



S U M M E R 2 0 0 8

## President Bush Praises Successes of America's Armies of Compassion

On June 26, 2008, President George W. Bush addressed the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI) "Innovations in Effective Compassion" National Conference in Washington, D.C. Joined by members of the President's Cabinet, OFBCI Director Jay Hein and more than 1,000 public- and private-sector leaders, the Conference served to explore and expand ways the FBCI has transformed government to place local nonprofits at the center of our Nation's response to pressing human needs. Conference speakers explored ways the Initiative has reshaped government, strengthened nonprofits, and aided millions of lives. Speakers included: Senator Joseph Lieberman; Attorney General, Michael Mukase; Secretary of Labor, Elaine Chao; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Steve Preston, Secretary of Agriculture, Ed Schafer; U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, Mark Dybul; and White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Director John Walters.



President George W. Bush listens as Edith Espinoza, Administrative Assistant, Chicano Federation, introduces him at the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives National Conference Thursday, June 26, 2008, in Washington, D.C.  
*White House photo by Chris Greenberg*

*"Groups like yours have harnessed a power that no government bureaucracy can match. When I came to Washington, my goal was to ensure that government made you a full partner in our efforts to serve those in need. And the results have been uplifting."*

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, JUNE 26, 2008



Senator Joseph Lieberman addresses attendees at the White House FBCI Conference, June 27, 2008.

### Innovations in Compassion Website

The "Innovations in Effective Compassion" website, launched during the FBCI National Conference, captures how the Initiative has lifted millions of lives by more effectively addressing human need in partnership with the nonprofit sector. The website includes a wealth of research, evaluations,



practical tools, and other resources that will enable both service organizations and the public sector to build upon the Faith-Based and Community Initiative in the years ahead. Visit [www.innovationincompassion.hhs.gov](http://www.innovationincompassion.hhs.gov).

# WHITE HOUSE SUMMIT ON INNER-CITY CHILDREN AND FAITH-BASED SCHOOLS



On April 25, 2008, President Bush hosted a White House Summit on Inner-City Children and Faith-Based Schools in Washington, D.C. The event brought together educators, policymakers, and community leaders to develop local strategies to keep the doors of inner-city faith-based schools open to America's disadvantaged students. For many inner-city children, America's faith-based schools provide an option for a better future. As urban public schools continue to improve through the No Child Left Behind Act, important educational alternatives must also be sustained for underserved students attending chronically underperforming public schools.

President George W. Bush stands with his arm around Aysia Mayo-Gray, a student at St. Ann's Academy in Washington, D.C., and one of the greeters on hand to welcome the President to the White House Summit on Inner-City Children and Faith-Based Schools, Thursday, April 24, 2008, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center.

*White House photo by Chris Greenberg.*

*“One-third of Americans who volunteer do so through religious organizations. Many of them happen to be faith-based schools, by the way. When you hear about an America that volunteers, many of the volunteers are at faith-based schools.”*

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, APRIL 24, 2008

## WHITE HOUSE HOSTS DROPOUT BRIEFING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE

On April 30, 2008, the White House OFBCI convened a policy briefing on the Nation's high school dropout crisis, exploring ways to curb this "silent epidemic" on behalf of America's youth. Hosted by OFBCI Director Jay Hein, in partnership with America's Promise Alliance Board Chair, Alma Powell, and President and CEO, Marguerite Kondracke, the briefing, entitled, "The Dropout Epidemic in the U.S. and Cross-Sector Solutions," explored factors leading to over a million high school dropouts each year. Participants discussed public- and private-sector innovations to help reverse this disturbing trend in partnership with community-based nonprofits and faith-based organizations.

# WHITE HOUSE OFBCI HOSTS CONFERENCES IN RWANDA AND LUSAKA

In March and April of 2008, the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives hosted regional FBCI conferences in Rwanda and Zambia. Following the President and Mrs. Bush's visit to Africa, the FBCI Africa conferences furthered the President's vision for "compassion in action" across the continent and around the globe.

The Kigali, Rwanda Conference focused on Public-Private Partnerships and Economic Development, highlighting the impact of FBCOs in international social enterprise. Rwandan President Paul Kagame joined FBCI Director Jay Hein at the Kigali event. President Kagame stated, "As we all agree, while the individual roles of governments, the business community, and faith-based institutions are critical for future development success—the more these constituencies act in unison, the more effective the result."



OFBCI Deputy Director Jedd Medefind and Director Jay Hein join small business owners in Kigali, Rwanda.

Also participating were: Admiral Timothy Ziemer, the President's Malaria Initiative Coordinator; best-selling author and Pastor Rick Warren; and other government, private-sector, and nonprofit leaders. Hein stated, "Empowering locally-built solutions and expanding neighbor-to-neighbor service is central to the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative and is now an integral part of the U.S. Government's efforts to address human need both at home and abroad."

