The Brown School Policy Forum applies research and evidence to important policy questions with the goal of producing more informed, fact-based public policy outcomes. We engage a diverse set of communities and individuals—including researchers, practitioners, media partners, community organizations, and policy makers—in intensive policy discussion and debate, training, and dissemination activities. The Policy Forum works to ensure that the path-breaking research being conducted by our faculty is translated into effective policy and practice.

**How the Brown School is Making a Difference**

Policy Forum programs are designed to bring sustained attention to significant issues in public education, health care, economic development, child welfare, and other areas. Topics are selected based on their importance to society, the availability of relevant research, the opportunity for policy innovation, and the potential to bring about meaningful change. Ongoing evaluation ensures programming is effective and continues to influence policy and practice.

The Policy Forum works closely with media partners – print, online, television, and radio – to disseminate outcomes to a broad audience. These partnerships increase the visibility and impact of new ideas and approaches generated through Policy Forum programs.

A significant goal of the Policy Forum is to advance the field of policy practice among social work and public health students and practitioners. Policy Forum events enrich the educational experience for students at the Brown School and across the University and improve their ability to understand public policy and advocate for change.

“The Policy Forum brings the best thinking and the best evidence to bear on improving public policy.”

Edward F. Lawlor
Dean and the William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor
HOW THE BROWN SCHOOL IS Implementing Change

The Policy Forum mobilizes the considerable academic resources of the Brown School and Washington University to have an impact on social work and public health policy in our region and beyond. Through an active program of education, discourse, and dissemination, the program:

- Brings the best thinking and evidence to bear on policy issues
- Convenes and advances important policy discussions
- Trains students, legislators, and community leaders
- Communicates policy research, ideas, and analysis in innovative ways
- Hosts lectures, briefings, panel discussions, and training sessions
- Stimulates dialogue that produces better informed public policy and meaningful change

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Investing in the Brown School

Your support for the Policy Forum will enhance the Brown School’s efforts to implement this innovative model of engagement between academic and civic life. Our priorities include:

- Sponsorship of long-term programming in specific policy areas
- Endowed funds to provide ongoing support for program leadership and staffing
- Funds to create a Policy Forum Media Center to enhance dissemination activities
- Support for the core operations of the Policy Forum
- Resources for training and professional development
- Fellowships to train students in policy practice

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