1. The geography of poverty and opportunity has changed.

2. Current policies are not aligned to this new geography.

3. We need a new agenda for metropolitan opportunity.
The geography of poverty and opportunity has changed.
Much of our work focuses on the country’s 100 largest metropolitan statistical areas, which house two-thirds of the nation’s population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Metropolitan areas are statistical representations of “commuter sheds” and, by extension, labor markets.

- **PRIMARY CITY** in the 100 largest metro areas: First city in the MSA name; Any other named city with a population over 100,000
- **SUBURBS** in the 100 largest metro areas: Remainder of the MSA outside the primary city or cities
- **SMALL METRO AREA**: Any other MSA not in the top 100
- **RURAL**: Any county not in an official MSA

*Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Census 2000 data*
Today, suburbs are home to the largest and fastest growing poor population.

NOTE: The federal poverty threshold for a family of four was $23,492 in 2012.

Source: Brookings analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.
Between 2000 and 2012, the suburban poor population increased in 93 of the top 95 metros

- Chicago, 93%
- Atlanta, 159%
- Austin, 162%
- Las Vegas, 144%
- Salt Lake City, 124%
- Minneapolis, 126%

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS and decennial census data
By 2012, 59 of the top 95 metros found the majority of their region’s poor located in the suburbs.

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS data
Poverty has grown beyond dense, inner-ring suburbs

Thousands of poor

- Older (<95% urbanized): 4,129, 4,885
- Mature (75 to 95% urbanized): 3,560, 4,473
- Emerging (25 to 75% urbanized): 1,656, 2,205
- Exurban (>25% urbanized): 793, 1,126

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS and decennial census data
And at the same time, has become more concentrated

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS and decennial census data
Some differences exist between urban and suburban poor residents

- White, non-Hispanic: 24% (Cities), 44% (Suburbs)
- Less than a high school diploma: 36% (Cities), 30% (Suburbs)
- Own a home: 20% (Cities), 36% (Suburbs)
- Female-headed, with children: 50% (Cities), 43% (Suburbs)

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS data
But in many ways, the suburban and urban poor are strikingly similar

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cities</th>
<th>Suburbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In deep poverty</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With a disability</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 18</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign born</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least one worker in family</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS data
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Population Change

Immigration

Housing

Job Location

Regional Economy
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Population Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cities</th>
<th>Suburbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population Growth, 2000 to 2010</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of ACS and Decennial Census data
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Contribution to Growth in Suburban Poor Population, 2000 to 2009

Immigration

- Foreign-born population: 17%
- Native-born population: 83%

Source: Robert Suro, Jill Wilson, and Audrey Singer “Immigration and Poverty in America's Suburbs”
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of HUD “Picture of Subsidized Housing” data
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Source: Chris Shildt, Naomi Cytron, Elizabeth Kneebone and Carolina Reid, “The Subprime Crisis in Suburbia: Exploring the Links between Foreclosures and Suburban Poverty”
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Source: Elizabeth Kneebone, “Job Sprawl Stalls: The Great Recession and Metropolitan Employment Location”
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics LAUS data
Many factors drive suburbanizing poverty

Suburban poverty brings added challenges

Transit Access

Strained Local Services

Limited Philanthropic Resources

Change in School Populations
Suburban poverty brings added challenges

Transit Access

Share of Jobs Accessible from Suburban Low-Income Neighborhoods via Transit

Source: Tomer et al, “Missed Opportunity”
Suburban poverty brings added challenges

Share of Suburban Municipalities in Chicago, DC, and LA with Registered Nonprofit

- Substance Abuse: 59%
- Mental Health: 58%
- Food Assistance: 45%
- Human Services: 43%
- Employment Services: 20%

Source: Allard and Roth, “Strained Suburbs”
Suburban poverty brings added challenges

Limited Philanthropic Resources

Grants Dollars per Poor Person, Chicago Metro Area 2008

City: $68
Suburbs: $2

Source: Reckhow and Weir, “Building a Stronger Regional Safety Net”
Suburban poverty brings added challenges

Change in School Populations

Percent Change in Number of Students Enrolled in Free and Reduced Price Lunch, 2005-06 to 2009-10

City: 8%
Suburbs: 22%

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Common Core data
Suburban poverty brings added challenges

Access to Quality Schools

65%

45%

Middle- or high-income student
Low-income student

Share of students meeting proficiency standards in 2009-10

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of Common Core data
Current policies are not aligned to this new geography.
The legacy system of place-based anti-poverty programs developed over decades does not map easily onto the suburban landscape.