The Lusaka, Zambia conference focused on health initiatives, highlighting and expanding the growing leadership of FBCOs in disease prevention, treatment, and care, particularly through President Bush's successful HIV/AIDS and malaria initiatives. First Lady Maureen Mwanawasa delivered remarks, commenting on the HIV/AIDS epidemic. "It is apparent that this scourge requires a combined effort and cooperation between the church, civil society, government, and other faith-based entities," said Mrs. Mwanawasa. "These entities need to collaborate and develop synergies that use a multi-faceted approach in order to have the greatest impact."



OFBCI Director Jay Hien greets Zambian First Lady Mwanawasa at the Lusaka, Zambia FBCI Conference on April 4, 2008.

## HUDSON INSTITUTE'S INDEX OF GLOBAL PHILANTHROPY

In June 2008, the Hudson Institute Center for Global Prosperity released an Index of Global Philanthropy, highlighting humanitarian aid and the impact of private giving compared to government global aid contributions. The report revealed that religious organizations charted the most significant increase in private philanthropy, giving \$8.8 billion in the U.S. in 2006, equivalent to 37 percent of U.S. official development assistance. To view the report, visit: [www.global-prosperity.org](http://www.global-prosperity.org)

## MRS. BUSH ADDRESSES NONPROFITS AT WHITE HOUSE FBCI GULF COAST DISASTER RELIEF AND PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE



Mrs. Laura Bush speaks about expanding and strengthening the work of faith-based and community organizations during her appearance at the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Gulf Coast Summit Friday, May 30, 2008, in New Orleans.

*White House photo by Shealah Craighead.*

*“From youth development to substance abuse treatment, building houses to teaching basic reading schools, faith-based and community organizations are the foundation upon which a better and stronger Gulf Coast can be rebuilt.... the organizations represented in this room are best equipped to mend hearts and lives. Through your inspired local leadership, we can renew New Orleans and establish the Gulf Coast as a region of hope for all Americans.”*

MRS. LAURA BUSH,  
NEW ORLEANS, MAY 30, 2008

During a two-day Gulf Coast Conference on Disaster Relief and Preparedness on May 29th and 30th in New Orleans, the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives highlighted replicable models of public-private collaborations created following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to help restore communities and target pressing needs of Americans affected by the disasters. Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu and U.S. Attorney Jim Letten joined Mrs. Bush. The conference spotlighted successful ongoing Federal and local partnerships with nonprofits, particularly with efforts to rebuild Gulf Coast education infrastructure and meet needs of America's youth.

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FBCI CENTER PARTNERS WITH WHITE HOUSE TO HOST DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ROUNDTABLE

Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff joined OFBCI Director Jay Hein on May 19, 2008 at a White House FBCI Compassion in Action policy roundtable titled, “Partnerships in Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery: The Role of Faith-Based and Community Organizations in Building Resilient Communities.” The Roundtable underscored the critical and increasing role of FBCOs in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery and expanded effectiveness of Federal efforts to deliver aid in the wake of disasters through the help of the nonprofit sector. During his remarks, Secretary Chertoff highlighted the 2006 “Heralding Unheard Voices” report, released by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Homeland Security Institute. The report examines the roles of faith-based organizations and non-government organizations in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To access this report, visit: [www.homelandsecurity.org](http://www.homelandsecurity.org).

*“The President’s commitment to working in close partnership with nonprofit organizations has been unparalleled, and our department is more effective because of it,” said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. “Faith based and community organizations can play a vital role in planning, preparedness and response efforts, and we’ll continue to work closely with them.”*



## OFBCI *COMPASSION IN ACTION* ROUNDTABLE HIGHLIGHTS

### FINANCIAL LITERACY

On Wednesday, June 18, 2008, the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, joined by Steve Preston, U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Anna Escobedo Cabral, Treasurer of the United States, Charles Schwab, Chair of the President's Council on Financial Literacy, and other key public- and private-sector leaders, convened a *Compassion in Action* Roundtable titled, "Financial Literacy And the Role of Faith-Based and Community Organizations." Hosted by OFBCI Director Jay Hein, the Roundtable focused on innovative and effective programs and partnerships that promote financial literacy among Americans of all ages.



U.S. Treasurer Anna Escobedo Cabral addresses the FBCI Financial Literacy Roundtable on June 18, 2008

### VETERANS SERVICES

The White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, joined by U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs James B. Peake, convened a *Compassion in Action* policy roundtable on July 22, 2008 titled, "Serving Those Who Have Served: The Vital Role of Faith-Based and Community Organizations." The roundtable highlighted the important work of local nonprofits working to address the challenges of men and women who have served our Nation in uniform and explored ways to further expand partnerships with these organizations.

Secretary Peake highlighted ways the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) engages America's faith-based and community organizations and volunteers to more effectively meet the needs of America's 24 million veterans and their families. "Today, VA provides more services to veterans most in need in more communities thanks to our growing partnerships with non-profit organizations -- President Bush's "Armies of Compassion" dedicated to housing the homeless, feeding the hungry, putting the jobless to work and easing troubled minds," Secretary Peake said.

