This special edited volume is a result of an educational summit sponsored by the College of Education at Eastern Michigan University during the spring of 2006 on its main campus in Ypsilanti. There were more than 400 participants who engaged in a one-day dialogue focused around a myriad of issues affecting African American males in Michigan, issues that similarly affect African American men and their communities nationwide. Among the invited participants were representatives from public and private K–12 schools, community and religious organizations, criminal justice agencies, mental health and social service providers, and public and private institutions of higher education. The educational summit occurred only because numerous individuals and organizations from across the state provided generous financial and human resources, for which we are truly grateful.

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on the responsibility for self, family, community, and societal well-being. We are pleased that the Kellogg Foundation and its representatives recognized, by their generous support of this summit, the importance of the African American nuclear families and communities in Michigan. We are indeed grateful for the support provided by Dr. Marvin McKinney, a former program officer with the Foundation, as we developed our proposal for funding.

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