JOBS
PARTNERSHIPS
PROGRESS
THE JOINT CENTER IS A TRUSTED SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON THE KEY TOPICS OF THE DAY — HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE EQUITY, ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT, DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY AND INNOVATION, ECONOMIC SECURITY, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE. OUR HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH, DISTINCTIVE ANALYSES OF THE ISSUES, AND EXPERIENCE IN ASSEMBLING EFFECTIVE COALITIONS HAVE BEEN CITED BY POLICYMAKERS AS HELPING TO GENERATE INNOVATIVE, PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO AMERICA’S MOST CHALLENGING PROBLEMS.
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“Our responsibility as a research institution is to bring fresh insights to critical debates, to help shape thought leadership and to drive policy solutions in priority areas.”

- Ralph B. Everett, President and CEO of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
Joint Center President and CEO Ralph B. Everett joined other African American leaders at the White House to discuss economic issues with President Barack Obama on February 21, 2013.

About the Joint Center

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies—founded in 1970—is a non-profit, non-partisan think tank dedicated to the full inclusion of people of color in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the nation.

We conduct independent, original research and analyses in priority policy areas of jobs and the economy, health, media and technology, energy and environment, and civic engagement and governance. This research is widely disseminated with the goal of improving knowledge and action to address disparities that affect minority communities, including women and the underserved.

Initially founded to encourage African American political participation in the wake of the passage of the Voting Rights Act, the Joint Center continues to promote civic and political engagement as the primary route to greater equality and opportunity for people of color. We are a trusted source of information and innovative ideas for policymakers and advocates who seek to build upon America’s growing diversity as the cornerstone of our nation’s resilience and strength.

THE JOINT CENTER HAS MOVED

After 20 years at the Vermont Avenue address, the Joint Center moved in August 2012 to new office space at 805 Fifteenth Street, N.W., at the corner of H Street, just a block from the White House. Our new office space enables us to host issue briefings, President’s Breakfats, special events and meetings of our Board of Governors in our fully equipped Conference Center. Our staff is housed all on one floor, providing opportunity for interaction and collaboration.
Civic Engagement and Governance Institute
THE JOINT CENTER AND THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS: PARTNERING TO MEET TODAY’S POLICY CHALLENGES

More than four decades after the newly founded Joint Center worked with elected leaders to establish the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), the two organizations continue to have a strong working relationship with the Joint Center’s independent research informing CBC policy and legislative activities.

The Joint Center and the CBC are now cooperating more closely than ever on the development of original research, policy analysis, polling results and related recommendations to inform policy dialogue on employment and the economy. In particular, staff from the two organizations work together on organizing briefings, public hearings and testimony by researchers to support the evidentiary record on legislative initiatives undertaken by the CBC and its members.

“With its emphasis on the real world impacts of public policy on communities of color, and its determination to find solutions that will enable America to live up to its promise of opportunity for all, the Joint Center brings a focus and perspective to our priority issues that few other think tanks are able to provide.”
- Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH)

A Key Source of Information on Black Political Participation and Voting Patterns

The Joint Center’s quadrennial guides to the Democratic and Republican conventions provide a comprehensive look at African American voting patterns and preferences. In addition to assessing African American participation in the conventions for that year, the guides contain historical data about black voting patterns, and focus on states where the black vote has the potential to affect the outcome of the presidential election and key legislative contests. These sought-after reports are produced by the Joint Center every four years as a service to the Democratic and Republican Convention delegates, political analysts and reporters. Each one contains data on African Americans’ party participation, voting patterns and voter preferences on issues.

NATIONAL POLICY ALLIANCE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- Blacks in Government (BIG)
- Congressional Black Caucus (CBC)
- Judicial Council of the National Bar Association (NBA)
- National Association of Black County Officials (NABCO)
- National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO)
- National Black Caucus of School Board Members (NSBA)
- National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL)
- National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM)
- World Conference of Mayors (WCM)
A Joint Center report shows that African American communities were hit especially hard by the recent economic downturn and have a long road to recovery.

In March 2013, the Joint Center released the first issue brief in its study Building a Healthy Economy: Creating Employment Opportunity and Equity—with a focus on the extent of employment losses in African American communities during the 2007-2009 recession.

