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Natural Allies or Irreconcilable Foes? Reflections on African-American/ Immigrant Relations

by Andrew Grant-Thomas, Yusuf Sarfati & Cheryl Staats

For better and worse, attention to relations between African Americans and immigrants is sharply on the rise. In 2006, the Minutemen Civil Defense Corps chose to begin their national caravan against undocumented immigration from a park in an African-American neighborhood in Los Angeles. That same year, the Center for New Community in Chicago launched its national Which Way Forward campaign, hoping to nurture an informed debate among black Americans about the impact of immigration and the anti-immigration movement on their communities. Recent years have seen a spate of books and articles with such titles as *Help or Hindrance? The Economic Implications of Immigration for African Americans*, “The Real Face of

the Immigration Debate? Explaining Attitudes toward Immigration among African Americans,” and *On the Back of Blacks? Immigrants and the Fortunes of African Americans*.

In terms of dialogue, writing and programming, concern with “Black-Brown” relations is rampant. Of course, many immigrants are not Latino, and many Latinos are not immigrants. However, in light of the fact that fully two in five Latinos in the United States were born elsewhere, and that immigrants and their children comprise the majority of Latinos in this country, it is clear that immigrants are deeply implicated in the “Brown” part of the “Black-Brown” phenomenon. Why this surge of interest in African-American/immigrant relations?

Demographic trends provide a partial answer. One century after W.E.B. DuBois foretold that the problem of the 20th Century would be the problem of the color line, our nation looks astoundingly different. In 1950, the United States was 90% white, and African Americans, heavily concentrated in the rural South and urban North, were the country’s only significant minority population. Today, the country is 66% white, while Latinos and Asians living in metropolitan areas in the West and Southwest, their numbers fuelled by immigration, represent

our fastest growing populations. Latinos now outnumber blacks nationally, and several states, and many of our largest cities, are already minority-majority. To some degree, then, sheer force of numbers itself compels interest.

Tensions and perceived tensions between the groups also draw attention. From gang violence to political representation, from labor concerns to negative stereotypes, black Americans and immigrants are contesting a range of issues. A pervasive media storyline that underscores instances of conflict

(Please turn to page 2)

CONTENTS:

African Americans and Immigrants	1
Food Systems & Public Health	3
Farm to School Programs	5
Accessing Healthy Food	6
Food Resources	7
Civil Rights Syllabus	10
HUD Subsidized Housing Data	13
Resources	13

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This article is an edited version of their copiously footnoted original paper, containing a map as well—available upon request from the authors.

(RELATIONS: Continued from page 1)

while all but ignoring signs of cooperation only exacerbates the difficulties. In many communities, including some in the South, Midwest and Northeast previously characterized almost exclusively by black-white interactions, relations among people of color are more politically prominent than relations between whites and non-whites.

Many progressives also note that during this generation-long era of deepening inequality between the most affluent Americans and everyone else, African Americans and immigrants number disproportionately among our nation's truly disadvantaged. The point could be made with respect to virtually any dimension of well-being, including poverty, health, wealth, education, criminal justice and civic engagement. Consider the present housing foreclosure crisis. United for a Fair Economy (UFE) reports that people of color are three times more likely than whites (55% vs. 17%) to receive high-cost, subprime loans, with black and Latino neighborhoods being the hardest hit. UFE predicts that Latino and African-American households each stand to lose upwards of \$100 billion over the next few years, largely eviscerating modest reductions in the racial wealth gap made over the last generation.

Increasingly, we hear nonprofit leaders, scholars, advocates, commu-

nity members and even elected officials pushing the observation about the communities' common challenges a step further. Rather than succumb to largely structural inducements to regard each other as rivals, they argue, the interests of black Americans and immigrants would be well served by strategic collaboration between them. Echoing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s support for Cesar Chavez and the farm workers four decades earlier, Reverend Jesse Jackson, Jr. wrote in the August 13, 2006 edition of *Motion Magazine* that the "new immigrant freedom movement must and is being embraced by African Americans and today's movement for peace and social justice...[T]he hands that picked

Concern with "Black/Brown" relations is rampant.

the cotton are joining with the hands that picked the lettuce, connecting barrios and ghettos, fields and plantations."

The stakes involved in the course of African-American/immigrant relations extend beyond the groups themselves. Many progressives regard the communities as core constituents within any viable, broad-based movement for expanded social justice in the United States. In that light, the current tension tragically recapitulates the conflict between blacks and working-class whites that has long hampered the development of a multiracial, class-based social justice movement in the United States. If nothing else, that history underlines the error behind the presumption that alliances between black Americans and immigrants are either natural or inevitable. Indeed, the obstacles to the emergence of a robust partnership are almost as daunting as its possible benefits are attractive.

Building Effective Alliances

Building effective alliances typically

involves time, money, strong organizations and a measure of expertise, among other resources. Among people subject to the double jeopardy of living in poor families and neighborhoods, as blacks and Latinos disproportionately are, these resources are scarce. Political, economic and social conflicts of interest, coupled with a ragged history of power-sharing in places where one group has predominated and broad ignorance of each other's historical and current struggles, create a potentially volatile mix. Members of both groups too often interpret sociopolitical realities in positional, zero-sum terms, whereby gains for one side imply losses for the other.

In this context, cultural differences too readily become cultural clashes. Mutual mistrust, negative stereotyping and language barriers hinder attempts at communication. Institutional segregation—in workplaces and places of worship, for example—can reinforce cultural distance even when members of the two communities share neighborhoods. In that regard, the cynical manipulations of an aggressive nativist movement, built substantially on the leadership and organizational foundations of former white power activists, hardly help.

Differences in racial sensibilities add to these problems. Whereas many Latino and African immigrants do not embrace race as a primary identity marker, African Americans typically do. These differing perceptions about the salience and meaning of race can also create significant hurdles to constructive dialogue and joint action.

Observations from the Field: Opportunities and Strategies of Community Organizing

With financial support from Public Interest Projects (the collaborative of funds that supported this project), we recently spoke to a number of African-American and immigrant activists

(Please turn to page 9)

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Food Systems and Public Health

by Mary Story, Michael W. Hamm & David Wallinga

In the United States, obesity and diet-related chronic disease are major contributors to preventable morbidity and mortality. Today, more than 1 in 3 American children and adolescents, as well as two-thirds of adults, are overweight or obese. The rising rates of obesity among children and youth are of particular concern. Actions need to be taken today to improve food and physical activity environments and help reverse the obesity epidemic. The alternative is to witness today's generation of young children growing and developing, unable to realize their individual potential, in part due to obesity and chronic diseases, while the country's health care system becomes increasingly overwhelmed by their health and medical needs.

Few American children or adults

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This article is the Introductory essay (edited version) to a special double issue of the Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition (4:219-24, 2009 and reprinted with permission), containing the papers at the April 2009 Arlie Conference on "Food Systems and Public Health: Linkages to Achieve Healthier Diets and Healthier Communities." All articles in the special issue can be downloaded at no cost at <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~db=all~content=g917718511>. An hour-long webinar on the special issue was held Feb. 23, with some 600 registrants, and is archived at <http://foodandsociety.blip.tv/>

consume diets that meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Average intake of healthy foods, such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains and calcium-rich foods, is inadequate, with overconsumption of calories, total fats, saturated and trans-fats, sodium and added sugars. For the entire U.S. population, daily caloric intake has increased on average by 300 calories since 1980, with no accompanying increase in physical activity.

