




**OPPORTUNITY  
NATION**  
THE SHARED PLAN TO RESTORE OPPORTUNITY

Opportunity Nation is a national campaign to promote opportunity, social mobility, and access to the American Dream. We believe that the zip code people are born into shouldn't determine their destiny, and that when social mobility grinds to a halt, we are in grave danger of losing the best of America.

No political party or ideology has a monopoly on good ideas to increase opportunity, and we believe that only by cutting across program and policy silos and finding common ground will we create lasting opportunity in America. With the backing of our diverse, multi-sector coalition of 200 businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions, policy leaders, and civic organizations, we are developing a shared, cross-partisan plan that will include both federal policy changes and private sector actions.

The plan will focus on critical levers of opportunity, including education, expanding options for job training, supporting families, and strengthening community assets.

Accomplishments and Priorities >>>

## 2011 Accomplishments

**National, Cross-partisan Leadership:** Launched Opportunity Nation at a national summit in New York City after an 18 month listening tour

- Co-convened by TIME, AARP, Ford Foundation, and United Way Worldwide, and supported by a Leadership Council of 70+ sector leaders chaired by Mayor Michael Bloomberg
- Drew 500+ attendees from across the country including Fareed Zakaria, Russell Simmons, Rick Warren, Serena Williams, Michael Gerson, Arianna Huffington, US Senator Michael Bennet, US Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, Staples COO Michael Miles, and many others
- Featured in a TIME Magazine cover story about mobility in America with strong media coverage (CNN, Reuters, Politico, Huffington Post, CBS Radio, Chronicle of Philanthropy, and others)
- Brought together 200 organizations in the coalition focused on promoting opportunity, including large businesses like Staples, Inc. and State Farm; national nonprofits like Teach for America, Year Up, LIFT, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Save the Children; educational institutions such as Miami Dade College and University of Texas El Paso; and faith groups like Catholic Charities
- Highlighted pledges by community colleges, four-year colleges and universities to organize 10 regional Opportunity Nation events around the country in the spring of 2012
- Featured commitments from our Policy Council, including scholars from the Heritage Foundation, Center for American Progress, and the Brookings Institution, to collaborate on an opportunity agenda

**Grassroots Engagement:** Nominated, selected, and engaged 100 Opportunity Leaders and Scholars representing the best and brightest community-level opportunity advocates from 44 states across the country who will act as grassroots ambassadors for the campaign

**An Interactive Snapshot of Opportunity Today:** Created the Opportunity Index ([www.opportunityindex.org](http://www.opportunityindex.org)), featured in TIME Magazine, the nation's first quantitative assessment of the opportunities available in communities across the country. The Index was created in partnership with the American Human Development Project of the Social Science Research Council.

## 2012 Plans: Three Priorities to Achieve Lasting Change

### Compelling Policy

Create and advocate for a comprehensive, cross-partisan Opportunity Plan with the support of the Opportunity Nation coalition

### A National Discussion

Ensure that economic opportunity – and strategies to promote it – remain part of national dialogue, and that leading elected officials and candidates for office either adopt our Opportunity Plan or share one of their own

### Community Action

Create new avenues for citizen engagement by organizing and promoting activities that focus on changes needed to boost local Opportunity Index scores



Fareed Zakaria

Mark Edwards

Kevin Jennings

Luis Ubiñas

Jo Ann Jenkins



Michael Bloomberg

Michael Bennet

Richard Stengel

Elaine Chao

Rodney Slater



Marcia Anderson

# Opportunity Nation Summit 2011

November 3-4, 2011



Rick Warren

Arianna Huffington and Michael Gerson



Stuart Butler, Neera Tanden, Isabel Sawhill, Patricia Stonesifer, and John Bridgeland



Marquis Cabrera

Jamira Burley, Kenny Luckes, and Diamond Jimenez



Elizabeth Clay Roy



Janet Murguía



Suze Orman



Eduardo Padrón



Russell Simmons



Michael Miles



Hill Harper



Jon Schnur



Larry Snyder



Serena Williams

## Leadership Council (as of November 14, 2011)

Salam Al-Marayati – President, Muslim Public Affairs Council

Emily Allen - Vice President of Income, AARP Foundation

Major General Marcia Anderson – Major General, U.S. Army Reserves

Robert Atchinson – Co-Founder, Adage Capital Management, L.P.

