Under the leadership of Dr. David Kirkland, the NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools has been awarded a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to create a community-wide vision and plan of action for an excellent, equitable education system that benefits all students in Battle Creek, Michigan, by conducting a student-centered study. The nine-month $362,000 plus award uses an iterative process of community review, sharing/reporting, and visioning/planning, the end result of which will be community-wide vision and plan of action to create an excellent, equitable education system that benefits all students in Battle Creek, from cradle to career.

This award comes on the heels of Kirkland’s continuing grant from the Teagle Foundation which support New York City students in preparation for college matriculation. The model developed by Kirkland provides continuous, adaptive, and innovative supports designed to address the challenges they may face, increase their access to college (through exposure and enhanced literacy) and build the cognitive and noncognitive skills they need to ensure preparation for the college experience.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal pioneer, Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special emphasis is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.