Income inequalities underlie many health disparities.

Though most Americans have diets that need improvement, those living in lower-income households are even less likely to have healthy diets compared to higher-income households. Income inequalities underlie many health disparities in the United States; in general, those who have the highest poverty rates suffer the worst health status. Differential availability and affordability of healthy foods in low-income communities have been suggested as important contributors to health disparities in diet-related chronic diseases and obesity rates. An exodus of grocery stores and an influx of fast food outlets in low-income urban areas contribute to the income and racial/ethnic disparities in access to affordable and healthy foods. Currently, many low-income neighborhoods lack access to fresh, healthy, affordable

foods, and residents often pay a higher percentage of their income for food.

Over the past several decades, technological, economic, social and lifestyle changes, as well as changes in U.S. farm and agricultural policies, have combined to transform our food systems. These changes have had numerous ramifications. Highly-processed and convenience foods, often high-calorie, low-nutrition foods, are widely available in larger portion sizes and at relatively low prices. Collectively, these environmental changes have influenced what, where and how much we eat and are thought to have played a substantial role in diet-related diseases and the current obesity epidemic.

National attention has been placed on improving the health and nutrition of Americans through a broad-based approach related to behavior change efforts, public health action, and social change involving multiple sectors and stakeholders. However, often in health and nutrition efforts the focus is on the end result—improving the diet and food consumption of individuals—and not on the food system or environmental context in which this food exists. Issues such as where the food comes from, how it is produced, what is produced, how it is priced, whether or not it is subsidized, how it is distributed, or how labor is treated are typically not addressed. The public health community has been primarily concerned with an adequate, diverse

(Please turn to page 4)

Dennis Brutus, Howard Zinn

We dedicate this issue of *Poverty & Race* to the long lives and effective work of two great activist intellectuals: **Dennis Brutus**, the South African poet and fighter against apartheid who passed away in December; and **Howard Zinn**, who passed away in January and taught us, by his writings and life, the meaning of "history from the bottom up" and whose leitmotif was "protest/organize/create movements."

food supply for all individuals to meet the dietary guidelines within a Food Guide Pyramid framework. However, it is increasingly clear that public health dietary guidelines and obesity prevention cannot be met without a focus on the food system, from field to fork.

The severity of the obesity crisis has focused attention on the role of agriculture policies on the U.S. food supply and how current farm policies and practices may impact public health and diet-related chronic diseases, such as obesity. Agriculture policies determine the crops for which the government provides support through direct farm payments, price supports or research. Government support influences which crops farmers produce, the wholesale prices of those crops, and, subsequently, which products food producers, distributors and retailers make available to consumers and at what retail price. U.S. farm policy for commodity crops has helped make sweeteners and fats that are added to many processed foods some of the most inexpensive food substances available today. Fruits and vegetables receive little government support, and their cost has risen relative to inflation, whereas the cost of sweeteners and other commodity crop products has actually declined in real terms.

The bottom line is that current ag-

riculture policies have helped to make food environments less healthy for Americans. There is a need for food systems reform. Agriculture and farm policies need to be aligned with national public health and nutrition goals. Currently, there is a great disconnect between public health diet-related diseases and agriculture policy issues, but they are intimately connected. A systemic strategy that simultaneously focuses on developing the sustainability of food systems, community food justice and public health success would have multiple benefits and allow for rich partnerships.

The Need for a Food Systems Approach

We need a focus on the food system, from field to fork.

In addition to obesity and diet-related chronic diseases and disparities in access to affordable healthy foods, other concerns of our food supply include antibiotic resistance, foodborne pathogens, chemical and pesticide contamination, and depletion of natural resources. These issues are all related to food—what we eat and how it is produced and distributed. Further, many contend that though the U.S. food system provides plentiful, inexpensive food, much of it is not as healthy as it should be and the agricultural system that underlies it is resource-intensive and not sustainable. The American Public Health Association and American Medical Association have both passed resolutions concerning the linkage of a sustainable agriculture and food system to the public health of our nation (<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/475/refcomd.pdf>, <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/policysearch/default.htm?id=1361>). In their framing, a sustainable food system has been defined as one that provides healthy food to meet current food needs while maintaining healthy ecosystems that

can also provide food for generations to come, with minimal negative impact to the environment; encourages local production and distribution infrastructures; makes nutritious food available, accessible and affordable to all; is humane and just—protecting farmers and other workers, consumers and communities.

This leads to the need for a systems approach to food and health. A food systems approach enables consideration of the many intricately related factors involved in getting food from farm to consumer, including the inputs, mechanisms and structures for food production, processing, distribution, acquisition, preparation and consumption, as well as the farmers, fishers, workers, governments, institutional purchasers, communities and consumers who participate in that system—and the contribution of these various factors and participants to overall health. A systems approach is one that takes the complexity of this food system into account. It is an approach that recognizes that in complex systems, parts have not single but many inputs and outputs, and therefore health and other outcomes must emerge from the system as a whole and not from a focus on any single component of that food system. In a systems-based model, interacting parts work synergistically, each as complement to the other and each supporting the system as a whole. Problems arising from complex systems are challenging and likely will require interventions that have multiple components and an appropriate level of complexity. Thinking about systems, in other words, is not consistent with easy or “magic bullet” solutions.

We must address the inadequacies of our food system if we want to successfully reduce the increasing costs of health care as affected by dietary patterns. Policies and programs to ensure a healthier food system need to be a part of health care reform efforts. Further, the U.S. Farm Bill, renewed every 5 to 6 years, is a vehicle for addressing food system changes because it has such sizable and important im-

(Please turn to page 12)

New on PRRAC's Website

- Updated list of state and local laws against Source-of-Income Discrimination (February, 2010)
- *ARRA & the Economic Crisis - One Year Later: Has Stimulus Helped Communities in Crisis? A Special Report from the Kirwan Institute* (February, 2010)
- Inclusive housing goals in HUD's Sustainable Communities Initiative (March, 2010)

Nourishing the Nation One Tray at a Time: Farm to School Initiatives in the Child Nutrition Reauthorization

What follows is an edited version of a 13-page, February 2009 report jointly produced by the Community Food Security Coalition (www.foodsecurity.org, 202/543-8602), National Farm to School Network (www.farmtoschool.org, 202/450-6074) and School Food FOCUS (www.SchoolFoodFOCUS.org, 845/339-2824). Full report, with legislative history and mini-case studies from Chicago, Riverside (CA), NYC and North Florida, available from these groups.

Restore the Right of All Children to Access Healthy Food in School

School meals are a vital part of our responsibility to ensure the health and well-being of future generations. Improving the quality of school meals, and making them accessible to all children, is essential to our nation's future. More than 31 million children eat school food five days a week, 180 days a year. Over the past 60+ years, school meals have helped our nation make impressive strides toward improving childhood nutrition and reducing childhood hunger. Yet in recent years, school meals are confronting new challenges. School food services are fighting an uphill battle to provide kids with healthy food. Soaring food and energy costs, the lure of fast food outside the school campus, financial pressures caused by tight state budgets and diminished tax revenues all stand in the way of food services being able to provide healthy and delicious meals to schoolchildren.