Robert Balfanz - Research Scientist, Center for Social Organization of Schools at Johns Hopkins University

Joshua Bekenstein - Managing Director, Bain Capital, LLC

The Honorable Michael Bennet – U.S. Senator, Colorado

Angela Glover Blackwell – Founder and CEO, PolicyLink

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg (Co-Chair) – Mayor, New York City

The Honorable John Bridgeland - CEO, Civic Enterprises; Former Assistant to the President, Director of White House Domestic Policy Council and USA Freedom Council, President George W. Bush

Xavier de Souza Briggs - Associate Professor of Sociology and Planning, MIT Department of Urban Studies & Planning

Roger Brown - President, Berklee College of Music

Sarah Burd-Sharps - Co-Director, American Human Development Project

Jamira Burley - Opportunity Scholar

Stuart Butler - Distinguished Fellow and Director, Center for Policy Innovation

Marquis Cabrera - Opportunity Scholar

Nick Cannon - Actor, Comedian, Musician, Writer, and Executive Producer

Dan Carroll - Founding Partner, Newbridge Capital

Noel Castellanos – CEO, Christian Community Development Association

José Cisneros - Treasurer, City and County of San Francisco

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao - 24th U.S. Secretary of Labor (2001 – 2009)

Gerald Chertavian - Founder and CEO, Year Up

John Coatsworth - Dean, School of International and Public Affairs, Interim Provost, Columbia University

The Reverend Luis Cortés, Jr. - President, Esperanza

Scott Cowen – President, Tulane University

Jonathan DeFelice – President, Saint Anselm College

Robert Denson – President, Des Moines Area Community College

Meredith DeWitt – Principal, Meredith J. DeWitt Consulting

The Honorable John J. Dilulio, Jr. – Former Assistant to the President & Director, Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, President George W. Bush

Tiffany Dufu - President, The White House Project

Willarda V. Edwards - MD, MBA; Past President, National Medical Association

Brian Gallagher – President and CEO, United Way Worldwide

John Galante - Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, J.P. Morgan Chase

The Honorable Michael J. Gerson – Journalist, Washington Post; Assistant to the President for Policy and Strategic Planning, President George W. Bush

Kat Graham - Actress on the CW's The Vampire Diaries, Singer

Christopher Graves - Global CEO, Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide

Barry Griswell - Former CEO and Chairman of the Board, Principal Financial Group

Paul Grogan - President and CEO, The Boston Foundation

James Gutierrez - CEO, Progreso Financiero

The Honorable Tony Hall – U.S. Ambassador, United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture; Former U.S. Congressman, Ohio

Hill Harper - Actor, Author, Activist

Ron Haskins – Former White House Senior Advisor for Welfare Policy, President George W. Bush

Arianna Huffington - President and Editor-in-Chief, The Huffington Post Media Group

Woody Hunt – Chairman and CEO, Hunt Companies, Inc.

Curtis L. Ivery – Chancellor, Wayne County Community College District

Jo Ann Jenkins – President, AARP Foundation

Michael Jennings - Director of Information Technology, LinkedIn

Diamond Jimenez - Year Up NYC

David John – Senior Research Fellow in Retirement Security and Financial Institutions, The Heritage Foundation

Paula Johnson - Executive Director of the Mary Horrigan Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology, and Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Hubie Jones - Social Justice Entrepreneur in Residence, City Year, Inc.

