**Ferguson Commission was formed by Executive Order:**

- Study and recommend ways to make the St. Louis region a stronger, fairer place for everyone to live. Recommendations will be made in four areas – (1) public policy (2) institutional systems (3) organizational practices (4) individual contributions

- Take testimony and gather information; engage the scholarly and research expertise necessary to help inform the commission

- Issue a report containing policy recommendations after undertaking a study of the following subjects:
  - Citizen-law enforcement interaction and relations;
  - Racial and ethnic relations;
  - Municipal government organization, and the municipal court system; and
  - Disparities in substantive areas that include, but not are not limited to, education, economic opportunity, health care, housing, transportation, child care, business ownership, and family and community stability.

“Their most important work will be the changes we see in our institutions and our work places, in our communities and in our interactions with one another. Change of this magnitude is hard; but maintaining the status quo is simply not acceptable.”
The Ferguson Commission is an empowered, independent and diverse group.

Openness and transparency will be cornerstones of the Commission’s work.

The challenges we face are not unique to our region, the Commission looks to serve as a role model and offer best practices to communities across the country.

The Commission members have the responsibility – and the opportunity – to hear from people from diverse backgrounds and all walks of life, and to form concrete recommendations for making this region a stronger, fairer place for everyone.
Ferguson Commission Values:

- Transparency
- Equity & Fairness
- Civic Engagement
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Integrity
Standard Operating Principles:

Explore the underlying social and economic issues in the St. Louis metropolitan area using a common set of principles including:

(1) Honoring community expertise and youth perspective;
(2) Looking beyond what is to create a model for what can be;
(3) Leveraging new and existing data to generate evidence-based recommendations;
(4) Centering on principles of equity and justice; and
(5) Prioritizing action with a sense of urgency
Child Well-Being/Education Equity Work Group Members:

Rasheen Aldridge, Ferguson Commission Members
Dr. Carol Basile, UMSL, Dean of Education
Koran Bolden, Entrepreneur, Street Dreamz
Dr. Crystal Gale, Principal, Roosevelt High School, SLPS
Dr. Sharonica Hardin, Asst. Superintendent, Ritenour School District
Becky James-Hatter, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri
Katie Kaufmann, Ready by 21
Dr. Katie Plax, The Spot
Dr. Ramesh Raghavan, Washington University
Dr. Scott Spurgeon, Superintendent, Riverview Gardens School District
Dr. Grayling Tobias, Superintendent, Hazelwood School District
Update Child Well-Being & Educational Equity
Co-Chairs: Becky James-Hatter, Dr. Grayling Tobias
Policy Reform: Child Well-Being & Educational Equity

1) **Prioritize accredited schools in the same district.** First transfer to an accredited school in the same district, if space is available.

2) Adopt the Voluntary Inter-District Choice Corporation (VICC) calculation of **$7,200 as the maximum rate.**

3) Ensure members of assistance teams are qualified, based on their past performance in failing districts with similar circumstances and omit or change language to “may” consider the recommendations of the assistance teams.
4) Accept students. No student shall be denied a transfer based on criteria that does not exclude him/her from attending a school in their resident district. Only students who have committed a safe schools violation be ineligible for transfer.

5) Mandate accountability. If districts are going to accept students and funds, they must accept accountability. We do not support any language that would allow a receiving school district to postpone accountability and the educational welfare of a child.
Status of Current Priority Areas

Public Education Funding (continue input)
College Access and Affordability (perfect)
Food Instability (perfect)
Human Capital in Education (continue input)
Social Service Coordination with Schools (perfect)
## Process for Creating Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preserve</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Implementation Recommendations</th>
<th>2015 Goals</th>
<th>Cost/ Sources</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Where can we improve; restore, enhance?</td>
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<td>Institutional Systems</td>
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### Preserve
What do you have right; what are we proud of?

- Quality free and reduced lunch programs that serve breakfast and lunch.
- School based programs that already provide the third meal of the day—dinner

### Progress
Where can we improve; restore, enhance?

- Organize and support dinner food programs and summer feeding programs.
- Identify USDA supported feeding opportunities

### Implementation
Recommendations

- **Public Policy**
  - Support SNAP and WIC programs
  - Ensure ease of enrollment through support of FSD positions for SNAP/Food Stamps

- **Institutional Systems**
  - Schools identify students who need summer feeding programs before the end of the school year and link families to available food resources.
  - Regional Effort—Coordinate summer food programs and dinner food programs (perhaps with St. Louis Area Food Bank, Operation Food Search others?)

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| 30 new summer feeding programs in N. County | $100,000 to support a coordinated effort
<p>| $ to support dinner programs | (Sources: St. Louis County Children Services Fund, Missouri Foundation for Health, State of Missouri, United Way) |</p>
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| Quality free and reduced lunch programs that serve breakfast and lunch. School based programs that already provide the third meal of the day--dinner SNAP and WIC | Organize and support dinner food programs and summer feeding programs. Identify USDA supported feeding opportunities | • Food insecurity organizations and stakeholders collaborate and organize a regional volunteer recruitment effort to staff summer feeding sites and coordinate a regional effort (may already exist I am not sure)  
• This collaboration then identifies and uses a food screening tool for organizations that work with children to use in the region | | $$ to support dinner programs (Sources: St. Louis County Children Services Fund, Missouri Foundation for Health, State of Missouri, United Way) |
| | Individual Contributions | • Become a volunteer at a feeding site  
• Volunteer to serve as a recruiter at your company/church/organization  
• Donate funds to the effort  
• Donate food to the effort  
• Learn to use the screening tool and use it with kids you encounter | | |
Tonight’s Breakout Subgroups

Public Education Financing
Human Capital in Education
Parent Education and Engagement
Caring Adults (mentors, coaches)
Early Childhood Education
School District and School Accreditation
Child Well-Being and Education Equity

(Feedback from Breakouts; Open Mic Public Comments and Questions from Commissioners)
Thank YOU!

Mark your Calendar - TENTATIVE
Child Well-Being and Education Equity
May 12, 2015
5:00pm – 7:00pm
UMSL

www.stlpositivechange.org
contact@stlpositivechange.org