



THE COMMISSION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CONFERENCE

Exploring Strategies to Create Opportunity in New York City



Conference Program
June 21-22, 2006



WELCOME

Welcome to the Commission for Economic Opportunity Conference, a planning conference to advance the work of strategically reducing poverty in New York City.

Since Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg announced the appointment of 32 civic leaders to the New York City Commission for Economic Opportunity, the Commission has been working to develop a coordinated, citywide agenda for increasing economic opportunity and financial independence. The Commission is looking at the most effective way to harness already existing city services and couple them with new initiatives to give more New Yorkers the chance to rise out of poverty. These initiatives are focused around the themes of “Making Work Pay” and “Ensuring that New Yorkers are Prepared for Work.”

Over the course of the next two days, we will learn from everyone’s collective experience about proven strategies to reduce poverty and where opportunities still exist to make an impact.

Thank you for your time and commitment to these efforts.

The Commission for Economic Opportunity

AGENDA – DAY 1

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21

9:00 – 9:30

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Linda Edwards, The City University of New York
Graduate Center

Lawrence Mandell, United Way of New York City

Linda Gibbs, Office of the Mayor

9:30 – 10:45

MORNING PLENARY SESSION – HEARING OUR VOICES: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE COMMUNITY

10:45 – 12:45

WORKGROUP BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Making the Connection: Helping Disconnected Populations Enter the Job Market
- Promoting Strategies for Work and Asset Building: A Place-Based Approach
- Trends in Adolescent Health and Poverty: Successfully Targeting Solutions
- Creating Opportunities for Entrepreneurs: Access to Capital and Supporting Local Lending in Low-Income Communities
- Redefining the Social Safety Net: A Better System for Service Delivery
- The Opportunity Index: Realities and Challenges of Data and Evaluation
- Operating Successful Schools in Neighborhoods of Need: Proven and Promising Models and Practices

12:45 – 1:30

LUNCH

1:30 – 2:15

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: A CALL TO ACTION

Rev. Dr. Floyd H. Flake, The Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York

2:15 – 3:30

AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION – AN INSIDER’S VIEW: BUILDING A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

3:30 – 4:00

CLOSING REMARKS

Linda Gibbs, Office of the Mayor

AGENDA – DAY 2

THURSDAY JUNE 22

9:00 – 9:30

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Geoffrey Canada, Harlem Children’s Zone

9:30 – 10:00

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: ASSESSING THE CHALLENGE

Dr. Edwin Meléndez, New School University

10:00 – 10:15

GREETINGS

Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York

10:15 – 10:30

BREAK

10:30 – 12:00

MORNING PLENARY SESSION – SUCCESSFUL APPROACHES TO POVERTY REDUCTION: LEARNING FROM EXISTING MODELS

12:00 – 12:45

LUNCH

12:45 – 2:45

WORKGROUP BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Reducing the Skills Gap: A Sectoral Approach
- Incentive-Based Strategies for Developing Human Capital
- Increasing Access to Work Supports: A Springboard Out of Poverty
- Creating Pathways to Graduation, Employment and Higher Education for Disconnected Youth
- Using Data in Result-Based Policy Making
- Prison to Work: Confronting the Challenge

2:45 – 3:45

AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION – MOVING FORWARD WITH WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

3:45 – 4:00

CLOSING REMARKS

Linda Gibbs, Office of the Mayor

Lawrence Mandell, United Way of New York City

PLENARY SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS – DAY 1

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21

MORNING PLENARY SESSION

Hearing Our Voices: Perspectives from the Community

Moderator: Rev. Alfonso Wyatt, Fund for the City of New York

Luis Garden Acosta, El Puente

Robert Carmona, STRIVE

Andrew Friedman, Make the Road By Walking

Sandra Killeth, Community Voices Heard

George McDonald, The Doe Fund

Shawn Patterson, The Doe Fund

Irania Sanchez, Make the Road By Walking

Lavette Woodley, STRIVE

Sondra Youdelman, Community Voices Heard

MORNING WORKGROUP BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Making the Connection: Helping Disconnected Populations Enter the Job Market

Moderator: David Jones, Community Service Society

Charles Hamilton, The Clark Foundation

Dr. Harry Holzer, Georgetown University

Suzanne Lynn, NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

Promoting Strategies for Work and Asset Building: A Place-Based Approach

Moderator: Dr. James A. Krauskopf, Baruch College

Jeffrey Lubell, Center for Housing Policy

Anthony Rainey, FSS Program

James Riccio, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation

Jane Schulman, LaGuardia Community College

Patricia Zafiriadis, NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Trends in Adolescent Health and Poverty: Successfully Targeting Solutions

Moderator: Paloma Hernandez, Urban Health Plan

Dr. Michael Carrera, The Children's Aid Society

Andrea Kane, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Creating Opportunities for Entrepreneurs: Access to Capital and Supporting Local Lending in Low-Income Communities