**Housing**
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Tenant-based Rental Assistance
- Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program
- Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Family Self-Sufficiency
- Housing Counseling Assistance

**Job Training**
- Job Corps
- WIA Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities
- WIA Youth Appropriation
- WIA Adult Program
- WIA Dislocated Worker Program
- YouthBuild
- Learn and Serve America
- National Emergency Grants
- State Grants: Work Opportunity Tax Credit
- Child Care and Development Block Grant

**Education**
- Title I — Improving The Academic Achievement Of The Disadvantaged
- Head Start and Early Head Start
- Improving Teacher Quality State Grants
- Adult Basic and Literacy Education
- GAIN: Early Awareness and State Grants
- TRIO: Upward Bound
- Gaining Early Awareness and State Grants
- Teacher Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)
- College Access Incentive Fund
- TRIO: Student Support Services
- Mathematics and Science Challenge Grant Program
- Race to the Top — Early Partnerships
- TRIO: Talent Search
- TRIO: Educational Opportunity Centers
- Learning Challenge
- TRIO: Educational Opportunity Centers
- Upward Bound Math Science
- Parental Information and TRIO
- Family Literacy Program: Advanced Placement Program (Advanced Resource Centers)
- Advanced Placement Incentive Program
- Placement Test Fee
- Advanced Placement Incentive Program
- School Leadership Program: Innovative Approaches to Grants
- A Vibra: 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Literacy: Assets for Independence (AFI)
- IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program
- Advanced Child Care Access Incentive Program Grants
- Qualified zone academy bonds (QZAB)
- Charter Schools Program

**Food Assistance**
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
- Summer Food Service Program
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

**Social Services**
- Substance Abuse Treatment Block Grant
- Social Services Block Grant
- Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant
- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHSBG)
- Access to Recovery (ATR)

**Health**
- Consolidated Health Centers
- Community Health Centers
- Health Care for the Homeless
- Public Housing Primary Care
- School Based Health Centers
- Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Grants for Capital Development in Health Centers: Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

**Economic Development**
- New Markets Tax Credit — Renewal Community Tax Incentives: Community Development Financial Institutions Program
- Economic Development Facilities: Recovery Zone Bonds
- Economic Development: Technical Assistance
- Economic Development: Technical Assistance
- Economic Development: Technical Assistance
- Economic Development: Technical Assistance
- Economic Services Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant: Discretionary Awards

$82 billion
81 federal programs
10 agencies
Suburbs face additional challenges

Lack of Capacity

Extensive Fragmentation

Inflexible, Unreliable Funding
Yet innovators across the country are finding creative ways to navigate this system
Achieve Scale

Collaborate and Integrate

Fund Strategically
The Road Map Project
South Seattle and King County suburbs

• Uses a collective impact, cradle to career model to close achievement gaps and improve outcomes, and relies on a consortium of public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders

• Works across seven school districts, including the city of Seattle and six suburban districts

• Employs a common set of metrics to track progress toward agreed upon goals
The Neighborhood Opportunity Network
Montgomery County, MD

- A collaboration between the County, nonprofits, faith based community, and local philanthropy
- Targets high need areas with integrated and culturally competent services
- Builds awareness and community networks through door knocking, Neighbors Exchange, and Neighbor Circles
Ways to Work
44 offices across the country

• Uses a franchise model, partnering with existing service providers to co-locate loan offices that help low-income working families access affordable car loans

• Blends public and private dollars and contracts with local providers to offer wraparound counseling services

• Pilots new models for offering services and invests in evaluation
Achieve Scale

Collaborate and Integrate

Fund Strategically
You can find additional resources and sign up for updates on suburban poverty research and best practices on the book’s website:

www.ConfrontingSuburbanPoverty.org
The website provides a host of helpful resources:

Profiles of the top 100 metros

Case studies of innovators

Tips for taking action

Video

Infographic