Serene Jones - President, Union Theological Seminary

Vidar Jorgensen - President, Grameen America and Grameen Research; Advisor, Grameen Trust and Grameen Health Trust; Chairman, World Health Care Congress

Irv Katz – President and CEO, National Human Services Assembly

Kimberly Kelleher – Worldwide Publisher, TIME

Charles Kolb – President, Committee for Economic Development  
Kathy Krendl – President, Otterbein University

Wendy Kopp - CEO and Founder, Teach For America; CEO and Co-Founder, Teach For All

Jonathan Lavine – Managing Director, Bain Capital, LLC; Managing Partner and Chief Investment Officer, Sankaty Advisors, LLC

Stanley Litow - Vice President, Corporate Citizenship & Corporate Affairs, and President, IBM International Foundation

Kirsten Lodal - CEO and Co-Founder, LIFT

Kenny Luckes - YouthBuild USA Young Leaders Council

Michael Lynton – Chairman and CEO, Sony Pictures Entertainment

Anthony Marx – President and CEO, New York Public Library

Patrick McCarthy – President and CEO, The Annie E. Casey Foundation

Michael Miles - President and COO, Staples, Inc.

Maurice Lim Miller - President and CEO, Family Independence Initiative

Pat Mora – Author and Literacy Advocate

Rosabeth Moss Kanter - Arbuckle Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School; Author

Michael Miles - President and COO, Staples, Inc.

Michael Muldowney – Interim CEO, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Janet Murguía - President and CEO, National Council of La Raza

Diana Natalicio – President, The University of Texas at El Paso

C.L. Max Nikias – President, University of Southern California

Jane Oates - Assistant Secretary of Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

Noe Orgaz - YouthBuild USA

Suze Orman - Personal Finance Expert

Eduardo Padrón – President, Miami Dade College

The Honorable Deval Patrick - Governor, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Kenneth Peacock – Chancellor, Appalachian State University

John E. Pepper, Jr. - Chairman of the Board, the Walt Disney Company; Former Chairman of the Board and CEO, Procter & Gamble

Hugh Price - John L. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs; Former President and CEO, National Urban League

A. Barry Rand - CEO, AARP

Mark Rodgers - Principal, The Clapham Group; Managing Director, Wedgwood Circle

Judith Rodin – President, The Rockefeller Foundation

Robert Ross - President, The California Endowment

Isabel Sawhill – Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Jon Schnur - Chairman of the Board and CoAFounder, New Leaders

Russell Simmons – CEO, RUSH Communications

Rodney Slater – Partner, Patton Boggs LLP; Board of Directors, United Way Worldwide

Gail Snowden – CEO, Freedom House

Reverend Larry Snyder - President, Catholic Charities USA

Rick Stengel - Managing Editor, TIME

Max Stier – President and CEO, Partnership for Public Service

Dorothy Stoneman - Founder and President, YouthBuild USA

Patricia Stonesifer - Chair, White House Council for Community Solutions; Former CoA Chair and CEO, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Neera Tanden – President, Center for American Progress

Stuart Thorn – President and CEO, Southwire

Jasmine Torres - Opportunity Scholar; Student, University of Southern California, Class of 2011

Luis Ubiñas - President, Ford Foundation

Dennis Van Roekel - President, National Education Association

Judy Vredenburg – President and CEO, Girls, Inc.

Jill Wakefield – Chancellor, Seattle Community Colleges

Margy Waller - Former White House Senior Advisor on Working Families, President Bill Clinton

Rick Warren – Pastor, Saddleback Church

Roland Warren - President, National Fatherhood Initiative

Mark Wildman - Vice President, Group Publisher of The Parenting Group

will.i.am - Musician/Producer, Entrepreneur, Philanthropist

Harry Williams – President, Delaware State University

Kern Williams - Opportunity Scholar; Fund Accountant, State Street Bank; Year Up Boston Class of January 2010

Serena Williams - U.S. Tennis Champion, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

The Honorable Harris Wofford - Former U.S. Senator, Pennsylvania

Fareed Zakaria - Editor-at-Large, TIME; Host of CNN's GPS with Fareed Zakaria

Major General Albert Zapanta (Ret.) - President & CEO, U.S. Mexico Chamber of Commerce