The study found that in 2011, two years after the onset of the economic recovery, the unemployment rate for African Americans remained more than five points above its pre-recession levels, at 17.6%. The recession dealt an especially challenging blow to the prospects of young African American workers, with nearly half of black teenagers still out of work in 2011. For these young workers, seven of the 25 states targeted in the study had unemployment rates at over 50%. In 2006 no states were above this level.

The recession of 2007-2009 substantially exacerbated already woeful unemployment rates for Black Population 16-19 Years of Age in 2011, more than nine points above pre-recession levels. In 2011, Illinois was the worst state for African American youth unemployment, with a rate higher than when the recession began.
ENGAGEMENT

Building on the Joint Center’s heritage of promoting African American political empowerment within the democratic system, the Civic Engagement and Governance Institute (CEGI) is the nation’s preeminent source of information on matters relating to black political participation, including black elected officials and candidates, black public opinion and the analysis of black voter participation and its impact on elections. In addition to coordinating the Joint Center’s work on a broad set of issues related to political and civic participation, the Institute carries out research and analysis on key economic issues such as employment, asset-building and retirement security among African Americans. It leads efforts to ensure that African American perspectives and the policy consequences for communities of color are brought to the table as key issues are debated and decisions are made.

In addition, the Institute coordinates the Joint Center’s work in convening the National Policy Alliance (NPA), comprised of membership organizations representing more than 11,000 black elected officials and approximately three million black government employees across every level of government.

THE “WEALTH GAP”

Developing a State Legislative Strategy for Asset Building: The Case of Florida

The “wealth gap” between white and African American families, which doubled during the recent recession, is now approximately 20:1. The Joint Center has advanced strategies for closing this gap with approaches that enable working families in communities of color to build assets and fortify their asset holdings and economic security. As an example, the Joint Center recently collaborated with the RAISE Florida Network, which is supported by the Ford Foundation’s Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime (BESOL) Initiative, to produce a webinar on creating a legislative strategy for obtaining state funding for Individual Development Accounts and for fostering sustainable home ownership. The webinar, which was attended by community leaders from the state, was based on a legislative analysis undertaken by the Joint Center and included detailed information on how to identify legislative champions and engage them. The success of the webinar led to further collaboration with the RAISE Florida Network and opportunities for the Joint Center to work with similar coalitions in other states.

Participating...
• Peter Phillips, Executive Director, PICO United Florida
• Wilhelmina A. Leigh, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Civic Engagement and Governance Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
• Melissa R. Wells, Policy Assistant, Civic Engagement and Governance Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
EQUITY

As the “intellectual engine” of the health equity movement, the Joint Center Health Policy Institute (HPI) seeks to identify the root causes of racial and ethnic health inequalities and to promote evidence-based policy solutions for health and wellness from the cradle to the grave. Over the past year HPI has released a half-dozen research reports, convened a major health equity conference and has held a number of other events and briefings. Through this work, the Joint Center is widely perceived as a vital leader in the health equity field, drawing praise from prominent scholars, members of Congress, the U.S. Surgeon General and other leaders.

Building on its successful work to feature equity in key legislation such as the landmark 2010 Affordable Care Act, HPI is looking to expand its research and policy analysis work to highlight cost-effective policy strategies that address the root causes of health inequalities, offer new conference and convening opportunities to share strategies, and support work at local, state, and federal levels that advance health equity.

While most Americans will feel the impact of the sequestration, these cuts will have a particularly devastating effect on communities of color, where many people are still struggling to join the economic recovery.

How Would Sequestration Affect Communities of Color?

With automatic across-the-board cuts in federal programs looming, the Joint Center convened a panel of experts to explore the impact the cuts would have on the economy, jobs and the most vulnerable members of society. Special attention was given to the health, human development and environmental programs that are important to communities of color and which faced particularly devastating cuts under the sequestration scenario. Joint Center President and CEO Ralph B. Everett moderated the discussion.

Participating...
- Ellen Nissenbaum, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (not pictured)
- Liany Elba Arroyo, Associate Director, Education and Children’s Policy Project, National Council of La Raza
- Amber D. Ebarb, Program Manager, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians
- Priscilla Huang, J.D., Policy Director, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
- Brian D. Smedley, Ph.D., Vice President and Director, Health Policy Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
PLACE MATTERS—ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY ACROSS THE U.S.

When it comes to health, place matters in important ways. A growing body of research confirms that differences in neighborhood conditions powerfully predict who is healthy, who is sick and who lives longer. Because of patterns of residential segregation, these differences are the fundamental causes of health inequities among different racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups. That is why since 2006 the Joint Center’s PLACE MATTERS teams in 24 jurisdictions around the country have been working at the community level to identify and address the social, economic and environmental conditions that result in people of color living shorter and less healthy lives than their white peers.

