

# **Beyond Health Care Reform: Health & Equity in All Policies**

**In collaboration with the Congressional Black Caucus  
Health Braintrust**

**Tuesday, October 20, 2009**

**Noon to 2:00 pm**

**Room B339, Rayburn Building**

Unfair and avoidable differences in health and safety in the US will continue grow with the recession. Although health care reform is needed, it is not enough. Access to health care accounts for only 10% to 25% of the variance in health. The most powerful factors shaping an individual's health include social, economic, and physical community conditions - the social determinants of health. These social determinants are affected by many policy areas, particularly labor/jobs, housing, transportation, agriculture and food. The negative impacts, which are often the side effects of these policies, are usually worse in low-income communities and communities of color. Too often policy and funding decisions are made without considering their impacts on health and equity.

This Disparities Foresight Briefing will consider:

- The experience of assessing health and equity impacts
- Specific community examples of dealing with the health impacts through:
  - Food justice efforts
  - Violence prevention and safety promotion
  - Community measurements of toxic environmental conditions
- Additionally, the briefing will look at how Federal Agencies and Congress:
  - Can increase their awareness of the health and equity impacts of policies and spending
  - Build accountability for health impacts into all policies

## **Speakers:**

- **Larry Cohen**, Executive Director, Prevention Institute
- **Brian Smedley**, Vice President - Director of Health Policy Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
- **Adolph Falcon**, Vice President for Science and Policy, The National Alliance For Hispanic Health

**Opening Remarks by Congresswoman Donna Christensen,**

## Chair of the CBC Health Braintrust

RSVP at [http://www.altfutures.com/foresight\\_dra\\_reg.asp](http://www.altfutures.com/foresight_dra_reg.asp) or call (703) 684-5880 ext. 18

**Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm**

Limited Seating, Registration May Close Early

\* In compliance with House Ethics Rules

Funding for this Disparities Foresight Briefing is provided by:  novo nordisk®

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