

IMPROVING COMMUNITY WELL-BEING:

# A Summit on Proven Approaches for Action

Where people are *born, grow, live, work and age* has a profound impact on their mental health and overall well-being. For example:

- Children exposed to community violence exhibit symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
- Abandoned housing provokes anxiety and stress among nearby residents.
- Mass unemployment is associated with high rates of depression.
- Mass incarceration has pervasive effects on communities, economy, and families.

Violence, housing quality, employment status, crime prevention, and opportunity for positive societal reintegration after incarceration – these are among the numerous social determinants of the mental health and well-being of our communities.

Join **Illinois State Senator Mattie Hunter** and the **Adler School of Professional Psychology**—which is conducting pioneering work on the social factors that impact the health of urban communities—for a unique summit examining how we can collaborate across government and philanthropy to improve the well-being of Chicago's most vulnerable communities.

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**Thursday, January 19, 2012**

**10:00 a.m. – noon**

**Adler School of Professional Psychology  
17 N. Dearborn Street, Downtown Chicago**

**RSVP to [Treilly@adler.edu](mailto:Treilly@adler.edu) by January 9, 2012.**

Please direct inquiries to Theresa Reilly via e-mail or phone, 312-662-4032.

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The Summit will create a forum to foster the development of a viable action plan to be implemented through the collaborative efforts of city residents, community-based organizations, service providers, government agencies, and philanthropic institutions in addressing wide-ranging and complex social conditions such as violence, elevated incarceration rates, unemployment, food insecurity, and desolate landscapes that undermine the health and well-being of low-income urban residents.



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Adler School of Professional Psychology, established in 1952, continues the pioneering work of eminent community psychologist Alfred Adler by preparing socially responsible practitioners, engaging communities, and advancing social justice.

For the last six years, the Adler School's Institutes for Social Change and its Art Therapy Department have worked with residents of Englewood and other underserved Chicago communities, public service providers, and community-based organizations to address issues ranging from youth violence to women's empowerment.

For example, the Institute on Social Exclusion (ISE), the Institute on Public Safety and Social Justice (IPSSJ) and the Art Therapy Department have partnered with Teamwork Englewood to implement the Youth Violence Prevention Program, working with boys between the ages 11-17 who are at risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of violence. The program provides innovative, impactful educational and therapeutic arts programming to shift youth attitudes, values, beliefs and behaviors as they are related to community violence.