ELEVENTH NELSON CHAIR

ROUNDTABLE ON NETWORKING COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS

APRIL 5-6, 2018

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PROJECT HOPE AND THE DUDLEY STREET NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE
### Thursday, April 5th

#### Core Group Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introductions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anderson J. Franklin, <em>Roundtable Director, Nelson Professional Chair</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christine Dixon, <em>Executive Director, Project Hope</em></td>
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<td>Kalila Barnett, <em>Interim Executive Director, Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI)</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keri-Nicole Dillman, <em>Evaluation &amp; Learning Consultant</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>Mapping our work – Logic Model for No Child Goes Homeless (NCGH) Today</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Building out components of NCGH Today, Part I</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:20</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:50</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:50</td>
<td>Building out components of NCGH Today, Part II</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:10</td>
<td>Next steps on NCGH Today</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:25</td>
<td>Leverage lessons towards NCGH Future</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45</td>
<td>Wrap Up</td>
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### Friday, April 6th

#### Stakeholder Meeting

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
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<td>Christine Dixon, <em>Executive Director, Project Hope</em></td>
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<td>DSNI Team</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keri-Nicole Dillman, <em>Evaluation &amp; Learning Consultant</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>Aligning our work – Logic Model for NCGH Today</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Break &amp; Group Photo</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>Leveraging our Expertise – NCGH Future, Part I</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Breakout Groups</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Stanton Wortham, <em>Dean, Lynch School of Education, Boston College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>Leveraging our Expertise – NCGH Future, Part II</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Breakout Groups</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>Leveraging Lessons towards NCGH Future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Wrap Up &amp; Next Steps</td>
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ROUNDTABLE MISSION

The Nelson Chair Roundtable was established in 2008 to provide a forum for university faculty and students to engage with community program leaders to exchange ideas about strategies, interventions, best practices, and evaluation methods to elevate effectiveness of Out-of-School Time (OST) programs in under resourced communities. The Roundtable strives to identify university faculty, students and any other expertise that can be a resource to increase the collective impact of organizations working in the community. The Roundtable also strives to align its work with the mission of the Lynch School of Education. Our aim is to promote the development of the “whole child” through university-community partnerships. The objective is to have a more coordinated collective impact upon the education and socio-emotional development of children. The Roundtable assembles partners in an annual strategic planning meeting and provides consultations supporting partner initiatives according to need and available resources.

DIRECTOR OF THE ROUNDTABLE WELCOME LETTER

Welcome to the eleventh Nelson Chair Roundtable on Networking Community-Based Programs. We are happy to continue a partnership with Project Hope and the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative in the Dudley Village Community within Dorchester/Roxbury. This year the focus is strengthening the capacity to provide family stability and educational success of children coping with homelessness and financial uncertainties. It is part of both a neighborhood and citywide initiative.

The Roundtable will provide the forum for development of strategic plans, organizational assessment, inter-organizational collaborations, and interventions for the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative. The No Child Goes Homeless Initiative has been a part of the Roundtable for the last three years through collaboration with the greater Boston Promise Initiative. Sustaining its work in the community is essential to families and neighborhood stability, as well as embracing development of the whole child through collective partnerships. As always the Roundtable promotes rich deliberations, exchange of best practices, and cultivating resources. It is designed to encourage sharing of information between participants, university faculty and students to enhance outcomes.

We look forward to a productive two days with a less formal, but organized convening of participants around the table to delve into the challenges and strategies for achieving successful outcomes.

Sincerely,

Anderson J. Franklin, Ph.D.
Director, Nelson Chair Roundtable
Honorable David S. Nelson Professor of Psychology and Education
Lynch School of Education, Boston College

Honorary Professor, Center for the Advancement of Non-Racialism and Democracy
Nelson Mandela University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa
Dr. Anderson J. Franklin is the Honorable David S. Nelson Professor of Psychology and Education in the Department of Counseling, Developmental and Educational Psychology at Boston College Lynch School of Education and Professor Emeritus of Psychology from The Graduate School of The City University of New York. Dr. Franklin holds a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Oregon. He directs the Nelson Chair Roundtable for Networking Community Based-Programs and the Boston College Collaborative Extended Learning Project strengthening ties between schools, families and community partners engaged in out of school time activities to address the achievement gap and mental health of students.

