



## Board of Directors Meeting

November 29, 2012

### JWB Welcomed as 37<sup>th</sup> Member of National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership

#### Item VI.B.

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**Recommended Action:** For Information Only

**Strategic Plan Goal:** Support increased coordination of countywide human service planning and funding

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#### Background

The National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP) was created in 1995 as a collaboration between the Urban Institute (UI) and local partners to further the development and use of neighborhood-level information systems in community-building and policymaking. It has served as a strong peer learning network ever since. Earlier this year, the Juvenile Welfare Board was invited to apply for membership. On September 29, JWB staff was informed by the Urban Institute that it was accepted as NNIP's 37<sup>th</sup> member.

The main benefits to NNIP membership are:

1. Access to a dynamic learning network of individuals working on common goals and struggling with similar challenges in their communities. JWB can reach into the UI and NNIP partners to obtain expert guidance on topics ranging from absenteeism and school readiness to Promise Neighborhoods and Sustainable Communities. See <http://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/activities/partner>.
2. Invitation to in-person sponsored partnership meetings.
3. Eligibility to participate in cross-site projects (selection varies by project and funder). The latest cross-site study examined the effects of foreclosures on children and schools. See
4. <http://www.neighborhoodindicators.org/activities/projects/effects-foreclosure-children-and-schools>.
5. Local projects and successes are highlighted on the NNIP website and in Urban Institute presentations to national forums and funders.
6. Demonstration of JWB's technical capacity and connection to national policy and practitioner networks.

As part of NNIP, JWB becomes part of a broader effort that is connected to national organizations whose missions revolve around improving governance, program performance, and community development at the local level. As one example, NNIP is an outreach partner for the KIDS COUNT network, a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. NNIP also actively participates in the Community Indicators Consortium, which has an inventory of indicator projects and information on integrating community indicators with performance management. NNIP is funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Some of the major funders of cross-site initiatives are Open Society Foundations, Fannie Mae, Brookings Institution, and the National Institute of Justice.