



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Washington DC 20420

Dear Faith-Based or Community Organization:

There's a veteran in almost every family in America. Families make a community; communities ... cities; cities ...states; states... this great nation – America. Whenever a veteran needs help for whatever reason or situation that occurs in their lives--on and off the battlefield, it's usually the faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) that are there ...reaching out and offering to help.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is actively seeking to engage FBCOs in the VA mission, “To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.” We are committed to helping fulfill President Bush’s vision of mobilizing the armies of compassion to strengthen America’s communities.

Your organization can be a part of that mission by partnering with the VA. From our Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program, to Voluntary Service, to assisting disabled veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq, we have many different opportunities across the country to become involved in the VA and serve veterans in need. Opportunities to partnerships with the VA can be accomplished through our 162 VA hospitals, more than 850+ community and facility-based clinics, 43 domiciliaries, 206 Vet Centers, 57 regional offices, and 120 national cemeteries.

The Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives is looking to involve FBCOs in VA programs and initiatives to the greatest extent possible. We do this by reaching out to community organizations like yours to participate in existing and in new and innovative initiatives that will foster effective VA-grassroots partnership and achieve a common goal – assisting our nation’s veterans in need.

To find out more information on how you can participate and serve veterans, please visit our website at www.va.gov/fbc or call 202-273-7499. We also want to invite you to join our ListServ. Organizations on our ListServ receive automatic “Notice of Funding Availability” of grants and other items of interest. To join the ListServ, visit our website at www.va.gov/fbc. Click on “**Join the ListServ**” which is located on the left sidebar. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Darin Selnick, Director
Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives