Strategies to Support Economic Inclusion for Sustainable Communities

Danielle Bergstrom | PolicyLink
25 March 2013
PolicyLink is a research and action institute dedicated to **lifting up what works**.
Economists are finding a correlation between economic and racial inclusion and regional economic growth.


Where you live has significant implications for educational, economic, and health outcomes.
Who?

• Immigrants and refugees
• Historic communities of color
• Colonias residents
• Native Americans and tribal residents
• Isolated unincorporated communities
Why?

• Institutionalized disenfranchisement and racism in federal, state, and local policy
• Place and regional identity
• Class and language barriers to engagement
• Lack of political representation
• Ongoing misperceptions
Strategies for Economic Inclusion

• Grow workforce in high-opportunity industries
• Support and expand small/minority-owned businesses
• Leverage anchor institutions
• Support job creation through public investment
• Asset building and wealth creation
• Immigrant integration
Building Local Capacity for Economic Inclusion

- Community partnerships
- Resource sharing
- Cultivate stronger urban-rural connections
- Build an equity-focused ecosystem
Danielle Bergstrom, Program Associate
danielle@policylink.org
510-663-4389