Like school food services, today's family farmer is facing numerous challenges to make a living off the land. The farmer's share of every food dollar has dropped to 19 cents from 41 cents in 1950. As a result, many farmers have a hard time just breaking even.

Three-hundred-thirty farm operators leave the farm every week, and the average age of farmers nationally is 57 years. The U.S., with only 2.2 million farmers, now has more prisoners than farmers.

There is a solution that can help turn around both of these trends: farm to school. School meals form a potentially lucrative market, estimated at more than \$12 billion per year. Farmers who sell to schools can augment their income and stay on the land. Yet today's family farmer doesn't have very good access to this market.

Farm to school programs ensure that our children eat the highest-quality

Farm to school programs have blossomed on their own in thousands of schools across the country.

ity food available. These programs deliver food that not only nourishes children's bodies immediately, but also knowledge that enhances their educational experience and cultivates long-term healthy eating habits. They are a win-win for kids, farmers, communities, educators, parents and the environment.

Thanks to the efforts of social entrepreneurs, farm to school programs have blossomed on their own in thousands of schools across the country. Think about their growth potential with active support from USDA.

In at least 44 states, students in over 2,000 school districts are eating farm-fresh food for school lunch or breakfast. Farm to school enables every child to have access to nutritious food while simultaneously benefiting the community and local farmer by providing a consistent, reliable market. In addition to supplying nourishing, locally grown food in the cafeteria or class-

rooms, farm to school programs often also offer nutrition and agriculture education through taste tests, school gardens, composting programs and farm tours. Such experiences help children understand where their food comes from and how their food choices affect their bodies, the environment and their communities at large.

Both the food itself and the experiential education surrounding it are equally essential to the success of farm to school programs in changing eating habits for the better. When schools tout the advantages of eating produce but don't offer it in meals, their students are being taught one thing but shown another. Schools need to give students a consistent message, reinforced through hands-on experiences such as growing food in a school garden, visiting a farmers' market, tasting new products, and developing cooking skills that will serve them their whole lives. These linkages give students vivid and lasting impressions of the delights of growing and eating fresh-picked produce, and help them understand where food comes from and how it is grown—knowledge that's been shown to drive better dietary choices.

If school food can improve the health of kids, develop new marketing opportunities for farmers, and support the local economy, it's a win-win for everyone.

The Child Nutrition Act

Every five years, an opportunity arises for all concerned with the health of our nation's children to evaluate, defend and improve federal Child Nutrition programs. These programs were born in the post-World War II era with the goal of improving national security through improving the nutri-

(Please turn to page 6)

Bringing Healthy Food to Underserved Areas

tional status of future soldiers. They were expanded in the 1960s and 1970s as part of civil rights struggles to reduce hunger and poverty. Now, in 2010, with our nation's health security and the survival of family farming at risk, it's the perfect opportunity to revamp Child Nutrition programs to enable more schools—and more children—to benefit from the healthy meals and educational opportunities that farm to school programs can provide. The current Child Nutrition Act expires September 30, 2010, and Congress is moving quickly to enact the next version.

The 2004 Child Nutrition Act included one provision on farm to school creating a seed grant program which would enable schools to plan and implement farm to school programs, but it failed to receive an appropriation. In this new reauthorization, farm to school advocates request that Congress support a farm to school grant program with \$50 million in mandatory funding. This could fund 100-500 projects per year up to \$100,000 per project to cover start-up costs. These competitive, one-time grants will allow schools to develop vendor relationships with nearby farmers, plan seasonal menus and promotional materials, start a school garden, and develop hands-on nutrition education to demonstrate the important interrelationship of nutrition and agriculture.

With the tremendous growth and interest in farm to school programs, the time is ripe to provide funding for farm to school and implement policies that include locally and regionally grown foods in the national meal program.

For the latest information on the One Tray campaign supporting this work, and to endorse this policy platform, visit www.onetray.org □

**Visit PRRAC's
website at:
www.prrac.org**

What follows are excerpts from two recent PolicyLink reports, "Healthy Food, Healthy Communities: Promising Strategies to Improve Access to Healthy Food and Transform Communities," by Rebecca Flournoy and "A Healthy Food Financing Initiative." Full versions of the reports are available at www.policylink.org

Community environments affect people's eating and exercise habits. Scientists and medical professionals agree that lack of easy access to healthy food and safe outdoor areas for physical activity are key contributors to obesity. The obesity epidemic, along with related health problems like diabetes and heart disease, is most severe for low-income people of color. Nearly a fifth of all African-American children and nearly a quarter of Mexican-American children are obese, compared to one in ten white children. Children from low-income families are twice as likely to be overweight as those from higher-income families. Researchers estimate that for the first time in American history, today's generation of children will live shorter lives than their parents, due to the health consequences of obesity and being overweight.

Studies have shown that better access to healthy food corresponds to healthier eating and lower rates of obesity and diabetes. For example, one study examining several U.S. states found that African Americans living in a census tract with a supermarket are more likely to meet federal guidelines for fruits and vegetable consumption, and for each additional supermarket, produce consumption increased by 32%. In rural Mississippi, adults living in counties without supermarkets were 23% less likely to meet guidelines for daily fruit and vegetable consumption than adults living in counties with supermarkets. Studies have concluded that New Yorkers and Californians living in areas with more fresh food retailers, along with fewer con-

venience stores and fast food restaurants, have lower rates of obesity. Researchers in Indianapolis found that adding a new grocery store to a neighborhood translated into an average weight loss of three pounds for adults in that community.

Improving access to healthy food also brings economic benefits. A large full-service supermarket creates between 100 and 200 full- and part-time jobs, and there is some emerging evidence that a grocery store can increase local tax revenues and stabilize or even increase local home values. A study found that tripling the amount of fresh produce that farmers sell directly to consumers at farmers' markets in

Improving access to healthy food brings both health and economic benefits.

Michigan could generate as many as 1,889 new jobs and \$187 million in additional personal income.

Across the country, innovative programs and policy efforts are helping to open grocery stores and supermarkets, re-stock convenience stores with healthier foods, and link small farmers and their fresh produce directly to consumers. Policymakers can support and promote innovations emerging at the grassroots and help expand and scale up innovative programs through public policy. Improving food access for everyone demands multiple approaches to meet the different needs of diverse communities.

The Pennsylvania Model

The Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative—a public-private partnership created in 2004—provides a model solution. In four years, it helped develop 83 supermarkets and fresh food outlets in underserved rural and urban areas throughout the

state, creating or retaining 5,000 jobs in those communities. Making this happen required just \$30 million in state seed money. The state funds have already resulted in projects totaling \$190 million. The program continues to dramatically improve access to healthy food statewide, while also driving meaningful, long-term economic development.

A Federal Healthy Food Financing Initiative

The federal government should use this proven state program as the model for a national initiative to improve children's health, create jobs and spur economic development nationwide.

Like the Pennsylvania effort, a Healthy Food Financing Initiative would attract investment in underserved communities by providing critical one-time loan and grant financing.

