Embracing the Economic Inclusion of Immigrants: The Post-Recession Community Development Agenda

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Reinventing Older Communities: Building Resilient Cities
Philadelphia, PA, May 9-11, 2012
Hosted by Philadelphia FED
What is in the Agenda?

1. **A View of History and of Current Conditions of Inclusion**: Achievements, struggles, structural entrapments, new forces.

2. **Urban Diversity**: Miami; NYC; LA; the Latino Magnets of the Southwest; the New Destinations (NC/Kansas); The Mill Towns of the northeast; farms & fields.

3. **The Diversity of Immigrant Labor Characteristics and Selectivity**: Refugees; Highly-Skilled, Professionals, Para-Professionals & Graduate Students; Low-Wages Workers; Ethnic Entrepreneurs; Informal Economy.

4. **Environmental Justice & Social Epidemiology**: Co-morbidity with poverty; concentration of environmental hazards and the costs of brownfields; decayed infrastructure; chronic ailments & disabilities; productivity losses.
Community Development Agenda, Continued

5. **Political and Managerial Challenges:**
   Electoral and non-electoral participation in the municipal arena; school systems; devolution; fiscal shortfalls.

6. **Regionalization of Systems & Globalization:**
   Sectorial workforce development; transportation; Internet; green energy.

7. **Re-composition of Capital Markets:**
   Housing; banking & the unbanked; community and household assets.

8. **Federal/Local Civic Engagement Infrastructure & Non-Profits:**
   Corporation for National & Community Service; Asset base of non-profits; role in social policy; representation & advocacy.

9. **Education:**
   Public schools in poor & immigrant neighborhoods; transition to college; Dream Act and student loan debt; STEM.
Community Development Agenda, Continued

10. **Role of Institutions**: Hospitals; Universities; Banks; Large Non-profits; Foundations; Corporations; Industry Groups; Professional, Trade and Business Organizations; Labor Unions.

11. **Networks**: Diaspora Philanthropy; Remittances; Social Networking; Learning Networks; Policy Networks.

12. **Immigrant Business Development & Social Entrepreneurship**: Incubation; Supply Value-Chains; Workers Coops; Place-Based Econ. Development
Three Cases of Embracing Inclusion

- Clark University--Main South, Worcester MA: Education, Community Development & Urban Revitalization, 1995-2012

Percent people with high school diploma

Percent linguistically isolated people

Legend:
- 0.31 - 0.57
- 0.58 - 0.73
- 0.74 - 0.86
- 0.87 - 0.95
- 0.96 - 1.00

Legend:
- 0.00 - 0.04
- 0.05 - 0.12
- 0.13 - 0.22
- 0.23 - 0.39
- 0.40 - 0.71
Clark University-Main South

- **University Park Campus School**
educates 250 students in grades 7-12. Opened in 1997. 78% are non-English Speakers. 72% receive free lunch.

- **Main South CDC-University Park Partnership**: HUD Grants & $18 Million in grants & tax credits; renovated 200 units and manages over 100; Boys & Girls Club new building; Clark’s new athletic fields; commercial locales; urban gardens.

- **Liberal Education and Effective Practice (LEEP)**: New Clark’s curriculum and student engagement.
Lawrence CommunityWorks, Lawrence, MA: Network-Centered Approach, 1999-2012

- Site of Bread & Roses Strike 1912; Deindustrialized Mill Town of 76K; 70% Latino pop & school system 90% Latino; Education system in receivership; Poverty rate of 31% vs. 10% for MA—second highest.

- LCW’s Network-Centric Approach: repopulating the civic space with 4K members engaged in collective action and mobilization; family asset building; housing and property management; youth & leadership; environmental justice.

Most Latino of all boroughs, and third most foreign-born, and most health challenged in NYC—asthma, obesity, diabetes, disability.

- Collaboration between SEIU-1199 Health Workers, Training & Education Fund, 3-hospitals, 4-nursing homes, 2-home care agencies, CBO’s, CUNY-System.

- Close the patient-clinical care staff representation gap; create career-ladders for Latino and Low-wage workers; connect workers and employers to education resources; workforce development adaptation to meet the challenges of new health models, cost-pressures, Patient Care Act.
Concluding Remarks on Cases

- Networked Models
- Strong Governance & Stakeholder Deliberation/Participation
- Trans-sectorial
- Learning and Knowledge-Driven
- Asset Redevelopment: Physical; Human Capital; Environmental; Communal.
- Strong support for immigrant social & political incorporation.
Thank You

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