



# QUARTERLY UPDATE

SUMMER 2003



*The President, pictured with (l-r) Bishop John Ricard, Rev. Eugene Rivers, and Dr. Tony Evans, highlights the OFBCI Grants Catalogue at the Urban Leaders meeting.*

## PRESIDENT BUSH ADDRESSES URBAN LEADERS

President Bush spoke to over 100 urban leaders on July 16<sup>th</sup> about the effectiveness of faith-based and community groups and the Administration's ongoing efforts to support their work. The President also discussed the importance of the Global HIV/AIDS initiative and his reflections on his recent trip to Africa.

### *From the President*

"Every day across America, faith-based and community groups are touching people's lives in profound ways...Government has no business endorsing a religious creed, or directly funding religious worship. But for too long, government treated people of faith like second-class citizens in the grant making process. Government can and should support effective social services provided by religious people, as long as those services go to anyone in need. And when government gives that support, faith-based institutions should not be forced to change the character of their service or compromise their principles."

*- President George W. Bush, Remarks to the National Urban League, Pittsburgh, PA, July 28, 2003*

## NEW RELIGIOUS HIRING RIGHTS BOOKLET

The White House has released a new guidebook fully describing the Administration's belief that faith-based groups have a Constitutionally-protected right to maintain their religious identity through hiring – even when Federal funds are involved. The White House distributed copies of the booklet to every member of Congress in June. To view the booklet, visit [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov).

## WHITE HOUSE HOSTS CONFERENCE IN MINNEAPOLIS, MN

The White House, together with the Departments of Justice, Agriculture, Labor, Health & Human Services, Housing & Urban Development, and Education, and the Agency for International Development, recently held a Faith-Based and Community Initiatives conference in Minneapolis, MN. The conference is part of a series to help grassroots organizations learn more about President Bush's Initiative. These free, day-long conferences have equipped more than 8,400 community leaders with information about the Federal funding process, government grants that are suited to their needs, and the legal issues that may apply to recipients of Federal funds. **The next White House conference is taking place in Memphis, TN, on October 29.** Visit [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov) for more info about the conferences.



*Secretary Rod Paige, of the US Department of Education, offered the keynote address at the WH Conference in Minneapolis.*

## ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS

Old North Church, in Boston, MA, was denied a "Save America's Treasures" grant for the preservation of its windows and other repairs, simply because it is a church. Two months ago, the Department of Interior leveled the playing field so that all of America's treasures, including those that are sacred places, are preserved for future generations. Now, 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL, a powerful landmark in the civil rights movement, Touro Synagogue in Newport, RI, the oldest synagogue still standing, and the Basilica of the Assumption, a revered site of Roman Catholicism, and structures like them are eligible for grants. If we can spend public preservation money to restore museums, hospitals and schools, we can also preserve those American treasures that are priceless places of worship and history.

## LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

The Senate approved The Charity Aid, Recovery and Empowerment ("CARE") Act of 2003 by a 95-5 vote in April. The Act includes tax incentives to promote charitable giving, matching tax credits for those who use an Individual Development Account to save money, and simplification of the 501(c)3 application process. H.R. 7, the House version of the CARE Act is awaiting action by the House Ways and Means Committee.

## NEW FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES CABINET CENTERS DIRECTORS

- USDA – **Juliet McCarthy**
- USAID – **Mike Magan**
- HUD – **Ryan Streeter**

Visit [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov) to access links to the FBCI Cabinet Center websites.



*President Bush signed Executive Orders as Amachi program mentors and their students observed.*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: How do I apply for a government grant?**

**A:** Our web site, [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov), offers a Grants Catalog which can be downloaded to your computer by clicking the link on the left-hand side of the home page. The Grants Catalog offers information on available grants according to the type of service that your organization provides, as well as the contact information for each grant.

**Q: Could I meet with a representative of your office while I am in DC?**

**A:** We take all scheduling requests via fax. Our fax number is 202-456-7019. Please include the date, time, a brief introduction to your organization, and the reason why you would like to meet with a representative.

**Q: Could your office send me a packet of information about President Bush's Faith-Based and Community Initiative?**

**A:** Unfortunately, the White House Office is unable to send informational packets to all those who request them; however, all documents concerning our office are posted on our web site: [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov).

For the most up to date information about the Initiative, visit [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov). Our web site provides many helpful resources, including a Grants Catalog, facts about the Cabinet Centers, updated conference information, and current activities of our office. You can join our mailing list on the web site.