In recent months, the Joint Center Health Policy Institute has issued four more reports in its ongoing series on health inequities in PLACE MATTERS communities—Baltimore, Bernalillo County (NM), Orleans Parish (LA) and Cook County (IL). The reports document that neighborhoods characterized by a high level of segregation and poverty concentration tend to have far poorer health outcomes and life expectancy two to three decades shorter than people living in other areas. These neighborhoods often face a high concentration of health risks, such as polluting industries and vendors selling harmful food, alcohol and tobacco products, and tend to have few health-enhancing resources such as grocery stores or supermarkets selling fresh produce.

The 2012 PLACE MATTERS National Health Equity Conference was held on September 4-5, with nearly 350 attendees hearing keynote presentations from notable leaders such as Harlem Children’s Zone President Geoffrey Canada and PolicyLink President Angela Glover Blackwell.

The first in a series of PLACE MATTERS Action Labs for the year was held in Washington, D.C., on April 10-12. The Action Lab was attended by more than 80 leaders from communities around the country who met with their Congressional leaders to discuss their work to create healthier communities, particularly communities of color that have suffered from disinvestment and a high concentration of health risks. Prior to the Hill visits, the Joint Center hosted a Congressional Briefing to provide an opportunity for PLACE MATTERS leaders to discuss their work, with a focus on building multi-sector coalitions, harnessing research to raise awareness of the place-health relationship, informing policy and building public support for action.

Participating by offering special remarks...

- The Honorable Jim McDermott (D-WA)
- The Honorable Donna Edwards (D-MD)
- The Honorable Barbara Lee (D-CA)
Place Matters for Health in Baltimore was one of four community health equity reports released by the Joint Center in 2012.

America’s Place Matters Communities
- Alameda County, California
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Bernalillo County, New Mexico (Albuquerque)
- Boston, Massachusetts
- Cook County, Illinois (Chicago)
- Cuyahoga County, Ohio (Cleveland)
- Jefferson County, Alabama
- Marlboro County, South Carolina
- Martin Luther King Jr. County, Washington
- Mid-Mississippi Delta Counties, Mississippi (Coahoma, Washington, Sunflower)
- Orleans Parish, Louisiana
- Prince George’s County, Maryland
- San Joaquin Valley, California (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Merced, Madera, Tulare)
- South Delta Counties, Mississippi
- Washington, D.C.
- Wayne County, Michigan

Geoffrey Canada, President and CEO of Harlem Children’s Zone, was a keynote speaker at the 2012 Place Matters National Health Equity Conference.

Congressman Elijah Cummings (D-MD) and Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) spoke at the release of the Place Matters for Health in Baltimore report on November 13, 2012.

PROMOTING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MEN OF COLOR AND THEIR FAMILIES

With continued support from the Office of Minority Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Joint Center works to advance a research, policy and clinical practice agenda to promote the health and well-being of men of color and their families. The Joint Center’s Commission on Paternal Involvement in Pregnancy Outcomes (CPIPO) has published a series of papers in peer-reviewed journals and made numerous presentations at national and international conferences in an effort to focus attention on the need for comprehensive reproductive health education for men and boys of color as a means of improving birth outcomes, family formation and healthy development. CPIPO leads a growing movement to address the needs of men and expectant fathers of color in reproductive health initiatives, family planning, pregnancy, childbirth and family health.
Energy and Environment
ENERGY, CLIMATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Joint Center Energy and Environment Program works to ensure that African American voices and perspectives help to shape discussions on climate and energy challenges. These perspectives are particularly important given the economic and health risks—and opportunities—for communities of color as the nation seeks to shift to a clean energy economy while reducing the health and economic burdens from unhealthy air and the greater prevalence of extreme weather events that are exacerbated by climate change. Joint Center research has highlighted that this vulnerability stems not only from weather-related causes, but also from a lack of available economic, health and institutional resources for avoiding and mitigating climate disruption’s worst effects.

The Program is guided by the Joint Center’s blue ribbon Commission to Engage African Americans on Energy, Climate Change and the Environment, established in 2008, which brings together leading experts from government, health, industry, civil rights, academia, labor, consumer protection and environmental interests.

