Health Department

Travis Watson
Communications Manager & Senior Organizer
Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative

11:30-1:00 LUNCH: World Café

This informal small group exercise is intended to showcase models in which businesses are embracing health equity values and practices, either intentionally or unintentional, but which lead to health promoting benefits. Participants will rotate through the various tables, ask questions, engage in conversations and learn about promising new ideas.

MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) – "Career 911: Your future job in Medicine and Healthcare"

Melissa Simon, M.D., M.P.H.
Shaneah Taylor, M.P.H.
Emmanuel Cordova
Northwestern University

Regine R. Rucker, Ph.D., M.P.A.,
Program Coordinator, Health Sciences and Personal Care
Services, Career and Technical Education, Early College
and Career Education, Office of College and Career
Success, *Chicago Public Schools*

Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC)

Sarah B. Welch, M.P.H.
Community Research & Evaluation Associate Director

Chinese American Service League

Esther Wong
Executive Director and Co-Founder

Lurie Children's Hospital-Chase Bank Partnership's Chase Your Dream program

Maria Rivera
Manager, Workforce Development
Ann & Robert Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

David S. Sperling
GEAR UP Program Manager
Center for College Access and Success
Northeastern Illinois University

Street Level Health Project, Oakland, CA

Jae Maldonado
Executive Director

National Business Group on Health

Joneyse Perkins Gatling, CHES
Assistant Manager, Award & Recognition Programs

1:00-2:30

Panel 2: Improving Individual Health

In this session, we will learn how businesses are making gains in improving employee health and contributing to health equity. An exciting trend is underway that is creating jobs and career pathways for some of our nation's highest risk populations: home health care workers, those with long term unemployment and those returning from prison. Highlights on promising opportunities to reverse this trend will be shared. In addition, a new business model seems to be emerging in which attention is placed on creating work environments that are health promoting, family supportive, and contributes to better bottom line for employers, employees and the economy. Beyond traditional employee benefits, many companies are instituting lucrative incentives, such as flexible working hours, on-site meals and recreational teams, child care, and other creative benefits.

Moderator:

Nicole Hewitt, Ph.D.

Social Science Research Analyst
Data and Policy Analytics Group
CMS Office of Minority Health

Brenda Palms Barber

Chief Executive Officer
Sweet Beginnings, LLC

Bechara Choucair, M.D., M.S.

Senior Vice President for Safety Net Transformation and Community Benefit
Trinity Health

Rebecca L. Spencer (videoconference)

Director of Benefits
Marriott International

2:30-2:45

Break

2:45-4:15

Panel 3: Workforce Development and Community Health

There is movement in workforce development programs that showcase public-private partnerships that also helps develop communities. Leveraging the resources of businesses and organizations to develop the workforce is an important approach to imparting social capital to surrounding communities. There are companies across multiple sectors that have workforce development programs for students and employees across the spectrum of career levels.

Moderator

Melissa Simon, M.D., M.P.H.

Lisa R. Hampton

Programming and Public Affairs Manager - Midwest
Leaders UP

Joanne G. Schwartzberg, M.D.

Scholar-in-Residence
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

Kyle Westbrook

Executive Director of Education Policy
Office of Mayor Rahm Emanuel

4:30pm- 5:00 Concluding Reflections

Stephanie Taylor, Ph.D.

Director, USA Cluster Lead – Vaccines
Center for Observational and Real World Evidence (CORE)
Merck & Co., Inc.

5:00 Workshop Adjourns