Equal Opportunity and Justice

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• More than 75% of the nation’s 10.2 million eligible uninsured Latinos live in states that have not expanded Medicaid

• Nearly half, 48%, of students suspended in school are African American

• Inequality fuels deeply ingrained stigmatizing attitudes across society
Key policy recommendations

- To accelerate Latino immigrant integration, expand coverage under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Enhance, expand, and strengthen federal antidiscrimination laws, including the voting rights act
- Eliminate zero tolerance policies and cultural bias in schools and promote the use of evidence-informed practices and policies to address racial disciplinary disproportionality
Stakeholders and partners

• **Latino health access**: Commonwealth Fund, National Council of La Raza, Latino Social Work Organization

• **African American students**: The Civil Rights Project at UCLA, Communities in Schools, The Schott Foundation, My Brother’s Keeper, National Women’s Law Center,

• **Ending social stigma**: Coalitions in film-making; social media, art

• **Note**: All include policy makers and advisers at federal, state, and local levels, NASW, CSWE, NABSW, and other national associations, other disciplines
Policy initiatives: progress and outlook

• **Latino health access**: 19 states (inc. Texas and Florida) can move to expanded health coverage for families through Medicaid under ACA

• **African American students**: gained national attention leading to federal, state, and local initiatives using evidence informed methods to change school climate and reduce cultural bias

• **Ending social stigma**: organizing a national symposium of non-traditional partners to address stigma
ALL AREAS:

- Do a better job of training future social workers in community organizing and policy advocacy by directly engaging them
- Community voice: engage in advocacy and grassroots action
- Social workers need to partner with policy makers
- Co-sponsor an inter-professional convening of social workers and professionals of other disciplines and sectors, and policy makers