African American communities contribute less to the climate and energy problems than the general population and suffer most from its consequences. However, communities of color also have the most potential to gain from investments in the clean energy economy and pollution reduction.
Energy and Environment Program Director Danielle Deane was a panelist at the White House “Greening America’s Congregations through Energy Efficiency” event on September 13, 2012. She highlighted the Joint Center’s groundbreaking partnership with the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) Bishops Vashti Murphy McKenzie and Adam Jefferson Richardson, Jr., to help local congregations raise their environmental awareness and make their churches more energy efficient. Bishop McKenzie also serves on the President’s Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Ms. Deane highlighted the partnership at the AME Church’s Quadrennial General Conference in Nashville. The conference drew 30,000 people and First Lady Michelle Obama was a keynote speaker. The EPA estimates that if America’s more than 370,000 houses of worship cut energy use by only 20%, they would save nearly $630 million, cut electricity use by more than 3.6 billion kWh and prevent more than 2.6 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to the emissions from about 480,000 cars.

“African American churches have been integral players in every movement for positive social change throughout the history of this nation, so the leadership of the AME Bishops is part of a long and honored tradition. We view this collaboration as a unique opportunity to achieve far-reaching results in a sector that will determine the kind of planet we leave for our children and grandchildren.”

- Ralph B. Everett, President and CEO of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
Key Reports

Climate Change, Environmental Challenges and Vulnerable Communities: Assessing Legacies of the Past, Building Opportunities for the Future is a first-of-its-kind study focused on a six-state region of the southern United States: Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. The report provides a sociodemographic and health/health care portrait of those states, revealing the nature and extent of vulnerable populations and their vulnerability to environmental challenges. Noting that some communities of color face a “perfect storm” of poor health, socioeconomic barriers and climate-related challenges, it analyzes state and local initiatives for mitigation and adaptation, assesses the progress for communities of color and offers guidance to advocates, policymakers, researchers and others for incorporating vulnerable populations into both their scope and goals.

Cooling the Planet, Clearing the Air: Climate Policy, Carbon Pricing, and Co-Benefits, co-sponsored by the Joint Center and Ecotrust’s E3 Network, is the first national study to take a careful look at the potential to accelerate overall reductions in harmful air pollution as part of any strategy to lower greenhouse gas emissions and reverse climate change. The report found that carbon-emitting industrial facilities that tend to generate other harmful pollutants, such as particulate matter and nitrogen oxides, actually pose a more immediate and direct threat to the health of millions of poor and minority Americans. It also argues that for health equity reasons policymakers should incorporate reductions in these “conventional pollutants” into climate change mitigation strategies.

In the wake of Superstorm Sandy, which devastated part of the Eastern seaboard and caused billions of dollars in damage, Joint Center President and CEO Ralph B. Everett, who co-chairs the Commission to Engage African Americans on Energy, Climate Change and the Environment, was a featured commentator in The New York Times.
DIGITAL ACCESS

Access to the digital world and its technologies have emerged as critical elements of opportunity for African Americans and other people of color. Unfortunately, those who can benefit most from access to the Internet often are those least likely to have it. The risk is that populations consisting of people of color, low-income people, seniors and people with disabilities will lag further behind as the digital innovation sector transforms health care, energy, education and civic engagement in the years ahead. Additionally, minorities and other disadvantaged groups face critical challenges in their engagement as entrepreneurs and business owners in the broadband and broadcast industries.

In 2008, the Joint Center created the Media and Technology Institute (MTI) and gave it the mission of studying how emerging communications technologies can become avenues of achievement for the disadvantaged. Since then, MTI has supported industry, government, national civil rights organizations, think tanks and non-profits in their efforts to create strategic and sustainable partnerships that address digital disparities, disproportionate lack of media ownership by entrepreneurs of color and the minimal engagement of minorities in the emerging innovations sector that includes mobile, wireless devices and expanding telecommunications infrastructure.

“The good news is that a broadband policy infrastructure has evolved over the past several years in the country, much of it supported or buttressed by stimulus funds. Sustaining that infrastructure should be one of the chief priorities for policymakers. However, the planning capacities of states and localities vary when it comes to broadband. At a minimum, a mechanism should be developed to share best practices with respect to the planning process among all states. The federal government can play a lead role here.”

