

**Region IX Federal Regional Council
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (FBCI) Committee
CY 2007 Accomplishments**

Committee Purpose

- Provide a forum that includes Federal, State and local officials, as well as faith-based and community organizations to discuss and exchange information regarding program initiatives that are a priority to faith-based and community organizations in Region IX.
- Maximize limited resources via coordination, collaborations, and partnerships at the Federal, State and local levels of government.
- Promote the faith-based and community initiatives through inter-agency collaborations and partnerships in order to integrate the priorities of the faith-based community into federal policies.

Goal	Strategy	Accomplishments
<p>Continue partnerships with Region IX States that have FBCI Centers, such as Hawaii and Arizona.</p> <p>Engage with California and Nevada State officials to explore FBCI partnerships.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate dialogue with State work groups. Survey States to assess level of activity and interest in promoting FBCI initiatives. 2. Continue to partner with Hawaii and Arizona FBCI work groups to understand best practices and assist with their continued development. 3. Outreach to California. 4. Outreach to Nevada including State administration. 	<p>On April 4 and November 7, Rebecca Flanagan, Director, and Kenneth Einbinder, Operations Specialist, HUD Phoenix Field Office, spoke about their successful efforts to encourage community and faith-based organizations to respond to housing needs of homeless women and children in Phoenix. United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM) has created a shelter with 400-500 beds for women and children and has partnered with Valle del Sol, a domestic violence service provider in Phoenix, and the State to fund an additional 30 beds for women and children who are victims of domestic violence.</p> <p>In May, HHS Regional Director Tom Lorentzen and the HHS Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Center Director Greg Morris met with Sean Walsh, the Director of the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, to discuss California’s interest in securing Federal funds to support the establishment of a faith-based office and the creation of a State anti-gang coordinator.</p>
<p>Continue to strengthen communication among Federal agencies with respect to FBCI programs and initiatives.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build a more systematic approach to communicating with partners to ensure that relevant announcements are shared. 2. Continue to work with Federal FBCI Center Directors and the White House Office of 	<p>Continued to update the electronic mailing list of Committee members. The following FRC Departments/Agencies were represented on the Committee: ED, USDA/FNS, HHS, HUD, DOL, VA, IRS and SBA.</p>

<p>Explore and establish an approach that identifies committee outcomes and how to measure their achievement.</p> <p>Explore connections with other FRC committees to identify how the FBCI can be supportive.</p>	<p>FBCI to share information about FBCI programs and events.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. In collaboration with VA, launch a FRC FBCI sponsored clothing drive for Veterans. 4. Share information about best practices, model programs, etc. 5. Institute procedures for collecting and reporting information. 	<p>Presentations and information sharing of Committee member Departments/Agencies were given by HUD, DOL, USDA, and HHS at the monthly meetings.</p> <p>Provided information on FBCI funding opportunities and encouraged FBCI grantees to attend the FRC Homelessness Committee's "Forum on Access to Federal Benefits" which was held in Las Vegas, Nevada on March 29.</p> <p>Launched the FRC FBCI Clothing Drive. HHS kicked off the effort in December 2006 with the collection and donation of conference bags/totes. USDA/FNS officially started the clothing portion of the drive in April 2007. HUD, DOL, FDIC, and SSA also hosted drives in 2007. Over 300 bags of clothing were collected and donated to Veterans.</p> <p>An activity reporting template was drafted and distributed to Committee members for completion on an ongoing basis.</p>
<p>Exchange and disseminate information to faith-based and community partners, and State and local officials about programs, funding opportunities, conferences and workshops.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use all forms of communication to maximize inter-agency exchange and dissemination of information. 2. Post timely and relevant information on FRC's FBCI web page, www.frc9.us/committee/faith.asp, and educate partners to visit the website to access current announcements and program information. 	<p>Updated the FRC FBCI website at http://www.frc9.us/committee/faith.asp.</p> <p>Emailed funding announcements to Committee members.</p> <p>Committee members attended the White House FBCI Conference on Youth and Education in the Hispanic Community in Washington, D.C. on September 24, and the national summit on prisoner re-entry in Los Angeles on November 27-28. Over 1100 Federal, State, local, faith and community representatives attended both events.</p> <p>Conducted outreach to the San Francisco Faith Based Coalition (http://www.faithbasedcoalition.org/) and the "City Serve Faith Communities United in Jesus" coalition (http://www.cityserveonline.org/). Bishop Theo Frazier, the Chairman of the San Francisco Coalition, has invited our Committee to attend one of their monthly meetings in 2008.</p>

		<p>“City Serve Faith and Communities United in Jesus” Coalition includes 70 congregations located in the cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City. The purpose of the Coalition is to form a volunteer network of support to address community needs.</p> <p>HUD and SBA Committee members held a Contracting, Procurement, and Job Fair. Over 500 faith-based and community organization representatives attended the event.</p> <p>In preparation for a possible Committee sponsored community outreach event to be held in 2008, Committee members met with representatives from the WHFBCI (see meeting agenda below). Following the presentations by White House staff, Committee members presented information about their work in Phoenix, Arizona and in the San Francisco Bay Area.</p>
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**THE QUIET REVOLUTION:
THE INS, OUTS AND HOW-TO'S OF THE FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVE FOR GOVERNMENT
LEADERS**

Please join us for this morning seminar designed to provide an overview of the Initiative along with resources for your partnership with faith-based and community organizations.

WHEN:

Thursday, November 29, 2007
9:30am – 12:00pm

WHERE:

San Francisco Federal Building
90 7th Street, Conference Center Room B-040
San Francisco, CA 94103

AGENDA:

- 9:30 am Federal Regional Council Overview**
Tom Lorentzen, Regional Director
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Sharon Fujii, Regional Administrator, Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- 9:50 am Faith-Based and Community Initiative: Expanding Your Vision**
Jedd Medefind, Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director
White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
- 10:15 Church-State Legal Issues and Equal Treatment Regulations for Government Program Administrators, Procurement Specialists, and Lawyers**
Steve McFarland, Director
Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiative, U.S. Department of Justice
- This presentation is designed to help state and local government officials understand the federal equal treatment and religion-related regulations that cover them, the federal assistance they administer, state and local funds co-mingled with federal assistance, and any organization that receives federal assistance. To date, nine federal agencies have made regulatory changes to: (1) ensure equal treatment and religious liberty for organizations and individuals, regardless of their religious affiliation, or lack thereof; (2) lift unnecessary restrictions on the use of "indirect" federal financial assistance; and (3) clarify proper, Constitutional uses of federal assistance. Opportunity for Q&A will follow.
- 11:00 Innovative Procurement Models for State and Local Government Program Administrators**
Rhett Butler, Director
Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, U.S. Department of Labor
- The presentation will also help state and local government officials identify procurement strategies to improve the quality of their services through innovative partnerships with small faith-based and community organizations via government contracts and grants. The workshop will provide an overview of effective strategies, including the use of mini-grants, intermediary organizations, and indirect funding mechanisms. Opportunity for Q&A will follow.
- 11:45 Adjourn**