These one-time resources will help fresh food retailers overcome the higher initial barriers to entry into underserved, low-income urban, suburban and rural communities, and would also support renovation and expansion of existing stores so they can provide the healthy foods communities want and need. The program would be flexible and comprehensive enough to support innovations in healthy food retailing and to assist retailers with different aspects of the store development and renovation process.

In the midst of the country's current economic downturn, the need for a comprehensive federal policy to address the lack of fresh food access in low-income communities and communities of color is critical. With constricting credit markets, grocery store operators face higher obstacles to developing stores in underserved communities. Obesity and related health

problems are expected to worsen during these hard economic times. Evidence strongly shows, however, that when people have access to healthier foods, they make healthier choices—and that securing new or improved local grocery stores can also improve local economies and create jobs.

President Barack Obama's proposed 2011 budget called for over \$400 million in investment in HFFI. In addition to the President's proposed budget, the First Lady spotlighted the Healthy Food Financing Initiative as part of the launch of her Let's Move campaign, targeted at preventing childhood obesity. Alongside the tremendous support from the White House, sponsors in both the Senate and the House will introduce legislation creating a Healthy Food Financing Initiative in the coming weeks.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Flournoy at rebecca@policylink.org or call 510/663-2333. □

Resources on Food

This extensive listing, useful in connection with the three articles that precede it, contains several recent items, plus a selection of items from past issues of P&R (going way back to earlier issues) that in our judgment are still useful and relevant. (Contact inf. for older items may be out-of-date, but it should be possible to locate these orgs. via Internet search.)

"Hunger in America – 2010 National Report" presents results of a 2009 study conducted for Feeding America (formerly America's Second Harvest). Available at http://feedingamerica.issuelab.org/research/listing/hunger_in_america_2010_national_report

"America's Farms Feed America's Children" (2010?) is an Issue Brief available from the Community Food Security Coalition, 3830 SE Division St., Portland, OR 97202, 503/964-2970, aleta@foodsecurity.org

"Seed of Change: Strategies for Food Security for the Inner City" relates food policy to public health, economic & community development, urban ecology, etc. Available at www.foodsecurity.org/pub/Seeds_of_Change.pdf

"Obesity, Poverty, and Participation in Nutrition Assistance Programs," a U.S. Dept. of Agriculture study, is available at www.fns.usda.gov/ora/MENU/Published/NutritionEducation/Files/ObesityPoverty.pdf

The Congressional Hunger Center's 2008 Annual Report is available at www.hungercenter.org/pdf/Annual_Report_2008.pdf

"Ending Hunger in the United States: The Role of the Federal Nutrition Programs, National Advisory Groups and Their Networks," by Crystal Weedall FitzSimmons, James D. Weill & Lynn Parker (2004), is available at www.hungercenter.org/chc/hunger_forum.htm

"Hunger in America: The Definition, Scope, Causes, History and Status of the Hunger Problem in the United States," by Doug O'Brien, Halley Torres Aldeen, Stephanie Uchima, Eleanor Thompson & Erinn Stanley (2004), is available at www.hungercenter.org/chc/hunger_forum.htm

"Barriers That Prevent Low-Income People From Gaining Access to Food and Nutrition Programs," by Crystal Weedall FitzSimmons, James D. Weill & Lynn Parker (2004), is available at www.hungercenter.org/chc/hunger_forum.htm

"The Role of State Government in Ending Hunger" is available at www.hungercenter.org/chc/hunger_forum.htm

"School Meals: Building Blocks for Healthy Children" (341 pp., Oct. 2009), from the Institute of Medicine's Food and Nutrition Board, is available (free if read online) at www.iom.edu/Reports/2009/School-Meals/Building-Blocks-for-Healthy-Children.aspx [11731]

“Designed for Disease: The Link Between Local Food Environments and Obesity and Diabetes” is a May 2008 report from PolicyLink, UCLA’s Center for Health Policy Research and the California Center for Public Health Advocacy. The study shows that if fast food and convenience stores dramatically outnumber grocery stores and produce markets, risks increase with respect to these two diseases. Available at <http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/publication.aspx?pubID=250> [10854]

“A Status Report on Hunger & Homelessness in America’s Cities,” the annual US Council of Mayors report—this one, the 20th such report, covering 23 cities, is available at www.usmayors.org/uscm/hungersurvey/2006/report06.pdf [10075]

“Nourishing Development: A Report on Food Insecurity & the Precursors to School Readiness among Very Young Children” (9 pp., July 2006) is available (likely free) from the Boston Medical Center’s Children’s Sentinel Nutrition Assessment Program, 725 Mass. Ave., Mezzanine SW, Boston, MA 02118, 617/638-5850, sedc@bu.edu [10097]

Changing the Face of Hunger by Tony Hall (202 pp., 2006, \$21.99), has been published by W Publishing Gp., 615/902-2234, www.thomasnelson.com [9997]

“Hunger Doesn’t Take a Vacation: Summer Nutrition Status Report” (29 pp., July 2006), from the Food Research & Action Ctr., analyzing summer nutrition programs, with recommendations to improve program access, is available at www.frac.org/pdf/summerfood06.pdf [9965]

“The Federal Government - the Indispensable Player in Redressing Poverty,” by James Weill (15 pp., May-June 2006), from the Food Research & Action Ctr., is available at www.frac.org/pdf/Weil06.pdf [9964]

“Food Availability & Food Deserts in the Nonmetropolitan South,” by Troy Blanchard et al. (8 pp., 2006), discusses the uneven distribution of food retailers across rural America. Available at srdc.msstate.edu/focusareas/health/fa/fa_12_blanchard.pdf [9852]

“The Real Cost of a Healthy Diet: Healthful Foods Are Out of Reach for Low-Income Families in Boston, Massachusetts” is a Aug. 2005 report from the Food Security Project at Boston Medical Ctr. To obtain a copy from the Children’s Nutrition Assessment website, google “C-SNAP healthy diet” [9679]

Sustenance is the newsletter of the Congressional Hunger Ctr., 400 North Capitol St. NW, #G100, Wash., DC 20001, 202/547-7022, www.hungercenter.org [8799]

“Hunger in Your State” (2002) is a guide, put out by the Oregon Ctr. for Public Policy, on how to produce state-level reports on hunger & food insecurity. For a free copy, email your name, mailing address & telephone no. to jgreenleaf@ocpp.org, downloadable at www.ocpp.org/2002/rpt021114.pdf. [7361]

The Natl. Hunger Clearinghouse has created an online da-

tabase listing grassroots orgs. working on hunger, food, nutrition & agriculture issues, based on location or type of prog. NHC@worldhungeryear.org, 800/GLEAN-IT. www.worldhungeryear.org/nhc_data/nhc_01.asp. [7039]

The Color of Hunger: Race and Hunger in National and International Perspectives, by David L.L. Shields (2002), is available in some bookstores and various online book-sellers. [5486]

“Good Farming, Healthy Communities: Strengthening Regional Sustainable Agriculture Sectors & Local Food Systems - Lessons Learned from the Berkeley Food System,” by Raquel Pinderhughes & Joshua Miner (58 pp., 2001), is available (\$5) from Prof. Pinderhughes, SF State Univ., Urban Studies Prog., 1600 Holloway Ave., SF, CA 94132, 415/338-1178. [2386]