Dr. Franklin was the speaker at 2010 Lewis and Clark College Commencement during which he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. He received the 2010 Outstanding Alumnus Award from the University of Oregon, College of Education. Recently Dr. Franklin was honored for his civil rights legacy by the Commonwealth of Virginia General Assembly, The Mayor’s Office of the City of Richmond, and Virginia Union University as a member of the “Richmond 34” students who by civil disobedience through Sit-Ins and arrests led to the desegregation of Richmond and the State of Virginia. Dr. Franklin also received the Groundbreakers Award from All Stars Project Annual Gala at Lincoln Center, New York City in 2012. In 2013 he was a Visiting Scholar at the Nelson Mandela University (NMU) in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape South Africa, and in 2017 Dr. Franklin was named Honorary Professor of NMU’s Center for the Advancement of Non-Racialism and Democracy (CANRAD).

He is co-author with Dr. Nancy Boyd-Franklin of Boys Into Men: Raising our African American Teenage Sons published by Dutton. His last book is From Brotherhood to Manhood: How Black Men Rescue Their Relationships and Dreams From the Invisibility Syndrome by John Wiley & Sons which was placed on Essence magazine best sellers list.
The Honorable David S. Nelson Professional Chair was created in 1995 in the honor of Judge David S. Nelson for an African-American professor who “reflects the educational aspirations and human qualities” of Judge Nelson, who graduated from Boston College in 1957, from Boston College Law School in 1960, and served on the Board of Trustees for five terms.

**HONORABLE DAVID S. NELSON**

David S. Nelson was born in 1933 in Roxbury, Massachusetts, to parents who were Jamaican natives. He received his B.S. from Boston College in 1957 and graduated from Boston College School of Law in 1960. Judge Nelson began his professional career with the Boston law firm of Crane, Inker and Oteri, where he worked until 1973. From 1968 to 1969, Judge Nelson served as a United States Commissioner for the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts. In 1971, Judge Nelson became the first African-American to serve as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Massachusetts, as Chief of the Consumer Protection Division. In 1973, he was appointed Justice of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Judge Nelson received the “Judge of the Year Award” from the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys in 1977. On March 23, 1979, President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge Nelson as a judge to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, making him the first African-American to serve in this role.

Judge Nelson was active in the community and at Boston College, where he served on the Board of Trustees for five terms and was its chairman from 1984–1987. In 1979, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from BC and served as the commencement speaker. In 1995, the University established the Honorable David S. Nelson Professional Chair, to be held by an African-American professor who reflects the “educational aspirations and human qualities” so prominent in Judge Nelson’s career and his civic involvement. Judge Nelson retired from the federal bench in 1995 and died on October 21, 1998.

**LYNCH SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, BOSTON COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT**

The Lynch School of Education at Boston College, a Catholic and Jesuit university, endeavors to improve the human condition through education and applied psychology. We pursue this goal through excellence and ethics in teaching, research, and service. We prepare undergraduate and graduate students to serve diverse populations in a variety of professional roles - as teachers, administrators, human service providers, psychologists, and researchers. Through research, we seek to advance knowledge in our respective fields to inform policy and improve practice. As teachers, scholars, and learners, we engage in collaborative school and community improvement efforts locally, nationally, and internationally. What unites our diverse work is the underlying aspiration to enhance the human condition, to expand the human imagination, and to make the world more just.
PLANNING COMMITTEE

CHRISTINE DIXON

Christine Dixon became the Executive Director of Project Hope in November 2017. Christine joined Project Hope in January 2011 after over two decades of experience in the Human Services field. She worked in Project Hope's Housing Department, before becoming the Director of Housing and Case Management and then most recently, was promoted to the position of Deputy Director, before taking on this new role. Prior to joining Project Hope, Christine worked for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health with families in state-funded hotels, motels and scattered site shelters as well as for the Dimock Community Health Center in Roxbury, where she was the Mental Health Specialist in their Head Start and Early Head Start programs. There she provided play therapy services to children, technical assistance to classroom teachers, and training for staff and parents. Christine has extensive experience in working with children and families around issues of homelessness and has been a leader at Project Hope on several initiatives in partnership with agencies and city stakeholders.

As Deputy Director at Project Hope, Christine worked hand-in-hand with the executive director to chart Project Hope's future growth and strategic planning. She held increasing internal and external responsibilities, ranging from program management and development to administrative roles within the agency. She is respected and admired by staff and constituents of Project Hope. Christine's vision and dedication to action put her in a unique position to lead the agency with strength and conviction.

