



Center for Social Development

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SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



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Building a Strong Foundation for Sustainable Asset Building Efforts to Impact Low Income Individuals and Families

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National Perspective on Asset Building

**Significant world changes since the initiation of
income-based welfare policies**

- *Industrial Age vs. Information Age*
- *Asset poverty and inequality*
- *Continued creation of asset based policies for the non poor*
- *Emergence of new social risks*



National Perspective on Asset Building

Asset based policies:

- Support the development of human capital
- Universal - benefit all Americans
- Inclusive- includes disenfranchised and marginalized groups
- Expansion and better utilization of existing asset based policies
- Engagement of new groups
- Build new alliances
- Continuum of supports



National Perspective on Asset Building

Asset based policies

- Accumulation of assets
 - Human capital
 - Income
- Leveraging of assets
 - Increasing opportunities to save and invest
- Protection of assets



National Perspective on Asset Building

Asset Accumulation

Building an asset foundation through human capital & income

Financial Education

Saving for College

Children's Savings Accounts

Savings for Retirement



National Perspective on Asset Building

Asset Leveraging

Increasing opportunities to save and invest

Banking the Unbanked

Matched Savings Accounts

Homeownership

Entrepreneurship/Business Ownership

Asset Limit Reform

Tax Refunds and Savings



National Perspective on Asset Building

Preservation

Helping families protect assets

Asset Protection



National Perspective on Asset Building

How is the work being conducted?

- Statewide asset building task forces and coalitions
- Policy advocates
- Web-based initiatives
- Programs and initiatives
- Academic research
- Collaborations and partnerships



National Perspective on Asset Building

- **Who are the key stakeholders?**
 - State and federal governments
 - Faith based communities
 - Academicians and researchers
 - Legislators
 - Non-profit organizations
 - Financial institutions and regulators
 - Employers
 - Foundations



National Perspective on Asset Building

Challenges

- Current political environment
- Finding ways to make the work a major issue to policymakers and others
- Funding support
- Cultural sensitivity and assessments of effective strategies to reach marginalized populations
- Research and data
- Utilizing existing policies