# Healing through Policy: Creating Pathways to Racial Justice SEPARATION: AN OVERVIEW



"Healing Through Policy: Creating Pathways to Racial Justice" is a national initiative that offers local leaders a suite of policies and practices to move communities and policymakers from commitment to action for health, racial equity, and justice.

Local leaders can adopt and implement all or some of the policies and practices curated through the initiative to help promote racial healing and address social inequities.

These options are guided by the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation framework, which offers an overarching comprehensive strategy for adaptation by local communities and organizations to support progress toward needed systemic transformation. The framework addresses the foundational components of Narrative Change, Racial Healing and Relationship Building, Separation, Law, and Economy.

Healing Through Policy is an initiative of the American Public Health Association, the de Beaumont Foundation, and the National Collaborative for Health Equity.

## Separation

Separation is the division of groups based on a particular characteristic, including race and/or socioeconomic status. It is fostered by historic and present-day land use and development decisions that perpetuate racial inequities, such as segregation, colonization, and isolation,

which lead to concentrated poverty and limit access to opportunity.

Three primary areas that have been used to reinforce separation by race and ethnicity are housing, transportation, and education.

#### POLICIES AND PRACTICES UNDER THE SEPARATION PILLAR:

- Zoning innovation for health and equity.
- Displacement and eviction protections to preserve the right to housing.
- Equitable transportation and planning to improve access to opportunity.
- School integration to promote social justice and social mobility.

#### **STORIES OF SUCCESS:**

- In Miami, a citywide form-based code makes gentle density and missing middle-income housing more economically viable by eliminating the parking requirements attached to housing development in urban neighborhoods.
- Portland, Oregon's N/NE Preference Policy gives priority placement to housing applicants affected by urban renewal in North and Northeast Portland
- Washington, D.C.'s Metropolitan Area Transit Authority requires affordable housing development on land it controls, for example, requiring 20% affordable housing units.
- In Connecticut, Hartford Public Schools offers special enrollment opportunities for both intra-district and inter-district students, the former at schools in neighboring suburban districts and the latter in themed non-magnet public schools within Hartford limits.

### RESOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

PolicyLink: Inclusionary Zoning Equitable Development Toolkit

PolicyLink: Equitable Transit-Oriented Development

The Century Foundation: "A Bold Agenda for School Integration"

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and The Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derecho Civiles: "Still Looking to the Future: Voluntary K-12 School Integration – A Manual for Parents, Educators, & Advocates"

<u>Poverty & Race Research Action Council and The National Coalition on School Diversity</u> "Model State School Integration Policies"

For more information about Healing Through Policy, visit apha.org/healing-through-policy.