The National Collaborative held its twentieth Place Matters National Action Laboratory on October 22-24, 2015 in Las Cruces, NM. The Place Matters initiative is a national initiative, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, designed to build the capacity of leaders and communities to identify and address the social, economic, environmental factors that shape health and life opportunities.

The Lab kicked off with entertainment by the Mariachi Azteca, Ballet Folklorico Quetzalcoatl, Grupo Acordeones de Oro - La Academia Dolores Huerta Charter School followed by a transformational plenary session by Dr. Jennifer Dentedale on historical trauma, a tour in the Colonias of la Unión, Berino and Vado. The spirit of the meeting was captured so brilliantly in photos taken by Mauricio Martinez, Office of the King County Executive. To view the photos click here.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Congressional Briefing**

**Mediaploration: A Call for Unbiased Reporting for Boys and Men of Color**

Date: December 10, 2014
Location: Rayburn House Office Building-Gold Room
Time: 8:30 a.m -10:00 a.m.
Civil Rights Groups Stand in Solitary with Young Activists in Ferguson

This year has been punctuated by enraging acts that have devalued, debased and destroyed young Black and Brown lives – particularly the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year-old from Ferguson, Missouri. Leading national health, equity and civil rights groups, joining together as grantees of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, issued a joint statement in response to the courageous actions of young activists who have reinvigorated the Civil Rights Movement. View the statement here.

“Literacy” Test Louisiana Gave Black Voters in the 1960s

After the end of the Civil War, would-be black voters in the South faced an array of disproportionate barriers to enfranchisement. The literacy test—supposedly applicable to both white and black prospective voters who couldn’t prove a certain level of education but in actuality disproportionately administered to black voters—was a classic example of one of these barriers. Read more about the test here and watch Harvard students take the test here.

Our Events

- **Mediawploitation: A Call for Unbiased Reporting for Boys and Men of Color**
  December 10, 2014

- **New Partners for Smart Growth Conference**
  January 29, 2015

- **Children and Nature Network Conference**
  April 7-9, 2015
Revitalizing the West Chicago Avenue Corridor

As co-quarterbacks, the Chicago Community Loan Fund (CCLF) and the West Humboldt Park Family and Community Development Council (WHPFCDC) are revitalizing the West Chicago Avenue Corridor. The corridor suffers from high vacancy rates and is located in a neighborhood with a poverty rate of three times the national average. Currently, residents find themselves driving out of the neighborhood to get healthy groceries, eat at a restaurant, or seek health services. With help from Partners in Progress, CCLF and WHPFCDC are working to ensure that services and businesses repopulate the corridor, transforming it into an attractive neighborhood for current and new residents.

The media continues to perpetuate the negative stereotype that boys and men of color are violent criminals. Read more here.

State of the Latino Family Survey

As part of an ongoing effort to elevate the work that can bring racial equity to the forefront, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation is commissioning public opinion polls. The State of the Latino Family Survey captures the current experience of all Latinos living in the U.S., including undocumented immigrants to those who migrated generations ago. View the survey here.
Closing the Racial Achievement Gap Could Expand America’s Economy By Trillions

The gap in educational achievement between white students and students of color could be costing the nation trillions of dollars, according to a new report. An analysis released this week by the Center for American Progress posits that closing the racial educational achievement gap will be especially important in the coming decades as the nation's population of color continues to grow. Read more about the report here.

The BUILD Health Challenge

The Advisory Board Company, the de Beaumont Foundation, the Kresge Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation launched a new award program to improve community health and promote health equity. The grant program, the BUILD Health Challenge, seeks to support communities that are working to improve health at a population level. The partners will award up to $3.5 million in grants and $4 million in low-interest loans over two years. To learn more, visit the program’s website here.