“A Place at the Table: Food & Env. Justice” is the theme of the Winter 2000 issue of *Race, Poverty & the Environment*, a joint project of Calif. Rural Legal Asst. (headed by PRRAC Board member José Padilla) & the Urban Habitat Program. Subs. \$15/4 issues, \$40 insts., free for low-inc. persons & comm. gps. from RPE, Box 29908 Presidio Sta., SF, CA 94129. [985]

“No Place to Shop: Challenges & Opportunities Facing the Development of Supermarkets in Urban America” is an 85-page, Feb. 1996 issue paper “addressing industry considerations on doing business in the inner city & consumer concerns on improving food access for low-income persons,” available (\$20) from Public Voice for Food & Health Policy, 1101 14th St. NW, #710, Wash., DC 20005, 202/371-1840. [3104]

“Housing Subsidies & Pediatric Undernutrition,” by Alan Meyers, Deborah Frank, Nicole Roos, Karen Peterson, Virginia Casey, L. Adrienne Cupples & Suzette Levenson (6 pp., Oct. 1995), is an article from *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, available from Dr. Meyers, Div. Gen. Pediatrics, Boston City Hospital, Boston, MA 02118. [3747]

“Hunger in Latino Communities,” by Angel Martinez (22 pp., Aug. 1995), a Mickey Leland Hunger Fellow, is available from the Congressional Hunger Ctr., 400 North Capitol St. NW, #G100, Washington, DC 20001, 202/547-7022. [3748]

Food, Not Bombs: How to Feed the Hungry and Build Community, by C.T. Lawreno Butler & Keith McHenry (101 pp. + app.), is available (\$11.45) from New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Ave., Phila., PA 19143, 800/333-9093. [4988]

“Seeds of Change: Strategies for Food Security in the Inner City” is a 17-chapter study prepared for the Interfaith Hunger Coalition, available (\$25) from the UCLA Grad. School of Arch. & Urban Planning, LA, CA 90024, 310/825-1067. [6002]

“Eat to Learn, Learn to Eat: The Link Between Nutrition and Learning in Children,” by Karen B. Troccoli (38 pp., April 1993), is available (free) from the Natl. Commn. to Prevent Infant Mortality, 300 C St. SW #2014, Wash., DC 20201, 202/205-8364. [5866]

(RELATIONS: Continued from page 2)

and organizers to solicit their wisdom into the status of relations between their respective constituencies. While acknowledging the challenges, most were firm in their conviction that a robust set of opportunities for meaningful partnerships exists.

Alongside the admitted vulnerabilities of their communities, they see numerous strengths. They see that both groups command meaningful political, economic and social assets. They welcome the rapid emergence of whole categories of potential bridge-building leaders, including African, Caribbean and Afro-Latino immigrants, and multicultural youth. They celebrate the increasing number of promising venues for collaboration—worker centers, unions, schools and multiracial churches among them. Above all, the community leaders and organizers who shared their strategies and visions with us believe that the fates of Latinos, African Americans and immigrants in the United States are linked, and that it is past time that the advocacy and activism emanating from both communities better reflect that reality.

From our conversations, we identified a set of approaches based on alternative logics around which African-American/immigrant alliances are formed: intercultural relationship-building, issue-based organizing, and workplace-based organizing. These three do not exhaust the range of alliance-building efforts in the field; nor are they mutually exclusive. Some organizations employ multiple or hybrid strategies. Our descriptions refer to ideal types that may or may not correspond to the practices of particular initiatives on the ground.

Intercultural Relationship-building

Community organizers who use this approach aspire to build strong multicultural communities. For them, establishing healthy relationships among people of color is an important value in itself. Insofar as relationship-building reshapes identities and inter-

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Larry Adelman	Olati Johnson
Rev. Bill Barnes	Jeffrey Kaplan
Stephen Barton	Dennis Keating
Marc Bendick	Henry Korman
Miriam Berkman & Brett Hill	Dan Lauber
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Sheila Crowley	James Perlstein
Ellen Davidson	Allan Rodgers
Anthony Downs	Florence Wagman Roisman
Amy & Steve Eppler Epstein	Leonard Rubinowitz
Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh	Juliet Saltman
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Jim Gibson	Ausley Sessions
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Alice & Louis Henkin	David Tegeler
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ests, it is also seen as a prerequisite for effective issue campaigns. These organizers suggest that interpersonal trust between the communities needs to be established first, and this can be

Black Americans and immigrants are contesting a range of issues.

done only by speaking to commonly held misconceptions through deliberate re-education. Without the trust born of solid relationships, racial and xenophobic tensions invariably emerge and partnership development becomes episodic at best. In sum, relationship-

building measures must be central to the alliance and should precede any efforts at political or grass-roots mobilization. Such measures can range from preparing simple cultural exchange events to engaging in specialized curriculums and trainings.

The Bay Area's Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), which grew out of the Priority Africa Network, is a prominent example of an organization that uses a relationship-building approach. BAJI's *African Diaspora Dialogues* program aims to forge closer relations between African immigrants and African Americans. In these informal conversations, activists create

(Please turn to page 10)

(RELATIONS: Continued from page 9)

spaces for participants to tell their personal stories. These individual narratives help to expose the misconceptions each group harbors about the other. Reverend Kelvin Sauls, a BAJI co-founder, says that “the biggest tool that folks use to divide is ignorance.” Nunu Kidane, Network Coordinator for the Priority Africa Network, affirms that dialogues have effectively challenged prejudicial frames and myths. She believes that “it has been phenomenally transformative in changing the way African Americans and African immigrants look at one another.”

The Southeast Regional Economic Justice Network uses a similar relationship-first approach. Its *Resisting Rivalry* project is an effort to build intentional relationships among youth, women and low-wage workers of African-American and Latino immigrant communities. *Resisting Rivalry* provides extensive education through focus groups and workshops, among

other methods.

Another promising program, *South by Southwest*, was launched through the partnership among Southern Echo, Southwest Organizing Project and Southwest Workers’ Union. These organizations use historical narratives and art as a way to transform the identities of their constituents and create cultural bridges. The program “brings

Cultural differences too readily become cultural clashes.

together African-American and Latino communities from three states—New Mexico, Texas and Mississippi—to share histories and current realities in each state from the perspective of grass-roots struggles, and at the same time develop trust between all of the participants.” In this program, participants learn about the shared histories of Mexico and the United States. Leroy Johnson, Executive Director of Southern Echo, asserts that “we have

to start with the historical and cultural perspectives of the different communities and how these histories come together.” Art, including poetry, writing and photography, are utilized to explicate the cultural-historical linkages.

Lastly, some organizers use toolkits and curricular materials to dissolve barriers and create inclusive, empathetic space for participants. The *Crossing Borders* curriculum, developed by the Center for Community Change, Fair Immigration Reform Movement, and CASA de Maryland, is one important example. This curriculum includes activities that inform African Americans about the global forces that propel immigration to the United States and the relation between racism and the immigration debate. For immigrants, it provides important information about the history of the Civil Rights struggle in the U.S., the centrality of African Americans in the struggle, and the structures that constrain black American communities today.

