

ENDING THE CRISIS AMONG MEN AND BOYS OF COLOR

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For Immediate Release

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Ending the Crisis Among Men and Boys of Color Mayor Ron Dellums and more than 100 of nation's top advocates coming to Oakland to tackle pernicious problem

America's young boys of color face a virtual "womb to tomb" struggle. From the moment they are conceived, they have road blocks thrown before them. Poor pre-natal care and infant nutrition. Inadequate health care. Sub-par schools. A juvenile justice system unprepared to deal with the complexities of their lives. By the time they reach high school, the cumulative impact of these challenges is often overwhelming. Many boys of color face three sad choices: a menial job, prison or an early death.

"There is a crisis engulfing millions of young men and boys of color," said Angela Glover Blackwell, founder and CEO of Oakland-based PolicyLink. "Too many African Americans, Latinos and Asians in the Bay Area and beyond are starting out life at a tremendous disadvantage."

More than 100 of the Bay Area and nation's leading social inclusion advocates for will join together at the "Men and Boys of Color in Crisis" summit Tuesday, Nov. 20 to throw a spotlight on the multi-faceted challenges facing our young men and boys - and to find some positive ways to move forward.

What: "Men and Boys of Color in Crisis: An Issue We Cannot Deny": A provocative conversation to help understand and address issues affecting men and boys of color.

When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, November 20

Where: Youth UpRising, 8711 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland

Sponsors: The Kaiser Family Foundation, The California Endowment, and PolicyLink

Attendees:

Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums

Charles Ogletree, Harvard University, Executive Director, Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice

Kevin Merida, Associate Editor, The Washington Post; coordinating editor, Being a Black Man

Ruben Gonzales, Executive Director, Latino Health Collaborative; former San Bernardino County Sherriff Deputy

Sherry Hirota, CEO, Asian Health Services

Barry Krisberg, President, The National Council on Crime and Delinquency

Ryan Mack, President, Optimum Capital Management, LLC

Pastor Tony Ortiz, Founding Director, California Youth Outreach

Arnold Perkins, Former Director, Alameda County Department of Public Health

Chris Robinson, Film and Video director

Alex Sanchez, Founder and Director, Homies Unidos

Olis Simmons, Executive Director, Youth UpRising



[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

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Dr. Henrie Treadwell, Director, Community Voices; associate director of development, National Center for Primary Care at Morehouse School of Medicine

James Bell, Executive director, W. Haywood Burns Institute

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