- John B. Horrigan, Ph.D., Vice President and Director of the Media and Technology Institute, at the FCC’s 2013 Broadband Adoption Summit

In 2012 and 2013, MTI has continued to work with federal agencies to provide research and expertise on policy initiatives aimed at bringing more people online. MTI Vice President and Director John B. Horrigan, Ph.D., has served as an advisor on the “Broadband Adoption Tool-kit,” developed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. He appeared at the FCC’s Broadband Adoption Summit in early 2013 to share lessons learned about promoting broadband adoption since the delivery of the National Broadband Plan.
DIGITAL INCLUSIVENESS

Creating Digital Opportunities for Communities of Color: Is IP-Based Broadband the Answer?

The Joint Center’s seminar for Washington telecom policymakers and broadband stakeholders focused on next-generation broadband and the evolution from copper to all-fiber connectivity. At the center of the discussion were the opportunities this transition will generate for communities of color and the policy issues that will need to be addressed to hasten economic and other benefits.

Participating...
• Jim Cicconi, Esq., Senior Executive Vice President, AT&T
• Ralph B. Everett, President and CEO, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
• Debbie Goldman, Telecommunications Policy Director, Communications Workers of America
• John B. Horrigan, Ph.D., Vice President and Director, Media and Technology Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
• Marc Morial, Esq., President and CEO, National Urban League
• Hilary O. Shelton, Washington Bureau Director and Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy, NAACP
• Brent A. Wilkes, National Executive Director, League of United Latin American Citizens

BROADBAND AND HEALTH

The Joint Center report, Minorities, Mobile Broadband and the Management of Chronic Diseases, was a collaboration of the Media and Technology Institute and the Health Policy Institute, with support from the United Health Foundation. This report considers the potential of mobile broadband technologies to help address some of the nation’s most pressing health concerns, offering relevant and timely information for implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The report highlights opportunities for the proliferation of mobile broadband technologies, telemedicine and online health applications to help communities of color—and the health professionals who serve them—access information and tools that can help them more effectively prevent, diagnose and manage disease.

All stakeholders must continue to make sure that consumers are aware of the benefits of using emerging applications to help them improve their lives. Policies that drive adoption and use are just as important as facilitating a smooth and quick upgrade of the nation’s telecommunications infrastructure.

- John B. Horrigan, Ph.D., Vice President and Director, Media and Technology Institute
The Utah Legislature has appropriated $10 million to prepare Utah students for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) careers. Hispanics are, by a substantial margin, the most populous minority group in Utah, comprising 13.2% of the state’s population (376,689 persons), compared to Asian and multiracial persons (2.2%) each. American Indians (1.5%) and Blacks (1.3%). According to a 2011 ACT report, just 5% of Hispanics nationwide met benchmark high school mathematics requirements for taking the ACT exam, compared to 7% of Asian, 34% of White, 36% of Pacific Islander, 25% of American Indian, and 14% of African American students.

The New York Times reported on several new youth computing programs designed to close the gender gap in the high tech sector. According to the Times, 77% of girls in middle school express an interest in engineering, science, and math. However, once they arrive on college campuses, just 3% end up choosing a computer science major. One program, Girls Who Code, goes beyond teaching basic computer skills and trains girls in computer programming, public speaking, product development, and other higher-level, in-demand tech sector skills.

A Nielsen report found that the amount of time viewers spend watching TV correlates with their educational attainment and income. Those with a 4-year college degree watch an average of 1 hour and 14 minutes of primetime television, compared to 2 hours and 9 minutes per day for those with just a high school diploma. Income levels also correlate in similar ways with daytime TV viewership. However, primetime TV viewing did not differ substantially between those making $50,000 or more per year (1 hour and 52 minutes per day) and those making $30,000 or less (1 hour and 58 minutes per day). People of color, particularly Blacks and Hispanics, are disproportionately more likely to have lower levels of educational attainment and income compared to their White and Asian American counterparts. Many studies have shown minorities continue to be underrepresented in traditional media as compared to their share of the overall population. The Nielsen data suggest the under-representation of people of color in the media may also be disproportional in relation to the amount of TV they watch, as compared to Caucasians. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) has awarded $444,222 to five PBS stations to test PBS’s new “Ready to Learn” math- and literacy-based educational programming targeting low-income and at-risk children. An American Institute for Behavioral Research and Technology study found that the outcome of elections could be altered by manipulating search engine rankings without people being aware of it.