The National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and the Highlander Research Center have prepared a similar toolkit, *Building a Race and Immigration Dialogue in the Global Era (BRIDGE)*. The curriculum includes “a set of popular educational tools and exercises designed to engage the immigrant and refugee community members in a dialogue about racism, labor, migration and global economic structures in relation to migration.”

Issue-based Organizing

Some community activists place a premium on collaboration around issues of mutual concern rather than on trust-building. As noted above, immigrant and African-American communities share many important concerns. Both suffer the racialization of the criminal justice system, racial profiling and police brutality. In many low-opportunity neighborhoods, immigrant and African-American children have low academic performances and high dropout rates in under-resourced public schools. Thus, funding for public

New Civil Rights Movement Syllabus Available

Professor Florence Roisman of Indiana Univ. School of Law-Indianapolis (and a former PRRAC Board member) has prepared a new syllabus for her spring semester course, “Aspects of the Civil Rights Movement, 1946-1968: Lawyers, Law and Legal and Social Change.”

Prof. Roisman has taught variations of this course before at IU School of Law-Indianapolis and at Yale Law School; students have been very enthusiastic about it. The course examines the roles of law and lawyers in the Civil Rights Movement, and the drama of state and federal court litigation that was a constant and often invisible current running under the public events of the time. The course is an eye-opening introduction to the relationship between civil and criminal law (and the easy abuse of both in service of discrimination and suppression of free speech); the complicated relationships among federal and state courts (many of our current doctrines of federalism were hashed out in this period); the origins of some well-known constitutional doctrines (from Equal Protection to the First Amendment); and, of course, the shifting roles of lawyers, organizers, and clients in pursuit of social justice.

We have posted a copy of the syllabus at www.prrac.org/projects/civilrightshistory.php. We invite any of you who are teaching similar classes, whether in law or other disciplines, to send us your syllabi as well. And do encourage universities in your area—undergraduate as well as graduate programs—to introduce such a course; we can try to suggest likely candidates to teach the subject, possibly in an adjunct faculty role.

education emerges as a common cause. These shared concerns turn into opportunities to the extent that advocates act on the recognition that progressive policy reform in these areas would benefit all communities of color.

Issue-based organizing acknowledges the importance of relationship-building. However, the community organizers who embrace this approach argue that the best way to build solidarity across lines of race, ethnicity and nativity is through appeals to shared “bread and butter” interests. Trust develops most surely as a byproduct of common struggle, preferably one that yields tangible successes. With reference to immigrants, Bill Chandler, Executive Director of the Mississippi Immigrants’ Rights Alliance, suggested that the “first step is to connect with the African-American community because you’re dealing with common issues, including racism, which here in the South, particularly in Mississippi, but also in Alabama and Georgia, is driving the attack on immigrants.” In contrast, these organizers claim, intergroup relationship challenges, as such, provide uncertain motivation for partnerships, especially among poor and working-class people likely to have more pressing concerns. “Issue-first” alliances are typically formed between organizations, rather than within particular organizations.

The 2006 campaign against racial profiling in Portland, Oregon by the Center for Intercultural Organizing, Oregon Action, the Latino Network, and Northwest Constitutional Rights Center, exemplified this kind of organizing. This issue was salient for all of the organizations. As noted by Jo Ann Bowman, Executive Director of Oregon Action, “We realized at that time that this was a severe community problem and challenge that we needed to take some formal action on.” The organizations approached the mayor to request a series of listening sessions between the public and the police. After these sessions, the organizations wrote a report in December 2006 that was presented to the police chief and City Council. Since that time, a community organization has been estab-

lished to track complaints about the police. In addition, the City Council created a racial profiling committee that includes representatives from a range of community groups whose constituencies are most affected by racial profiling.

Workplace-based Organizing

In some sectors of the economy, especially in low-paying jobs, African Americans and immigrants work side-by-side, making workplaces, along with schools, the frontlines of *de facto*

A robust set of opportunities for meaningful partnerships exists.

negotiations between the groups. These sectors include construction work, the hotel industry, restaurants and the meatpacking industry. Some workplaces are home to initiatives that operate in the absence of formal coalitions. Unlike initiatives shaped by the first two approaches, these initiatives mobilize constituents not around their identities as “African Americans,” “immigrants,” or people of color, but around their common identity as workers. In other words, the goal of the organization is not to support immigrant or African-American issues, as such, but to promote worker issues. Organizers tend to emphasize the salience of associational rather than communal identities.

Perhaps the most visible of these initiatives is the “Justice at Smithfield” campaign, which began in 1994 at the biggest hog-processing plant in the United States, in Tar Heel, North Carolina. This initiative is based on the attempt of workers to unionize, to improve health and safety conditions in the plant, and to democratize their job environment. Latinos, mostly immigrants, constitute 60% of the workforce of the plant; 30% of the workers are African Americans. A 2007 report prepared for the Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute at the University of California-Berkeley details different grass-roots solidarity initia-

tives emerging between Latino immigrants and African-American laborers similar to the “Justice at Smithfield” campaign.

Another successful mobilization occurred in the restaurant industry in New York City, when the Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York (ROC-NY) was formed in the aftermath of 9/11 with the workers who lost their jobs at the famous Windows on the World restaurant in the World Trade Center. The organization, composed of Latino, African-American, African immigrant, Arab, Asian and white restaurant workers, has enjoyed solid successes, winning over \$1,000,000 for restaurant workers from employers, following charges of discrimination and unpaid wages.

The organization also opened COLORS, a cooperatively-owned restaurant that serves dinners featuring global cuisine in the evenings and serves as the location for the COLORS Hospitality Opportunities for Workers training institute during the day. Saru Jayaraman, one of ROC-NY’s co-founders, reported that members of ROC-NY are mobilized as restaurant workers, rather than as Blacks, Latinos or Arabs. She believes that “people absolutely feel a lot more identity as a restaurant worker, in my experience, than they do as an immigrant worker.”

Concluding Observations

African Americans and immigrants are neither natural allies nor irreconcilable foes. The potential benefits of greater collaboration between them are real, but so, too, are the challenges to realizing those benefits. After talking to dozens of advocates and activists across the country engaged in this critical work, we find reasons for optimism. From the worlds of advocacy and philanthropy, and from the communities themselves, more people are calling for and supportive of strong, sustained partnerships. Groups such as the Applied Research Center, Highlander Education and Research Cen-

(Please turn to page 12)

(RELATIONS: Continued from page 11)

ter, the Center for Community Change, the Center for New Community, and our own Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity promote powerful analyses that discern the roots of intergroup tension in macro-economic dynamics such as globalization and policy developments like NAFTA. These analyses recognize that our fates are linked across lines of race, ethnicity and class.

While each geographic region of the country generates its own dynamic, organizers identified several common needs. These include a comprehensive mapping of alliance-building efforts across the country; the collection and dissemination of existing educational and relationship-building curricular materials; the development of new materials adaptable to regional and local contexts; the identification, commissioning and dissemination of applied research studies and instructive case studies of African-American/immigrant alliances and other forms of “joint action”; the creation of curricular materials targeted to community organizations and residents who wish to guard against African-American/immigrant divides in their communities; and the development of fact-based media

(FOOD SYSTEMS: Cont. from page 4)

pacts on agriculture production, rural development, food and nutrition assistance, conservation policies and research.

