



August 2017



## **Our Story:** From Research to Community Engagement to Action

Under the leadership of Washington University Associate Professor Jason Purnell, *For the Sake of All* began in March 2013 as a collaborative **research** project on the health and well-

being of African Americans in the St. Louis region by scholars from St. Louis University and Washington University. The team highlighted social, economic, and environmental factors that drive differences in health outcomes in St. Louis. They produced five policy briefs on poverty, education, mental health, residential segregation, and chronic disease. And they

What began as a research exploration of health disparities among African Americans in St. Louis has evolved into a community mission to eliminate racial inequities and improve the health of all people in our region.

invited members of the community to comment on their work in a Community Feedback Forum. For the Sake of All: A Report on the Health and Well-Being of African Americans in St. Louis and Why It Matters for Everyone was released in May 2014 and was immediately hailed by St. Louis media as a "landmark report." The report recommended that the region:

- Invest in quality **early childhood development** for all children.
- Help low-to-moderate income families create economic opportunities.
- Invest in coordinated school health programs for all students.
- Invest in mental health awareness, screening, treatment, and surveillance.
- Invest in quality neighborhoods for all in St. Louis.
- 6 Coordinate and expand **chronic and infectious disease prevention** and management.

Less than three months later For the Sake of All emerged as a key resource for the region following the fatal shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO. Its six recommendations mobilized community members in the public and private sectors. In Phase II, For the Sake of All developed research-based Discussion Guides and Action Toolkits. They were

# The report revealed an 18-year difference

in life expectancy between a child born in Clayton and a child born in the Jeff-Vander-Lou neighborhood of North St. Louis

presented at Community Action Forums to give hundreds of diverse participants from around the region concrete ways to take action.

For the Sake of All is now in Phase III, an exciting period of research, collaboration, partnerships, and **action** to implement its recommendations. Turn the page to learn more.

### For the Sake of All Phase III: Research into Action



#### **Economic Opportunity**

Implementing a universal Child Development Account program for all children in the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Action Pilot a 5-year CDA program enrolling all to Date » newborns in 20 high-need St. Louis region ZIP Codes.



#### **School Health**

Expanding use of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child model in the region's school districts to create a coordinated environment of "healthy schools."

Utilize a \$1.1 million Robert Wood Johnson to Date » Foundation grant to develop a "toolkit" for school districts to create, coordinate, and implement a healthy school model.

Sustaining existing school-based health centers and establishing new centers in high-need areas.

Collaborated with partners to open a health to Date » center in Normandy High School in August 2017.

Continue conducting needs assessments in highto Date » need schools to determine appropriate services for school-based health center implementation.

**Action** Work with partners to open two new school-based **to Date** » health centers by the start of 2018-19 school year. Establish a Missouri affiliate of the national

to Date » School-Based Health Alliance.



#### **Quality Neighborhoods**

Addressing gun violence as a public health issue. Advocating for development, tax, zoning, and tenant policies to support inclusive, affordable housing.

Write and distribute a regional Housing to Date » Report with research and practice-based recommendations to engage community support.



#### **Early Childhood**

Increasing quality of early childhood programming and knowledge and utilization of existing programs.



#### **Mental Health**

Developing methods to better collect, analyze, and share mental health data.



#### **Chronic Disease**

Addressing social and economic barriers to health in medical settings and promoting expanded roles for community health workers.



#### Faith and FSOA

Engaging faith communities in our work and giving them tools to take action on inequity and health.

**Action** Met with faith leaders, developed resources, and **to Date** » trained two groups of volunteers.







#### We've connected with more than 100 community organizations to create vital partnerships that spark action

Together we are addressing economic opportunity, early childhood systems, healthy schools, quality neighborhoods, and health care For the Sake of All people in our region. Our work could not be possible without the the generous support of our funders:

- · Dana Brown Charitable Trust
- · Interco Charitable Trust
- · MTM, Inc.

- · Missouri Foundation for Health
- · Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- · Trinity Wall Street

- · Trio Foundation of St. Louis
- Washington University
- · Wells Fargo

## Learn more. Join us. Be part of the solution.

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