Children who watch more than 3 hours of TV, videos, or DVDs per day have a higher likelihood of developing conduct and emotional problems by age 7, according to a Millennium Cohort study of 11,000 children. However, children who played age-appropriate video games for the same amount of time did not display such behaviors. An AT&T study found a higher prevalence of adults who admit to texting while driving (49%) compared to 43% of teens.

The FCC adopted the form and content of the survey it will use to determine the minimum rates carriers charge for providing fixed residential voice and broadband in urban areas. The survey data will be used to help the FCC determine the amount providers should receive in federal Universal Service Fund and Intercarrier Compensation (USF/ICC) subsidies for providing broadband and voice service in remote and underserved areas. The piracy of TV content cost cable and broadcast networks at least $1.5 billion in revenues in 2012, according to TorrentFreak. The top 5 most pirated shows include HBO’s Game of Thrones (.43 million illegal downloads), followed by Showtime’s Dexter (.39 million), CBS’ Big Bang Theory (.32 million), and AMC’s Breaking Bad (.258 million). Unauthorized downloads of these 5 shows alone accounted for an estimated $851 million in lost revenues.

On September 24, 2012, MTI hosted an event at the Joint Center to discuss Comcast’s Internet Essentials, a program aiming to increase broadband adoption among low-income families with school-aged children. The discussion focused on strategies to help families use broadband for educational and economic advancement.

Participating...
- The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
- Ralph B. Everett, President and CEO, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
- David L. Cohen, Executive Vice President, Comcast Corporation
- John B. Horrigan, Ph.D., Vice President and Director, Media and Technology Institute, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
- Julie Johnson, Ed.D., Deputy CEO, University of the District of Columbia Community College
- Bruce Leichtman, President and Principal Analyst, Leichtman Research Group, Inc.
- Arun Prabhakaran, Director of Government and Strategic Partnerships, Urban Affairs Coalition
- Madura Wijewardena, Director of Research and Policy, National Urban League Policy Institute
Military Fellow

The Joint Center proudly hosts an Army War College Fellow on an annual basis to facilitate research on a strategic challenge the Army is facing. Our Fellow this year, Colonel Steve Smith, conducted research on how the Army can increase racial/ethnic diversification among its senior leader corps (ranks of colonel through general officer) so that they better keep pace with the scope of demographic change taking place in America.

We are excited to announce that largely as a result of this research, the Joint Center was recently selected by the Army senior leadership to become a prestigious “Tier 1” Fellowship for the Army. Only four other think tanks in Washington, D.C. have this designation.

With this designation, the Joint Center will work with the Army to solidify the partnerships between Army Senior leadership and the senior leadership of the Joint Center. We look forward to assisting the Army in any way possible and are proud to host the Army’s best and brightest thinkers as they continue to modernize under constrained fiscal conditions in a challenging strategic operating environment.

Colonel Steve Smith served as the Joint Center’s most recent Army War College Fellow and made significant contributions to the Joint Center’s partnership with the United States Army.
Joint Center Awards

The Joint Center annually recognizes a leader who has a distinguished record in bridging racial divides. The *Louis E. Martin Great American Award* is named after the legendary journalist, presidential advisor and co-founder of the Joint Center. It is bestowed each year upon an individual who exemplifies Martin’s passion for justice, compassion and dialogue to break down racial and ethnic barriers.

The Joint Center also bestows a *Partnership Award* on an occasional basis to an organization or institution that demonstrates significant collaborative commitment to a policy initiative. While the Joint Center appreciates all partnerships with donors and stakeholders, the *Partnership Award* is given in recognition of a sustained, significant policy collaboration.

**Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Award Recipients**

*LOUIS E. MARTIN GREAT AMERICAN AWARD*
- Ambassador Susan Rice 2013
- The Honorable Kasim Reed 2012
- The Honorable John Lewis 2011
- Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. 2010
- Dr. Dorothy I. Height 2009
- The Honorable James E. Clyburn 2008
- The Honorable Charles B. Rangel 2007
- Former President William J. Clinton 2006
- Muhammad Ali 2005
- Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., Esq. 2004
- Former President Jimmy Carter 2003

*PARTNERSHIP AWARD*
- Congressional Black Caucus 2013
- AARP 2008

Mayor Kasim Reed of Atlanta received the 2012 Louis B. Martin Award from Joint Center Chair of the Board of Governors Cynthia G. Marshall and President and CEO Ralph B. Everett.

Congressman and civil rights leader John Lewis was honored in 2011.
Honor Roll of Contributors

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