Moderator: Dr. Julia Sass Rubin, Rutgers University

David Black, The Aspen Institute

Daniel Nissenbaum, HSBC Bank

Dr. Lisa Servon, New School University

Kerwin Tesdell, Community Development Venture Capital Alliance

Janet Thompson, ACCION

Redefining the Social Safety Net: A Better System for Service Delivery

Moderator: Dr. Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, Safe Space

Verna Eggleston, NYC Human Resources Administration

Dr. Ester Fuchs, Columbia University

Dale Joseph, One City/One Community Project

JoAnne Page, Fortune Society

Dr. William Weisberg, Children's Aid Society

The Opportunity Index: Realities and Challenges of Data and Evaluation

Moderator: Dr. Lawrence Aber, New York University

Dr. Maryanne Schretzman, NYC Department of Homeless Services

Dr. Walter Stafford, New York University

Dr. Beth Weitzman, New York University

Operating Successful Schools in Neighborhoods of Need: Proven and Promising Models and Practices

Moderator: Michele Cahill, NYC Department of Education

Mashea Ashton, NYC Department of Education

Robert Hughes, New Visions for Public Schools

John Sanchez, East Side House Settlement

AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

An Insider's View: Building a Comprehensive Approach

Moderator: Linda Gibbs, Office of the Mayor

Dr. Lawrence Aber, New York University

Dr. Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, Safe Space

Michele Cahill, NYC Department of Education

Paloma Hernandez, Urban Health Plan

David Jones, Community Service Society

Dr. James Krauskopf, Baruch College

Dr. Julia Sass Rubin, Rutgers University

PLENARY SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS – DAY 2

THURSDAY JUNE 22

MORNING PLENARY SESSION

Successful Approaches to Poverty Reduction: Lessons from Existing Models

Moderator: Eric Brettschneider, Agenda for Children Tomorrow

Gordon Berlin, President, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation

Gladys Carrión, United Way of New York City

James Riccio, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation

Michael Weinstein, Robin Hood Foundation

AFTERNOON WORKGROUP BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Reducing the Skills Gap: A Sectoral Approach

Moderator: David Margalit, NYC Department of Small Business Services

Mark Elliott, Consultant

Allison Gerber, The Aspen Institute

Scott Sheely, Lancaster Workforce Investment Board

Incentive-Based Strategies for Developing Human Capital

Moderator: Dr. Mary Bassett, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Dr. Laura Rawlings, The World Bank

Dr. Petra Todd, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Kenneth Wolpin, University of Pennsylvania

Increasing Access to Work Supports: A Springboard Out of Poverty

Moderator: Nancy Wackstein, United Neighborhood Houses

Diane Baillargeon, SEEDCO

Dr. Stephanie Buchanan, Freelancers Union/Working Today

Mark Greenberg, Center for American Progress

Creating Pathways to Graduation, Employment and Higher Education for Disconnected Youth

Moderator: Rev. Alfonso Wyatt, Fund for the City of New York

JoEllen Lynch, NYC Department of Education

Jeanne Mullgrav, NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

Michelle Yanche, Neighborhood Family Services Coalition

Using Data in Result-Based Policy Making

Moderator: Gail Nayowith, Citizens' Committee for Children

Dr. Avis Jones DeWeever, Institute for Women's Policy Research

Dr. Kristin Moore, Child Trends

Dr. Dennis Smith, New York University

Prison to Work: Confronting the Challenge

Moderator: Rev. Terry Troia, Project Hospitality

Martin Horn, NYC Department of Correction

Glenn Martin, National HIRE Network

Mindy Tarlow, Center for Employment Opportunities

Jeremy Travis, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

Moving Forward with What We Have Learned

Moderator: Linda Gibbs, Office of the Mayor

Reg Foster, IBM

Colvin Grannum, Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation

Dr. John Mollenkopf, The City University of New York Graduate Center

Ana L. Oliveira, New York Women's Foundation

Moisés Pérez, Alianza Dominicana, Inc.

NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

CO-CHAIRS

Geoffrey Canada, President and CEO, Harlem Children's Zone

Richard D. Parsons, Chair of the Board and CEO, Time Warner Inc.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Dr. Larry Aber, Professor of Applied Psychology and Public Policy, New York University

Diane Baillargeon, President and CEO, Structured Employment Economic Development Corporation

Dr. Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, CEO, Safe Space

Stanley Brezenoff, President and CEO, Continuum Health Partners

David Chen, Executive Director, Chinese-American Planning Council Inc., and founding Chair of the Board, Chung Pak Local Development Corporation

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Jamie Dimon, CEO, JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Michael Fishman, President, Service Employees International Union, Local 32BJ

Rev. Dr. Floyd H. Flake, Senior Pastor, Allen African Methodist Episcopal Church

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David Saltzman, Executive Director, Robin Hood Foundation

John A. Sanchez, Executive Director, East Side House Settlement

Dr. Alan B. Siskind, Chair of the Board, Human Services Council and Executive Director, Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services

Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, Ph.D., Executive Director, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York

Mindy Tarlow, Executive Director, Center for Employment Opportunities

Merryl Tisch, Co-chair, New York State Board of Regents' Committee on Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education

Maria Torres, Co-founder, Point Community Development Corporation

Jeremy Travis, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Reverend Terry Troia, Executive Director, Project Hospitality

Nancy Wackstein, Executive Director, United Neighborhood Houses

This conference is sponsored by
The City of New York
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