Moving Toward a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System

The objectives of the Airlie Conference (see note on p. 3) were to:

1. Convene a multidisciplinary group of researchers and practitioners in public health, health care, child obesity, economics, sustainable agriculture, and food systems and other appropriate fields;
2. Identify research opportunities

Resources

Black Alliance for Just Immigration, www.blackalliance.org
CASA de Maryland, www.casademaryland.org
Center for Community Change/Fair Immigration Reform Movement, www.communitychange.org
Center for Intercultural Organizing, www.interculturalorganizing.org
Highlander Research and Education Center, www.highlandercenter.org
Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, www.kirwaninstitute.org
Latino Network, www.latnet.org
Mississippi Immigrants' Rights Alliance, www.yourmira.org
National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, www.nnirr.org
Oregon Action, www.oregonaction.org
Priority Africa Network, www.priorityafrica.org
Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York, www.rocny.org
Southeast Regional Economic Justice Network, www.rejn.org
Southern Echo, www.southernecho.org
Southwest Organizing Project, www.swop.net
Southwest Workers' Union, www.swunion.org

frames and talking points for local, state and federal policymakers that go beyond mere “myth-busting.”

Ongoing efforts and evident opportunities for collaboration are grounds for hope about the future of African-American/immigrant alliance-building work, but more support is needed to bring these opportunities to fruition. Creating alliances that endure and prosper is a challenging task that requires considerable resources. Organizers also highlighted the need for more grass-

roots leadership training and institutional capacity-building so that the viability of partnerships does not rely on the health of particular interpersonal relationships alone. The importance of building the field and sharing knowledge and resources among the community organizers undertaking this work cannot be overstated. The prospects are promising but will only be fully realized with additional support and continued dedication. □

whose results could be used to develop potentially successful public and private policy interventions within the food system and agriculture sector that would:

- a. promote healthy diets that are as local as feasible and reduce child and adult obesity;
- b. address health disparities by developing equal access to healthy food in communities across America;
- c. promote diversification of agricultural production in scale, production practices, products grown, and farmers in communities across America.

3. Foster interdisciplinary research teams to develop policy analysis white papers, including research needs, policy strategies and research propos-

als.

We invite our colleagues who are researchers, practitioners, advocates and policymakers to join together to create a national strategy for creating a healthier and more sustainable food system. □

Movesmart.org

Where you live has an enormous impact on nearly every aspect of your life, and moving can be confusing and stressful.

MoveSmart.org with its **Neighborhood Finder** helps you find vibrant, diverse neighborhoods containing the opportunities you need to be successful — www.movesmart.org.

HUD Makes Critical Race Data Available for Housing Programs

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research recently enhanced its "Picture of Subsidized Households" online database to make readily available to the public detailed demographic information about both its project-based and its tenant-based housing programs. The database includes a relatively user-friendly search engine and an online report generator that makes it possible to narrow your data requests by the type of housing program or by geographic area. In addition, the database provides limited information on the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program (even though it is not a HUD program). The new "2008 Picture of Subsidized Households" is available at: <http://www.huduser.org/portal/picture2008/index.html>

For researchers and mappers these improvements are significant. For each project-based housing development, HUD now provides the geo-codes to map the project location. And for the tenant-based Housing Choice Voucher program, HUD has for the first time provided census tract data with the per-

centage of voucher holders in each data category. Since HUD also includes the total number of voucher holders in each tract, you can readily calculate the numbers of minority and non-minority voucher households, by tract, to compare where minority and non-minority voucher households use their subsidies.

Until this update, the most detailed data in the "Picture of Subsidized Households" were over a decade old. And, while the format itself was enticing, many of the data were missing or incomplete. It looks like HUD has now remedied much of those shortcomings. The current database is compiled from the 2008 individual household reports that are completed by program participants when they apply for or are recertified for housing assistance. The data come directly from HUD's required "Family Report Form" (HUD 50058 or 50059). Confidentiality is assured to the households, however, because only *aggregate* data for a particular housing development or for a specific census tract are provided. If a tract includes ten or

fewer assisted households, the data are withheld.

The available data for each housing development (or in the case of the Housing Choice Voucher program, for each census tract) are:

- Household Size and Composition
- Amount and Source of income
- Age and Disability Status
- Race and Ethnicity
- Poverty Status

For comparison purposes, the database also includes percentage of minority concentration and the poverty concentration (from the 2000 Census) for the tract in which a particular housing development is located.

For a more detailed description of the 2008 "Picture of Subsidized Households" and sample map presentations illustrating its potential, see the article at: www.prrac.org/pdf/2008HUDPicture.pdf

For additional information, contact Michael Hanley at the Empire Justice Center, Rochester, NY (MHanley@empirejustice.org) □

Resources

Most Resources are available directly from the issuing organization, either on their website (if given) or via other contact information listed. Materials published by PRRAC are available through our website: www.prrac.org. Prices include the shipping/handling (s/h) charge when this information is provided to PRRAC. "No price listed" items often are free.

When ordering items from PRRAC: SASE = self-addressed stamped

envelope (44¢ unless otherwise indicated). Orders may not be placed by telephone or fax. Please indicate from which issue of P&R you are ordering.

Race/Racism

- **Scarred Justice: The Orangeburg Massacre 1968** is a 2009, 57-minute documentary, produced/directed by Bestor Cram & Judy Richardson. Available in DVD from California Newsreel, contact@newsreel.org,

www.newsreel.org [11830]

- **Realizing the Dream** (Martin Luther King III, Founding Pres./CEO) has available its 2009 Annual Report/2010 Calendar. Likely free, from them at 191 Peachtree St. NW, #3300, Atlanta, GA 30303, www.realizingthedream.org [11841]
- **Latino Lives in America: Making It Home**, by Luis R. Fraga, John A. Garcia, Rodney E. Hero, Michael J. Correa, Valerie Martinez-

Ebers & Gary Segura (224 pp., 2010, \$24.95), has been published by Temple Univ. Press, 800/621-2736. [11852]

- **"ARRA & the Economic Crisis - One Year Later: Has Stimulus Helped Communities in Crisis?"** is a Feb. 2010 report from the Kirwan Inst. for the Study of Race and Ethnicity (headed by PRRAC Bd. member John Powell), available at www.kirwaninstitute.org [11858]

- **“Race in America: Restructuring Inequality.”** co-sponsored by the Univ. of Pittsburgh’s School of Social Work & its Ctr. on Race and Social Problems, will be held **June 3-6** at the University. Speakers include Julian Bond, Julianne Malveaux, Dalton Conley, Sheldon Danziger, Joe Feagin, Ron Ferguson, Harry Holzer, Marc Mauer, Pedro Noguera, Orlando Patterson, (PRRAC Bd. member) John Powell, David Williams et al. Inf. from 412/624-7382, meo24@pitt.edu, www.race.pitt.edu [11855]

Poverty/ Welfare

- **Religion and Poverty: Pan-African Perspectives**, ed. Peter J. Paris (359 pp., 2009, \$24.95), has been published by Duke Univ. Press, 919/687-3650, www.dukepress.edu [11828]

