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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Institute for Alternative Futures Will Develop New Scenarios to Help the Human Services Sector Plan for the Future

Human Progress and Human Services 2035 will create a platform to help the sector better consider the uncertainties, trends and forces that will shape human services

ALEXANDRIA, VA, July 29, 2016 – Human Services organizations face many challenges such as economic trends, government spending cuts and extreme weather events. The organizations must also reinvent and reimage their approach and services while creating more person-centered, holistic practices. To explore these issues and identify implications for today's strategies, [The Kresge Foundation](#) has awarded the [Institute for Alternative Futures](#) (IAF) funding to work with leaders in human services to create scenarios describing expectable, challenging and visionary futures of human services in the U.S.

“The Human Progress and Human Services 2035 scenarios will seek to answer questions about what human services and human progress will look like in the future and how support services will be provided,” said the Institute for Alternative Futures Chairman and Senior Futurist Clement Bezold, Ph.D. “These scenarios will be a valuable resource for both human services organizations and government entities.”

The Human Progress and Human Services 2035 scenarios will create a platform to help the sector better consider the uncertainties, trends and forces that will shape human services and their organizations and what strategies will best help the sector achieve a preferred future.

In addition to national scenarios, IAF will work with two states and six cities or counties to develop and use scenarios focused on human progress and services in their communities.

“The human services sector finds itself in a rapidly-changing environment. The demography of our nation is being reconfigured. Technologies are being reinvented almost daily. The size and structure of governmental supports are in flux, as are governmental regulations,” said The Kresge Foundation Senior Program Officer Sandra Ambrozy. “Organizations face expanded capital requirements, increasing donor expectations and, on the part of many would-be public supporters, an unsettling degree of ‘compassion fatigue.’ The sector is facing a time when preparing and adapting to the current and future environment is essential.”

The results of this project will be widely shared through workshops, webinars and presentations of the scenarios for public agencies, human services organizations and their networks, and the philanthropic community. These scenarios will build on IAF's previous work in health and health equity, such as [Primary Care 2025](#), [Vulnerability 2030](#), [Public Health 2030](#), and [Health and Health Care 2032](#).

About the Institute for Alternative Futures

The Institute for Alternative Futures is a nonprofit research and educational organization that helps communities and organizations more wisely understand and better create the futures they prefer. Since 1977, IAF has been a pioneer in the use of futures methods, such as forecasts, scenarios, and vision, in health and health care, energy, transportation, education, and business. For more information, visit altfutures.org.

About The Kresge Foundation

The Kresge Foundation is a \$3.6 billion private, national foundation that works to expand opportunities in America's cities. Kresge's Human Services Program supports the advancement of human services to accelerate social and economic mobility by supporting innovative, multi-sectoral policy solutions in the human services sector; investing in innovators and innovations focused on multi-sectoral collaboration and system integration; and building opportunity ecosystems in places we know. For more information on Kresge's programs, strategic objectives and focus areas, visit kresge.org.

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