



PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity by Lifting Up What Works®

Profile DonateNow Contact Press

Career & Internship Opportunities

- HOME
- ABOUT US
- FOCUS AREAS
- PUBLICATIONS
- EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT
- GET INVOLVED

POLICYLINK & CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS HOST "ALL-IN CALIFORNIA" [KEEP ME INFORMED](#)

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Anand Subramanian

(510) 663-4331

anand@policylink.org



PolicyLink and Center for American Progress host "All-In California: Equity and the Future of the Golden State"

Community and tech industry leaders discuss how engaging the state's rapidly growing communities of color in the political process and tech-driven economy can lead to a more prosperous California for all.

September 24, 2013 – Oakland, CA – Yesterday, [PolicyLink](#) and [Center for American Progress](#) (CAP) hosted **All-In California: Equity and the Future of the Golden State**, a lively discussion putting a California context on their recently published [All-In Nation: An America that Works for All](#) – a free e-book which describes how strong communities of color are critical to America's economic future. All-In Nation lays out a comprehensive policy agenda to build an equitable economy where everyone, including fast-growing communities of color, can participate and thrive.

"California once led the nation by investing in its people. Legislation such as the minimum wage increase, Domestic Worker Bill of Rights, and a slate of bills that expand opportunities for boys and men of color, shows that the state is laying the groundwork to lead again," said PolicyLink Founder and CEO **Angela Gover Blackwell**, who led a discussion entitled "Equity in the Tech-Driven Regional Economy," focusing on the need for more inclusion of diverse groups in the booming Silicon Valley tech sector.

CAP President **Neera Tanden** moderated "The Politics to Advance an All-In California," a panel that considered how to politically engage communities of color to increase economic inclusion in California.

"One of the singular challenges of our time is the growing inequality that is stifling economic opportunity in this country, informed by stinging racial inequity that grew during the recession," Tanden said. "The whole country's economy will suffer if we leave so many people behind."

The event also featured a conversation between Blackwell and Oakland Mayor **Jean Quan** on "Building an All-In Oakland."

"Oakland is not just diverse ethnically, we're fairly economically diverse. My goal is to create more chances for Oakland neighborhoods to break out of long cycles of poverty and violence and get blue-collar workers into the middle class," said Mayor Quan.

Other distinguished speakers included East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy Executive Director **Nikki Bas**, Santa Clara County Supervisor **Cindy Chavez**, The California Endowment Senior Program Manager **Ray Colmenar**, Inner City Advisors CEO **José Corona**, Base Ventures Managing Director **Kirby Harris**, Oakland Rising Executive Director **Esperanza Tervalon-Daumont**, California Calls President **Anthony Thigpen**, and Hidden Genius Project Founding Mentor **Jason Young**.

"We must eliminate policies and practices that reinforce racial inequities, so that all peoples' dignity to be full participants in our society can be realized," said Ford Foundation Vice-President **Maya Harris** during her opening remarks. "Equal access to economic security is not just a moral and political imperative, it is an economic imperative to secure our country's place as the most prosperous nation in a global economy."

Photographs from the event are available.

#####

PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity by Lifting Up What Works ®. PolicyLink connects the work of people on the ground to the policy changes needed to build an equitable economy—one in which everyone, including low-income people and people of color, can participate and prosper. Visit <http://www.policylink.org> for more information.

[PolicyLink in the News](#)

"Fred Blackwell Speaks On Blacks Being Left Out of Urban Development," The Loop 21

"HUD Awards Grant to Oakland to Create Better Community," San Francisco Chronicle

"Innovative Policies Are Essential to Save Men Who Are at Risk," The Sacramento Bee

"On Jobs and Safety Net, Lawmakers Must Focus on Hard-Hit Minorities," CNN.com

[all News and Events](#)

vie

[CONTACT POLICYLINK](#) | [SITE MAP](#)