Christine is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker with a Master's degree in Social Work from Boston University and a Bachelor's degree from the College of the Holy Cross. She represents Project Hope on the Board of the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative. Christine has been committed to the Dorchester and Roxbury communities for many years and currently lives in Roslindale with her husband and son.

KATRINA BRINK

Katrina Brink has over 15 years of experience in the youth development field. She has worked at the local, regional, state and national levels to support the development of community school strategies and place-based initiatives. As the School and Community Partnerships Specialist at the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI), Katrina works alongside residents, school staff, principals, and other nonprofit leaders to build working partnerships; support student achievement; and, advocate for essential state and city supports. Before coming to DSNI, Katrina worked in program development, evaluation, and research with Boston Public Schools, the National Institute on Out-of-School Time at Wellesley College, the Youth Affairs Network of Queensland, and the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and their Communities at Stanford University. Katrina has her M.Phil. in Sociology of Education from the University of Queensland, Australia and her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Comparative Literature.
**Kristin Haas**

Kristin Haas is the Data and Policy Coordinator at Project Hope, where she oversees data collection and analysis and coordinates advocacy efforts for the organization. Prior to joining Project Hope, Kristin worked as a Stabilization Case Manager at the Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership, providing supportive services to homeless families as they transitioned out of emergency shelter. Kristin holds a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Middlebury College and a Master’s degree in Urban Policy & Planning from Tufts University. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Community Action Agency of Somerville since 2014.

**Roundtable Facilitator**

**Keri-Nicole Dillman, Ph.D.**

As an evaluator and applied researcher for 20 years, Keri-Nicole has developed a facility and passion for using learning – in partnership - to improve nonprofit effectiveness and social change. With local clients including Home Funders, Inc., Boston Community Capital, Boston LISC’s Resilient Communities/Resilient Families Initiative, and the Boston Foundation, as well as national actors including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and Living Cities, Keri-Nicole’s affordable housing and community revitalization research demonstrates her commitment to neighborhood revitalization and community health. She has brought this exposure and research-based knowledge to consultation roles institutionalizing knowledge for strategy and effectiveness at The Boston Foundation, the city of Boston’s Boston Builds Credit Initiative, the Cambridge Community Foundation, and the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley.

Keri-Nicole’s career has included work in both academic and private research settings including New York University, MIT, Abt Associates, Mathematica and MDRC. She is a member of the Citizens’ Housing and Planning Association’s Policy Leadership Council, and member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston’s Community Development Research Advisory Council; past board and committee members for the Community Action Agency of Somerville, the Somerville Homeless Coalition, and Second Chances. She is a reviewer and contributor to Housing Policy Debate, Housing Studies, and Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly. While raised working on a small farm, Keri-Nicole’s work and free time since feed her lust for cities and the people in them.
**NO CHILD GOES HOMELESS INITIATIVE**

The No Child Goes Homeless Initiative is a collaboration between the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI), Project Hope, and three Boston Public Schools: Orchard Gardens K-8 Pilot School, the Dearborn STEM Academy, and the Dudley Street Neighborhood Charter School. The goal of this partnership is to help homeless and housing-insecure families achieve housing stability and for their children to achieve academic stability and success.

**BACKGROUND**

The No Child Goes Homeless Initiative emerged from the multi-year planning process for the Boston Promise Initiative (BPI). Funded by the United States Department of Education, the vision of BPI is to ensure that all children and youth in the Dudley neighborhood grow up with access to great schools and strong systems of family and community support, preparing them to attain an excellent education and successfully transition to college and a career. To leverage BPI with DSNI’s ongoing efforts around development without displacement, DSNI and Project Hope planned to deepen partnerships with schools and explore how to connect with and support students and families experiencing housing instability or homelessness. During the 2012-13 school year collaborations between DSNI, Project Hope and three schools began. Now in its sixth year, the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative is attracting new partners and is ripe for evaluation.

**HOW IT WORKS**

Most families who become part of the No Child Goes Homeless initiative are referred to Project Hope by guidance counselors or other school staff. The school staff have been trained to recognize potential indicators of housing insecurity and make referrals to Project Hope when appropriate. Some families reach out to Project Hope directly for assistance, typically after learning about the program from a school flyer or event or through word of mouth.

