Congressional City Conference

Economic Mobility and Opportunity Task Force

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#NLCDC
Economic Mobility and Opportunity Task Force

- President Matt Zone launched the 2017 task force to demonstrate commitment to this issue
- 22 local elected officials
- Chaired by Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed
Economic Mobility and Opportunity

**Economic mobility** is the ability of individuals and families to move up the income ladder, a fundamental value that defines the American Dream.

**Economic opportunities** enable individuals and families to become economically mobile, such as jobs, training, and supports.
The American Dream?

- Probability that a child born to parents in the bottom fifth of the income distribution reaches the top fifth:
  - USA: 7.5% (Chetty, Hendren, Kline, Saez 2014)
  - UK: 9.0% (Blanden and Machin 2008)
  - Denmark: 11.7% (Boserup, Kopczuk, and Kreiner 2013)
  - Canada: 13.5% (Corak and Heisz 1999)

→ Chances of achieving the “American Dream” are almost two times higher in Canada than in the U.S.

Task Force Membership
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Mayor Kasim Reed of Atlanta, Ga.
Chair

Mayor Megan Barry of Nashville, Tenn.
Mayor William V. Bell of Durham, N.C.
Councilmember Rick Callahan of Dallas
Treasurer José Cisneros of San Francisco
Councilmember Phyllis Cleveland of Cleveland
Mayor Pro Tem Tameika Isaac Devine of Columbia, S.C.
Mayor Johnny L. DuPree of Hattiesburg, Miss.
Mayor Jorge Elorza of Providence, R.I.
Councilmember Deana Holiday Ingraham of East Point, Ga.
Councilmember Karl Nurse of St. Petersburg, Fla.
Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell of Los Angeles
Mayor William Peduto of Pittsburgh
Mayor Jennifer Roberts of Charlotte, N.C.
Mayor Libby Schaaf of Oakland, Calif.
Councilmember Matt Schellenberg of Jacksonville, Fla.
Mayor Paul Soglin of Madison, Wis.
Councilmember Kristin Szakos of Charlottesville, Va.
Mayor T. Oscar Trevino of North Richland Hills, Texas
Mayor Martin J. Walsh of Boston
Mayor Lovely Warren of Rochester, N.Y.
Councilmember P.C. Wu of Pensacola, Fla.
Task Force Objectives

• Build and support local champions who can engage in and inform national debates.

• Raise the profile of local efforts that have potential to increase economic mobility.

• Develop recommendations that spur local action to boost economic opportunities for families.

• Provide a forum for city leaders to share ideas, challenges and resources.
Task Force Working Groups

GROUP I
Jobs, workforce development, and livable wages

GROUP II
Equitable Economic Development

GROUP III
Affordable Housing

GROUP IV
Financial Inclusion
President Zone’s Local Action Challenge

All city leaders take action to increase economic mobility and opportunities for their residents in 2017
President Zone’s Local Action Challenge

- **Boost Working Families’ Incomes**
  Promote and Help Residents Claim the Earned Income Tax Credit

- **Strengthen Residents’ Financial Capability**
  Expand Access to Financial Education and Coaching

- **Provide New Options for Families In Debt**
  Implement Win-Win City Debt Collection Strategies

- **Expand Job Access and Pathways of Opportunity**
  Use City Hiring and Contracting Policies to Assist Residents in Distressed Neighborhoods
Join President Zone and Take the Pledge!

• Sign on to the action challenge and share your local action
  • Tweet your pledge: #NLCOpportunityPledge
  • Through your conference app (during Monday’s plenary session)
  • Go to www.nlc.org/econmobilitychallenge and complete pledge form
  • A paper pledge will be available at the “Ask NLC” desk

• Resource guides with information about the four action areas are available online www.nlc.org/econmobilitychallenge
Questions?

For more information, please visit: www.nlc.org/econmobilitychallenge

Contact:

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