From Opportunity Nation Summit 2011 Coalition Meeting

## The Opportunity Nation Coalition (as of November 14, 2011)

A Better Balance	City Connects	Feeding America
A Place Called Home	City Fresh Foods	Feelgoodz LLC
Admission Possible	City Year, Inc.	The Financial Clinic
Afterschool Alliance	Civic Enterprises	Forum for Youth Investment
After-School All-Stars	Coalition for Responsible Community Development	The Friendship Club
America's Promise Alliance	Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities	Future Chef
Asian Community Development Corporation	College Bound	Future Civic Leaders
Bay Area Council	Community Action Partnership	Gateway to College National Network
Be the Change, Inc.	Community Coalition	Generation Citizen
Bethel New Life	Community HealthCorps	Generations United
Big Brothers Big Sisters (Newark, NJ)	Community Renewal International	Generosity Unbound
Blue Engine	Community Service Society of New York	Global Citizen Year
Blue Star Families	Compass Working Capital	Gourmet Caterers
Boston Rising	Connecticut Association for Human Services	Green City Force
Bowdoin Street Health Center	Corporate Voices for Working Families	GTECH Strategies
Boxxout	Corporation for Enterprise Development	Habitat for Humanity International
Boy Scouts of America	The Corps Network	Harlem Children's Zone
Boys and Girls Clubs of America	The Council for Adult & Experiential Learning	Health Leads
Center for Employment Opportunities	The Declaration Initiative	Heart of Compassion
Center for Family Policy and Practice	Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice	Hillel
Center for Rural Affairs	Dysart Community Center	Hispanic Heritage Foundation
CEOs for Cities	Earth Conservation Corps	Hope Street Group
Champion Access	Education Resource Strategies	Horizons for Homeless Children
Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	Educators 4 Excellence	i.c.stars
Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights	The Eos Foundation	Initiative for a Competitive Inner City
Children Now	Equity and Inclusion Campaign	Iowa Campus Compact
The Children's Movement of Florida	Esperanza	Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation
Christian Community Development Association	Faith for Change	Jobs for the Future
Chrysalis	Family Independence Initiative	Juma Ventures
Citizen Schools		Jumpstart for Young Children
		Kentucky Youth Advocates
		L.A. Youth

Lemonade Day	New Jersey Minority Educational Development	Southern Education Foundation
Legal Action Center	New Leaders	Springfield Institute
Legal Aid Ministries	New Profit, Inc.	St. Bernard Project
Liberty Hill Foundation	New York City Coalition Against Hunger	Stoked Mentoring
LIFT	New York Needs You	StreetWise Partners
Marion Institute	Newark Now	Strive (Cincinnati)
Maryland CASH Campaign	Next Street Financial	STRIVE (New York City)
Mass Challenge	North Carolina Campus Compact	Student Veterans of America
Met Council	Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks	Summer Advantage
Michigan League for Human Services	One Family, Inc.	Summer Search
Missouri Association for Community Action	Opportunity Fund	Sustained Dialogue Campus Network
Mobilize.org	OpportunityTexas	Swellr
More Than Words	Oxfam America	Tavis Smiley Foundation
Music National Service	Peace First	Teach For America
myImpact.org	Peer Health Exchange	Trust Project
National Association for State Community Services Programs	People's Grocery	United States 4 Kids
National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy	Points of Light Institute	United Way of Central Iowa
National Center on Family Homelessness	ProInspire	Unreasonable Institute
National Center on Time and Learning	Reach Out and Read	Up2Us
National Conference on Citizenship	Rebuilding Together	UrbanPromise Ministries
National Council of La Raza	Repair the World	Vanguard Leadership Group
National Council on Aging	Rising Tide Capital	Voto Latino
National Education Association	Rock the Vote	Wilmington Ten Foundation for Social Justice, Inc.
National Fatherhood Initiative	Roosevelt Institute Campus Network	Wings Over America
National Foundation for Credit Counseling	Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center	Women In Need, Inc.
National Human Services Assembly	Save the Children	World Vision – United States
National Latino Evangelical Coalition	Search Institute	Year Up, Inc.
National Service-Learning Partnership	Share Our Strength	Young Invincibles
National Skills Coalition	ShopProgress	Young People's Project
National Youth Employment Coalition	Single Stop USA	Youth Service America
Native American Community Academy	SnagFilms	YouthBuild USA
New Door Ventures	Solid Ground	



John Bridgeland at Youth Town Hall