Once a family has been referred for housing assistance, the Project Hope case manager/housing search specialist meets with the family and begins to build trust, assess the family’s strengths and needs, and develop an individualized service plan in collaboration with the family. Some of the families who are referred are at imminent risk of eviction, in which case Project Hope makes every effort to help the family remain in their home, often by providing emergency funds and/or tenant-landlord mediation. In most cases, however, the families who are referred to the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative are staying in a shelter or are living in a doubled-up or overcrowded situation. The case manager works with these families to explore both short-term and long-term housing options, with the ultimate goal of helping the family secure safe, affordable, and permanent housing. Once a family has stabilized their housing situation, the case manager continues to work with them for a period of twelve months.

In addition to housing assistance, families also receive case management throughout their involvement with Project Hope. The staff at Project Hope work closely with each family to assist them in reaching their identified goals, and often link families to internal and external programs and resources, such as adult education classes, workforce development programs, affordable childcare, and health services.
The relationship with school staff is critical, as the school is the lead on the academic supports for students. Project Hope staff meet monthly with school staff to share information and align supports to families and students.

**SUCCESSES, CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Since September 2012, 190 families have been referred to the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative. Two-thirds of those referred (127 families) have engaged with the Project Hope staff and received case management and housing search assistance. Of those, over 75% (97 families) have obtained stable housing. In comparing attendance for students before and after their families became stably housed, we have found that over 40% of the students are showing improved attendance. Thanks to a data-sharing agreement with the Boston Public Schools, we are starting to track additional academic outcomes for the students served by the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative.

Despite the success we have had in helping families obtain stable housing, we have encountered several challenges. For example, we have struggled to identify effective strategies for catching families further “upstream,” before they become homeless. Also, given the way “homelessness” is defined by most housing programs, families who are living in doubled-up or other precarious living situations typically do not qualify for priority status on subsidized housing waitlists (even though these families meet the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness used by public schools nationwide). Furthermore, as rents continue to rise rapidly in Boston, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find affordable housing options in our neighborhood. Finally, we see a need for additional academic supports for students who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Given these challenges, DSNI and Project Hope are pleased to be participating in the “Family-led Stability Pilot,” which has brought together key stakeholders from the education and housing fields to test new strategies for assisting homeless students and their families. In addition to staff from DSNI and Project Hope, the Pilot leadership team includes the Mayor’s Chief of Education, his Chief of Housing and Director of Neighborhood Development, City Councilor Annissa Essaibi-George (co-chair of the Education Committee), and representatives from the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics; Boston Housing Authority; Boston Public Schools; and Higher Ground. The Pilot leadership team looks to the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative as a promising practice and hopes to demonstrate the effectiveness of cross-sector collaboration for replication across the city. The Pilot had a “soft launch” in May 2017, and housing units should be available on a rolling basis in March 2018. The Boston Housing Authority has committed to providing 35 public housing units, and it is hoped that additional housing resources will be identified soon. Data sharing will be a key piece of the Pilot, as it has been for the No Child Goes Homeless Initiative, and student data from the schools will help inform the prioritization of families for housing units as they become available.
**Roundtable Sponsors**

**BOSTON COLLEGE, NELSON PROFESSIONAL CHAIR, LYNCH SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**  
www.bc.edu/nelsonchair

**DUDLEY STREET NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE**  
www.dsnl.org

**PROJECT HOPE**  
www.prohope.org

**Participating Organizations**

**BOSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
www.bostonhousing.org

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**UNITED WAY OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY**  
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**YOUTH HARBORS**  
www.jri.org/services/health-and-housing/housing/youth-harbors
There is an African proverb, "The web of many spiders tie down a lion." We believe that through better collaboration between Community-Based Programs the array of problems that beset underserved communities can be tamed under a web of effective collaborative services.

Dr. Anderson J. Franklin

**Achimota Nsafoa (Achimota Keys) – Ghana, West Africa**

This Akan Kente Weft motif is a symbol of knowledge, unity in diversity and harmony. The motif represents the logo of Achimota, the black and white keys of the piano. One can make a melody on either the black or the white keys, but it is in playing both together that one creates harmony.

**Nkonsonkonson – Ghana, West Africa**

Adinkra symbol of the chain link represents unity and human relationships. It is a reminder to contribute to the community and that in unity lies strength.

**Ananse Ntontan – Ghana, West Africa**

Adinkra symbol of the spider’s web is a symbol of wisdom, creativity and the complexities of life. Ananse, the spider, is a well-known character in many African folktales.