

Thank you very much Jim. Good morning, it's really a pleasure for me to be here with you and especially to be part of this very distinguished panel. I am very much looking forward to the interaction over the course of this segment and I want in my few minutes that I have with you, really to just offer four perspectives on the topic of community development and health. The first is to pose a question; what is our goal? Is it health? Or is it prosperous and successful communities? What is the means and what is the ends? One of the lessons that one can learn regardless if whether you start from a perspective that says I care about community development, prosperity, a good quality of life or if you start by wanting to ensure good health for individuals in healthy communities. Regardless of the ends you choose you cannot escape that the other is intimately connected with the means. And so the premise of this meeting I think, isn't only that we care both about prosperity and good living conditions and about healthy of individuals. It's that we cannot achieve either unless we are attuned to both. And remarkably one of the lessons, I would say, over the last twenty five years in the health community is the power of social determinacy of health, the influence and importance that they exert far beyond the interventions that we conventionally think of as medical care. And so the first perspective that I just want to emphasize is that community development and health are intimately connected as means and ends and that we are

well served by attending to both if we care about either and we are particularly well served to join the two if we care about both. I'd like to be the first to propose that we think about CDC squared. Community development, control of disease, promotion of health and healthy communities all together. Secondly, I want to point out that there has been an evolution in thinking from the health perspective from the role of communities and environment within communities. Traditionally, many health professionals, public health professionals especially, thought about the role of community and the environment as a means of avoiding harm, reducing risks from environmental hazards, reducing the burden of air pollution, small particulates, radon, lead in our paint in homes, arsenic in water supplies, all the attention was about reducing potential harms to health from environmental pollutants, suboptimal housing, other kinds of mal-investments that intruded on health. Increasingly however, the thinking has moved toward the community and the environment as a means of promoting and protecting health, not really eliminating the hazards and the toxins that threaten health but how do you design and make communities work so that they are promoting of health? How do you ensure access to the right kind of foods, the fresh fruits and vegetables that are essential for healthy nutrition? How do you design communities that are conducive to physical exercise and don't require you always to get in the car to go to the market or to do

your daily activity? How do you design communities that are safe and are protective at the same time that they encourage the social interactions that make up so much of what we need in healthy development for children, for everyone in the family. So this movement has gone from avoiding harm to promoting health and well being and the opportunity today is really about how do we think proactively in investment and design so that we are simultaneously providing the environment that people need to live well and successfully and the promotes their health and well being. Third point; in thinking about health and development communities, here we are in the Federal Reserve building. If you look catty-corner to this building across the street you find what department? The state department. The state department literally next door. Later this week they're going to be conferences sponsored by the U.S. agency for international development on the major priorities at USA ID looking forward in the coming years. I would submit that we thinking about domestic investment, in our communities and especially in the relation between health and community development have a great deal to learn from the experience and the knowledge gained by investment in many parts of the world that are starting a much lower level of development. I'll give you just one example from a very small foundation called the François Xavier Gangue[?] Foundation, which is devoted particularly to the well being of children but the founder of the

foundation rapidly came to the conclusion that you could not develop and protect the health of children without the health of families and the well being of families, you could not do that without successful housing, education, community activities and resources and that foundation developed a very focused program they call the FXB village which has several key features. It's comprehensive, it looks simultaneously at education, at health, at social service and most importantly at enabling the family to develop economic success by investing in small business and small activity for the family. The program is time delimited, it's three years and over those three years the investment reduces year by year. It is very pragmatic and it's focused on the complete development of the family unit in the community, the villages typically are only about eighty to one hundred homes. But the success rate over the first eight years is eighty six percent of self sustaining economic development, much improved health statistics and absolutely, independent, sustainable development. I think that not the direct interventions but the principle of comprehensiveness, of time delimited intervention, of self sustaining and self reliant development, all apply equally to our thinking about community development in a comprehensive way in our own setting in the United States. And I believe that we have, just as we are learning lessons from the community development and health communities at this meeting, I believe we have a lot to share and to learn in thinking

about development in other parts of the world and in the United States. And finally, I want to suggest that to know how well we are doing, we are going to need to focus on appropriate measurements of success in communities. I was pleased to see David Kindig here from the University of Wisconsin. David has pioneered with the support of the Robert Wood Johnson foundation, a very radically successful and exciting program of enabling communities to understand how well they are doing in health and it's available right now on the web, it's continually to be developed, it's an element that is related to the larger effort of community health data initiative that I understand that Secretary Koh mentioned in his remarks, and that is a very important initiative within the department of health and human services. That is a broad effort to enable individuals in communities to understand how well they are doing. This in turn is connected to a larger open government initiative on making more data available to communities, to know how they are doing and it's also related to larger efforts to understand and use key indicators for development so that one can measure and know not only in the social sector in health and education but the economic sector, the environmental sector, more comprehensively, as you want to know, how well are we doing compared to others. And I believe that in order to understand our pace of progress and the needs it will be very important for us to take full advantage of the available information organized in

these exciting new ways, used by agencies, communities, all manner of users and developers to improve and to strengthen those resources. It's a part of what I believe is the movement of democracy of the twenty first century, empowering individuals and communities to take more responsibility and to have greater control over what matters to them. And that I think all stands as a prospect for the wonderful joining of community development and health as mutual concerns, as ends and as means to achieve both. Thank you very much.

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