



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Contact: Karen DeMott  
517.575.9777

**Progress Michigan Announces 2010 Michigan Summit: Blueprint for Change**  
*June Summit to work for people power from the ground up*

LANSING, MI – This June, lawmakers, savvy policy wonks, student scholars, movement professionals and activists will gather in East Lansing for the 2010 Michigan Summit: Blueprint for Change.

"We're excited to have Michiganders come together for change," said **Karen DeMott, Michigan Summit Director**. "The Michigan Summit: Blueprint for Change is about marrying ideas and people power to rebuild Michigan from the ground up."

The Michigan Summit: Blueprint for Change will be held on June 12, 2010 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing. Three past summit events have drawn hundreds of participants from throughout Michigan. Through an open process of dialogue and debate, attendees this year will discuss, prioritize and organize around Michigan's most important needs: good jobs, good schools, better government, stronger communities and cleaner air and water. The day's program will also focus on building organizing and communications skills as well as hear from leading voices for change.

"Whether you're frustrated with the slow pace of change in Michigan, exasperated over the political gridlock in Lansing or just ready to roll up your sleeves and get to work fixing our state, there will be opportunities to learn, teach and take action," said DeMott.

Catherine Orenstein, the founder of The Op-Ed Project who has contributed to the op-ed pages of the New York Times, Washington Post and Miami Herald, will lead a discussion focusing on empowering more Michigan activists as opinion leaders.

"Our goal is to build knowledge, build voices and build power for change and then return to our communities newly energized and organized to create the change Michigan needs from the ground up," said **David Holtz**, Executive Director of **Progress Michigan**. "There's probably never been a time in our lifetimes when we have been more challenged here in Michigan on virtually every front. We can't just leave it to political leaders to make change happen. It's really up to all of us."

The Michigan Summit is a project of Progress Michigan Education in partnership with Netroots Nation, the Roosevelt Institute Campus Network and Michigan Voice.

###