

## **Coalition of Urban Serving Universities Legislative Strategy**

USU has identified the following three strategies as important priorities.

- Include USUs Anchor Institutions in CIT Initiatives in President's FY2012 Budget and the 2012 appropriation process.
- Incorporate Urban University Initiatives into Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (cradle to career; longitudinal data systems and urban teachers).
- Preserve FY2011 funding for USU-friendly Federal programs (Sustainable Communities, Promise Neighborhoods, and Social Innovation Fund Grants).

We will also work to reintroduce Urban University Renaissance Act (UURA) as a strong messaging bill and stay on top of the situation in the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) Urban University Network and act as appropriate. Even with these identified priorities, we will maintain flexibility for unexpected opportunities.

### **Priority 1: Include Anchor Institutions in the Cities in Transition (CIT) Initiative**

#### **Strategy:**

- Ensure USU Anchor Institutions are included in the President's Cities in Transition Initiative (CIT) Budget Proposal for FY 2012

#### **Metrics:**

- President's 2012 Budget:
  - Community Outreach Partnership Centers (COPC) - \$20 million
  - Economic Development Administration (EDA), University Centers - \$20 million
  - Urban Grant Education program - \$10 million
  - Campus of Service - \$10 million
- 2012 Appropriations Process:
  - COPC - \$20 million
  - EDA University Centers - \$20 million
  - Urban Grant Education program - \$10 million

- Campus of Service - \$10 million

**Actions:**

- Follow up with White House, DPC, and Agency Officials
- Generate Congressional Urban Caucus letter of support for USU agenda in CIT
- Work with USU/APLU to secure Congressional Champions
- Work with USU/APLU on outreach to Budget and Appropriations Committees to ensure CIT initiatives included in FY 2012 bills

**Priority 2: Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization**

**Strategy:**

- Incorporate Urban University Initiatives - including cradle to career, longitudinal data systems, and urban teachers - into the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

**Metrics:**

- Cradle to Career - \$10 million
- Urban Teachers - \$20 million
- Longitudinal Data Systems - \$5 million

**Actions:**

- Identify Congressional Champions for USU's education priorities
- Identify and meet with key staff to discuss USU priorities
- Work with key Hill staff to have USU Members testify at Committee Hearings
- Work with Congressional Members and Staff to incorporate USU priorities into ESEA reauthorization and stand-alone legislation
- Reach out to and work with like-minded groups and coalitions.

### Priority 3: Funding Preservation for Place-Based Programs

#### Strategy:

- Preserve FY2011 funding for USU-friendly Federal programs in the face of expected House Rescissions:
  - *Sustainable Communities*
  - *Promise Neighborhoods*
  - *Social Innovation Fund Grants*

#### Metrics:

- Sustainable Communities Initiative - \$100 million
- Promise Neighborhoods - \$10 million
- Social Innovation Fund Grants - \$60 million

#### Actions:

- Identify Congressional Champions for USU's funding priorities – House and Senate (including Budget and Appropriations Committees)
- Crosswalk with USU Members of Congress in collaboration with APLU CGAs and USU partners (CUMU, AASCU, Anchor Institutions Taskforce, PolicyLink, etc.)
- Organize “Dear Colleague” letters and participate in advocacy activities related to appropriations funding with potential partners
- Work with like-minded coalitions

### Additional Legislative and Funding Activities

**Strategy 1:** Promote Urban University Renaissance Act (UURA) in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress

#### Metrics:

- House - Secure introduction and garner 20 cosponsors
- Senate - Secure Senate sponsors and introduction

#### Actions to take:

- Work for House reintroduction; Secure Senate champions and introduction in 112<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Garner cosponsors in both chambers
- Continue to attach UURA elements to other legislative initiatives such as CIT and ESEA
- Update individual USU members action plans

**Strategy 2:** Monitor the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities and secure funding for a network of urban-based institutions to recruit, train, and place health-care professionals.

**Metrics:**

- Goal: Open six sites funded at \$1 million per year for 5 years - Total: \$30 million
- Goal: Ensure at least two USU members will be partners or awardee-institutions for this effort

**Actions:**

- Track 2011 Continuing Resolution and follow up with key Congressional champions
- Continue conversations between Dr. Wilson and health leaders with NIMHD
- Offer assistance as necessary

**Strategy 3:** Identify other legislative and funding opportunities not previously identified for Urban University initiatives whenever possible

**Metrics:**

- To be determined by the nature of the opportunity.

**Actions:**

- To be determined by the nature of the opportunity