Community Organizing

- **The People Shall Rule: ACORN, Community Organizing, and the Struggle for Economic Justice**, ed. Robert Fisher (300 pp., 2009, \$69.95), has been published by Vanderbilt Press, 800/627-7377. Among the authors of the 12 chapters: Peter Dreier, Wade Rathke, (PRRAC Soc. Sci. Adv. Bd. member) Gregory Squires, John Atlas, Norm Fruchter, Gary Delgado. [11843]

Criminal Justice

- **The Sentencing Project** has just intro-

duced its new, improved website: www.sentencingproject.org [11831]

- **“Civil Rights Killings Yield Their Secrets”** was an informative page-1 story, by Carrie Johnson, in the Feb. 28, 2010 *Washington Post*, detailing the FBI’s efforts to review 108 unsolved killings from the 1950s and 1960s. Passage of time, death of prime suspects and the challenge of gathering evidence mean there will be few, if any, prosecutions (due as well to the narrow scope of federal statutes prior to 1968). But as Richard Cohen of the Southern Poverty Law Center said, “Justice in a few of those cases is going to have to serve as a symbolic victory for all of them.” [11863]

Education

- **“Choice without Equity: Charter School Segregation and the Need for Civil Rights Standards,”** by Erica Frankenberg, Genevieve Siegel-Hawley & Jia Wang (127 pp., Feb. 2010), is available (possibly free) from the UCLA Civil Rights Project, 8370 Math Sciences, Box 951521, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521, 310/267-5562, www.civilrightsproject.ucla.edu [11827]

- **“A New Diverse Majority: Students of Color in the South’s Public Schools”** (2010?) is available in 4-page Summary form and complete report from The Southern Education Fund, 135 Auburn Ave. NE, 2nd flr., Atlanta, GA 30303, www.southerneducation.org [11849]

- **“The Improvement Imperative: Upgrading Teaching and Other Resources in 4 Ohio Districts”** is a 16-page, Jan. 2010 report from the Citizens Commn. on Civil Rights (chaired by PRRAC Board member William L. Taylor). Available (no price listed) from the Commn., 2000 M St. NW, Wash., DC 20036, 202/223-5565, crosario@cccr.org [11850]

- **“Re-Imagining Schooling for Boys and Young Men of Color,”** the 4th Annual Gathering of Leaders, sponsored by the Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color, will take place **April 22-24** at Howard Univ. in DC. Inf. from 773/285-9600, smp@blackstarproject.org [11869]

Families/ Women/ Children

- **Jesus, Jobs, and Justice: African American Women and Religion**, by Bettye Collier-Thomas (695 pp., 2010, \$37.50), has been published by Alfred A. Knopf. [11838]

- **“Place-Based Learning: Connecting Children, Youth and Their Communities”** is the theme of an upcoming Spring 2011 special issue of *Children, Youth and Environments*. 1-page abstracts due by April 1 to guest editors r.barratt@bathspa.ac.uk, edsecbh@bath.ac.uk, louise.chawla@colorado.edu; http://www.colorado.edu/journals/cye/

- **“The Next Challenge for Public Housing: Serving Its Most Vulner-**

able Families,” sponsored by The Urban Institute and Chapin Hall, will take place **March 11** at The Urban Inst. in DC, 9-10:30am, with a live audio webcast (for which you must register). If this issue of *P&R* arrives after the event, check to see if it is archived: info@chapinhall.org [11840]

Food/ Nutrition/ Hunger

- **The Food Research and Action Center** publishes a weekly News Digest, highlighting what’s new on hunger, nutrition and poverty issues at FRAC, USDA and around the network of national, state and local anti-poverty and anti-hunger organizations, and the media. Contact them at 1875 Conn. Ave. NW, #540, Wash., DC 20009, 202/986-2200, x3009, dodell@frac.org

Health

- **Health Issues in the Black Community**, eds. Ronald L. Braithwaite, Sandra E. Taylor & Henrie M. Treadwell (3rd ed., 656 pp., 2009, \$80 non-member price), has been co-published by the American Public Health Assn. & Jossey-Bass. 888/320-APHA, APHA@pbd.com, www.apha bookstore.org [11871]

Homelessness

- **The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness** has launched a new interactive website, “USICH Preventing and Ending Homelessness,” as one

element of the transparent process of developing the Federal Strategic Plan that, under the HEARTH Act, requires the Agency to deliver the Plan to Congress by May 20. fsp.uservice.com [11868]

Housing

- **Blueprint for Disaster: The Unravling of Chicago Public Housing**, by D. Bradford Hunt (380 pp., 2009, \$35), has been published by Univ. of Chicago Press. [11834]

- **“Native American Housing: Tribes Generally View Block Grant Program Effective, but Tracking of Infrastructure Plans and Investments Needs Improvement”** is a Feb. 25, 2010 GAO report, available at www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-10-326 [11856]

- **“Fair Credit and Fair Housing in the Wake of the Subprime Lending and Foreclosure Crisis,”** a Feb. 2010 report from the Kirwan Inst. for the Study of Race and Ethnicity

(headed by PRRAC Bd. member John Powell), is available at www.fairrecovery.org [11859]

- **The 11th Annual New York State Affordable Housing Conference** will be held **April 29, 2010** in NYC. Inf. from 718/432-2100, info@nysafah.org, www.nysafah.org [11861]

Immigration

- **Immigration for Shared Prosperity: A Framework for Comprehensive Reform**, by Ray Marshall (64 pp., April 2009, \$9.95), is available from the Economic Policy Inst., 800/EPI-4844. [11847]

Miscellaneous

- **“States in Crisis”** is a special 23-page section of the March 2010 *The American Prospect*, co-produced with Demos. Among the authors of the 9 articles: Michael Lipsky, Mark Schmitt, Peter Dreier, Iris Lav, Diane Stewart. Available at 888/687-8732. [11837]

- **“Leadership & Social Innovation Summit,”** sponsored by the Center for Leadership Innovation (formerly the Development Training Inst.), will take place **April 28-30** in Chicago. Inf. from the Ctr., 3300 No. Ridge Rd., #100, Ellicott City, MD 21043. [11844]

Job Opportunities/Fellowships/Grants

- **The Bazelon Ctr. for Mental Health Law** is hiring a **Professional Writer** for grant-writing work. Resume/writing samples/ltr./salary reqs. to Human Resources, Bazelon Ctr., 1101 15th St. NW, #1212, Wash., DC 20005, fax 202/233-0409, search2@bazelon.org [11823]

- **The National Community Education Assn.** seeks an **Executive Director**. www.ncea.com has full information and application procedure. [11824]

- **Sabbatical Fellowships for Community Organizers of Color** are provided via the Alston Banner Leadership Initiative. April 13 application deadline. 410/327-6220, www.centerforsocialinclusion.org

- **The Center for Social Inclusion** is hiring a **Communications Director**. Ltr./resume to Idelisse Malave, 65 Broadway, #1800, NYC, NY 10006, [11865]

- **The Akonadi Foundation** has put out a Request for Proposals call for its Building Resilience in Indigenous Communities Initiative. March 30 submission deadline. Inf. at www.honorearth.org/grantmaking/guidelines, melanie@akonadi.org [11866]

- **People’s Grocery**, a community-based organization in West Oakland, CA, is looking for a **Development Director**. Ltr./resume/brief writing sample to nisha@peoplesgrocery.org [11867]

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