Statewide Organizations and Agencies Meet with Senator Blumenthal's Staff for a "2011 Follow-Up National Call to Action Forum" Planning Session to Focus on Health / Education Disparities related to Early Childhood Lead Poisoning



*Left to Right*: (Back Row) <u>Ronald Davis</u>, Second V.P. of State NAACP, <u>Glenn Classis</u>, Executive Director of the African American Affairs Commission, <u>Attorney Alix Simonetti</u>, Connecticut Human Rights and Opportunities Commission (CHRO), James McGaughey</u>, Executive Director, CT Office of Protection and Advocacy, <u>Michael Thomas</u>, Senior Advisor for the Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal, <u>Attorney Cheryl Sharp</u>, Connecticut Human Rights and Opportunities Commission (CHRO), (Front Row) <u>Kathy Thompson</u>, Parent and African American Affairs Commissioner, <u>Dr. Vivian Cross</u>, Advisory Board Member for the Office of Protection and Advocacy and Executive Director of the Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc. Joe Rodriguez, Research Aide and Outreach Organizer for the Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal, and <u>Attorney Cynthia Jennings</u>, Chairperson of the Connecticut Coalition for the Protection of Civil Rights



<u>Michael Thomas</u>, Senior Advisor for the Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal, <u>Dr. Vivian Cross</u>, Advisory Board Member for the Office of Protection and Advocacy and Executive Director of the Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc., and <u>Joe Rodriguez</u>, Research Aide and Outreach Organizer for the Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal. CALL TO ACTION FOLLOW-UP 2011 Duke University Research Study Finds Link Between Early Childhood Lead Poisoning and low & failing CT Mastery Test Scores for a Disproportinate Number of Minority Children.



**Call to Action Follow-Up Request to Senator Blumenthal and Staff** 

- National "Call to Action" regarding the Achievement Gap as it relates to the disproportionate representation of African American and Hispanic children and youth with histories of early childhood lead exposure failing to achieve at basic standards on the CT Mastery Test
- U.S. Department of Education (OSEP) to establish Guidelines to ensure Compliance with Federal Law to Provide timely and appropriate Early Intervention to Children with Disabilities due to Lead Poisoning
- To facilitate a subcommittee or legislative committee hearing that results in action steps based on new research in the field and to support continued efforts for the elimination and eradication of early childhood lead poisoning on the state and federal levels. (*Federal Cuts to CDC's, states and city lead programs are negatively impacting on keeping the nations children lead free*)



**Congressman Larson Welcomes Congressional** STOWE **Black Caucus Lawmakers to Hartford: to Celebrate** 200th Birthday of Harriet Beecher Stowe (June 10, 2011) A CALL TO ACTION to Eliminate Health Disparities, and the Achievement Gap



PHOTOS FROM "CALL TO ACTION MEETING" with the CBC AT THE BUSHNELL: Congresswoman Yvette Clark (N.Y.) CBC, Congressman Jessie Jackson, Jr. (Michigan) CBC, Congressman Hank Johnson (Georgia) CBC, Dr. Vivian Cross, CDC Education Workgroup Member, Advisory Board Member for the CT Office of Protection and Advocacy and FEA Executive Director, Congressman Hank Johnson (Georgia) CBC and Katherine Kane, Ex. Director of the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center.



Congresswoman Yvette Clark (N.Y.) CBC,

Congressman Jessie Jackson, Jr. (Michigan) CBC,

Dr. Vivian Cross, CDC National Education Workgroup Member, Advisory Board Member for the CT Office of Protection and Advocacy and Executive Director of the Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc.



## Call to Action: A Conversation on Race and Social Justice

Additional Information and More Ways YOU Can Take Action

### **The Achievement Gap**

Superintendent Hartford Public Schools www.harfordpulicschiils.org

The Urban Alliance www.urbanalliance.org

State Rep. Jason Rojas www.housedems.ct.gov/rojas

#### Foundation for Educational Advancement, Inc. www.feact.org

State Senator Eric Coleman www.senatedems.ct.gov/coleman

Permanent Commission on the Status of Women www.ctpcsw.com

Health Disparities CT Department of Public Health www.ct.gov/dph

Hispanic Health Council www.hispanichealth.org

Charter Oak Health Center www.thecharteroak.org

#### Additional Links:

#### CT Achievement Gap Study http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/cehi/about/news/leadct.htm

Study Regarding Links Between Lead Exposure and Low Student Test Scores

http://www.ctmirror.org/story/12515/study-links-childhood-lead-exposure-low-scores-state-mastery-test

http://www.bostonherald.com/news/national/northeast/view/20110518study\_links\_lead\_exposure\_low\_student\_test\_scores/.

http://yourpublicmedia.org/content/wnpr/study-finds-link-between-lead-poisoning-and-mastery-test-scores.

# Join Us! Next Steps & Follow-Up:

2011 National Forum RE: Eliminating the Education Achievement Gap Link to Early Childhood Lead Poisoning

Child Welfare League of America www.cwla.org

CT Department of Children & Families www.ct.gov/dcf

Capital Preparatory Magnet www.capitalprep.org

Urban League of Greater Hartford www.ulgh.org

Spanish Merchants Association www.samact.org

Economic Development Corporation www.hedco.ghbdc.com

Connecticut Health Foundation www.cthealth.org

Men's Health Institute of St. Francis www.franciscare.com/menshealth