



MONTHLY UPDATE

November 2002

FBCI Launches New Initiatives in Continuing Efforts to Assist Faith-Based and Community Groups

WHITE HOUSE HOSTS CONFERENCE ON FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige addresses conference Attendees. [Photo provided by U.S. Department of Education]

On October 10th the White House sponsored the first in a series of regional conferences in Atlanta, Georgia. Over 1,500 attendees learned about Federal funding opportunities, grant writing, and cutting-edge practices from government staff and other organizations. The next conference will be held in Philadelphia on December 12th. See www.fbc.gov for more details.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ANNOUNCES GRANTS

U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao announced the awarding of the first three sets of Department of Labor grants specifically designed to link faith-based and grassroots community organizations to the nation's One-Stop Career System. \$17.5 million was awarded to 12 states and 29 organizations around the country. "These resources will help these organizations to carry out their mission of bringing hope and opportunity to individuals and improve our communities," said Chao.

COMPASSION CAPITAL FUND AWARDED

On October 3rd, Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson awarded \$30 million to help level the playing field for faith- and community-based organizations. Jim Towey, Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, welcomed HHS' announcement. "For too long, government has made it difficult -- if not impossible -- for small charities and faith-based organizations to provide federally-funded services. The Compassion Capital Fund is key to making sure these organizations have the tools they need to expand their services to poor and needy Americans," Towey said. [Press release](#)

From the President

"Our cause is great because the needs are great. Today, as many as 15 million young people are at risk of not reaching productive adulthood – falling prey to crime, drugs, and other problems that make it difficult to obtain an education, successfully enter the workforce, or otherwise contribute to society. More than 2 million children have a father or mother in prison or jail. Homelessness and the plight of needy seniors are further reminders that a new spirit of generosity and compassion must be unleashed so that each American's life is cherished and respected. Faith-based organizations have long had this spirit. They run more than half of the food programs and about a quarter of the shelters and the drop-in centers for the homeless. Nearly one in five community hospital beds are religiously-affiliated. An America without faith-based organizations caring for people in need is an America without hope."

*President George W. Bush
October 10, 2002*

HELPFUL FEDERAL GRANT INFORMATION

Did you know that the Federal government uses two types of grants?

Discretionary grants are awarded by an agency of the Federal government directly to an organization.

Formula or block grants place Federal money in the hands of States, cities, or counties to be distributed to social service providers.

Far more money is available through formula grants than through discretionary grants.

For more information visit the grants section at www.fbc.gov

ROUNDTABLES ON THE FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

For the past few months, Jim Towey, Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, has participated in several roundtables to listen to questions and comments from community leaders. Mr. Towey has traveled to eight states and plans to travel to several more by the end of the year, in order to connect with the vast array of faith-based and grassroots organizations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAMHSA Grassroots Training Conferences

When/Where: November 13-15 Raleigh, NC.
November 14-16 Washington, D.C. November 18-19 Bridgeport, CT. November 21-23 Chicago, IL.

What: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is sponsoring a series of grassroots training conferences to provide grant writing and capacity building for faith-based and community organizations.

Christian Community Development Association Conference

When: November 8th
Where: Pasadena, CA

What: CCDA provides training opportunities through workshops, conference speakers, and tours that feature some of the premier faith-based organizations in the country.

LOOKING AHEAD

White House Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

When: December 12, 2002

Where: Philadelphia, PA

What: Conference to learn about Federal funding opportunities, participate in a grant writing workshop, and network with government faith-based centers and community leaders.

Who: OFBCI, Departments of Justice, Labor, HHS, HUD and Education

FEDERAL AGENCY CABINET CENTERS

The President has established Centers for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in five major cabinet agencies to promote the administration's faith-based and community agenda by changing how the federal government operates. These Centers will evaluate policies, funding programs, and agency communications and technical assistance strategies to ensure that they emphasize effectiveness and hospitality to faith-based and community-based organization. Center web sites can be accessed by clicking on the following links:

- [U.S. Department of Labor-Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives](http://www.dol.gov/cfbc) (<http://www.dol.gov/cfbc>)
- [U.S. Department of Education-Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives](http://www.ed.gov/faithandcommunity/) (<http://www.ed.gov/faithandcommunity/>)
- [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Center for Faith Based and Community Initiatives](http://www.hhs.gov/fbci/) (<http://www.hhs.gov/fbci/>)
- [HUD's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives](http://www.hud.gov/offices/fbci/index.cfm) (<http://www.hud.gov/offices/fbci/index.cfm>)
- [U.S. Department of Justice-Task Force on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fbci/) (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fbci/>)

RECENT AGENCY ACTIVITIES

- Department of Health and Human Services awards \$30 million in Compassion Capital Funding to faith-based and community groups and research organizations.
- Department of Labor launched Ready for Work ex-offender initiative in conjunction with Department of Justice and local businesses.
- Department of Labor announces Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Integration Pilot Program to be implemented in Memphis, TN.

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