

# What Works <sup>1</sup>

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National opinion polls suggest that the public does not necessarily know what works for the inner city and the truly disadvantaged. In fact, we know a great deal about what is successful. How do we decide what works and doesn't? Our criteria are based on whether there is scientific evaluation evidence and whether a policy or program reduces inequality. Based on these criteria, there are many **examples of what works**. Based on these examples, we have come up with some practical lessons on what works, for use by practitioners, policy makers and legislators. In terms of replicating success to a scale equal to the dimensions of the problem, we have been able to spell out **a national policy based on what works**, estimate the costs of what works and suggest a plan for financing a national policy based on what works. We have a plan for better **communicating what works and**

**creating the will to act** so that what works can be replicated to scale. We also answer the question: **what doesn't work?**

For more information on what works, contact Paul Shepard, Director for Communications and Dorothy Coleman, Director for Programs, at (202) 234-8104.

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**1/ Citations:** This section is based on: Peter Applebone, "From Riots of the '60s, A Report for a National with Will and Way for Healing," *The New York Times*, May 8, 1992; and Robin Toner, "Los Angeles Riots Are a Warning, Americans Fear," *The New York Times*, June 14, 1992.