



**INDIANA FAITH-BASED ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2006  
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Indiana Government Center  
302 West Washington Street, Conference Room 22  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The meeting of the Indiana Faith-Based Advisory Council was called to order at 1:09 PM by Executive Director Paula Parker-Sawyers. Those in attendance were asked to introduce themselves.

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|-------------------------|------------------|
| Joan Andrews            | Jerry Pattengale |
| Tammy Culp              | Curt Smith       |
| Rick George             | Eugene Spicer    |
| Joseph Gibson           | Glenn Tebbe      |
| Anne Gries              | Maria Thompson   |
| Dan Haifley             | Thomas Walker    |
| E. Anne Henning-Byfield | Charles Ware     |
| Michael Latham          |                  |

Executive Director Paula Parker-Sawyers indicated the attendance for the day's meeting represented well the denominational and geographic diversity of Indiana.

The minutes from the last meeting were discussed, in particular the Speaker Policy and Event Sponsorship and Staff Participation guidelines. For those members who weren't in attendance for the last meeting, Ms. Parker-Sawyers briefly advised the council of the events that lead to the OFBCI asking for the council's advice. This was a result of an invitation the OFBCI received from INCASA for Ms. Parker-Sawyers to speak at their event on April 29<sup>th</sup> as well as requesting the OFBCI to serve as a sponsor of the program. The wording within the promotional brochure contained descriptive language of a religious nature and indicated that OFBCI, a governmental entity, as a sponsor. As a result of this incident along with input from the IFBAC, new guidelines were developed. The OFBCI has implemented the new policy and has not received any negative responses or concerns from persons seeking speakers from OFBCI. Ms. Parker-Sawyers advised that the ACLU and the State Attorney General's Office did contact the OFBCI inquiring

what steps would be taken to prevent this type of incident from occurring in the future. As a result of the IFBAC's advice, recommendation and support, the State Attorney General and the ACLU were pleased with the outcome and the establishment of the new policy.

The next item discussed was the OFBCI's upcoming 2006 Indiana Faith-Based Conference, "A Challenge to Excellence" which is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27, 2006. This will be a one day conference at the Indiana Government Center. Personal e-mail invitations will be mailed out to IFBAC and ICCSV board members, leaders of organizations, and community leaders, during the week of July 31<sup>st</sup>. The following week, the conference will be included in Friday Night Facts which targets the general public. Ms. Parker-Sawyers indicated an invitation to this event has been extended to Governor Daniels and Lt. Governor Skillman. On line registration will be available. Executive Director Parker-Sawyers advised that Kirsten Groenberg, a professor at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, is confirmed to speak about a recent study she completed on Faith-Based Organizations in Indiana. Ms. Parker-Sawyers will moderate a panel that will provide insight and lessons learned about applying for federal grants. Afternoon sessions will include:

***Logistics of Being a Nonprofit Organization***, is a panel presentation from the Indiana Secretary of State's Office, the Indiana Department of Revenue, and the Internal Revenue Service on financial reporting requirements, based on "Handbook for Indiana Non-Profit Organizations".

***Program Design and Management***, is a presentation on the Department of Correction's new PLUS program, from concept to implementation, including a discussion of the program components and tools used to develop and manage this innovative collaboration with faith-based organizations.

***Financial Controls for Faith-Based Organizations***, will explain what good financial management looks like; what policies are important to have in place; what tasks are important to do; and what tools are needed to maintain a strong financial base.

***Personnel Law and Civil Rights***, will explain federal and state laws governing your employee's rights and your employer's responsibilities.

***Outcomes Measurement and Program Evaluation***, is a presentation on the world of outcome measurement and the basics of program evaluation. Participants will understand what performance measures are and why they need to be measured. Participants will be able to identify measurable activities and will receive helpful handouts to assist them in developing their own outcomes.

***The Insider's Guide to Getting Money from the Government***, will describe the state's funding process and typical grantee profiles.

Ms. Parker-Sawyers indicated all that the panelists involved in this conference are primarily from state government, giving attendees an opportunity to meet and speak with experts from within state government. IFBAC members are invited to assist with the conference, anyone interested should contact Dave Liebel for additional information.

Derrick Feldmann, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, from The LEAGUE was introduced by Ms. Parker-Sawyers. Also in attendance from The LEAGUE was Eric Hollister, Indiana State Director, and Kathy Matthies, Indiana Program Director. The purpose of Mr. Feldmann's visit was to introduce the LEAGUE, explain the test pilot program within a faith-based setting to engage youth, and to show how to incorporate existing faith-based youth philanthropy or community involvement practices within the LEAGUE. Mr. Feldmann gave a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the proposed program design, the concept, and offered statistics on the impact and progress of this program in Jersey City and Newark, New Jersey. Part of the PowerPoint presentation highlighted the *Learning to Give* Website ([www.learningtogive.org](http://www.learningtogive.org)) which contains over 1000 teacher-developed lesson plans (K-12); support materials; resources and a religious instructors section. All information on this website can be downloaded free of charge. Dave Liebel from the OFBCI will email the slide presentation to each IFBAC member. Ms. Parker-Sawyers advised the council the OFBCI will assist in facilitating a partnership with the LEAGUE, although OFBCI will not be managing the pilots with faith based organizations.

Following Mr. Feldmann's presentation, Ms. Parker-Sawyers spoke briefly about the mini health summit which was held during the Indiana Black Expo and shared information about the Governor's Initiative-AmeriCorps program hosted by the Indiana State Department of Health., that will start in January, 2007. She then shared a video and PowerPoint presentation on Health Disparities in Black and White. Ms. Parker-Sawyers informed the committee that if anyone was interested in hosting a discussion about health disparities and efforts to eliminate the disparity, they should contact OFBCI for a presentation. Due to copyright laws, the video cannot be disseminated and will remain in the custody of the OFBCI but the PowerPoint presentation will be forwarded to the council via email. The mini health summit was sponsored by Pfizer and as a result of the participation and interest resulting from the summit; OFBCI has been asked to submit a proposal to address the multi-faceted issue of eliminating health disparities. Based on Pfizer's request, the OFBCI will be suggesting the creation of a *Hoosier Hospitality Health Book* which will be a collaborative effort, including recipes, exercises from INShape, information on smoking cessation, as well as tips on living out of a food pantry. During the Indiana Black Expo, 75 churches signed up to either ask for additional information or to participate in Body & Soul. Events such as the mini health summit are designed to inform people of the services available through the OFBCI and state services, such as the State Department of Health and Family Social Services Administration.

The next topic of discussion was the Handbook for Indiana Faith-Based and Community Organizations. Ms. Parker-Sawyers advised the handbook would be ready for distribution at the 2006 Indiana Faith-Based Conference on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The IFBAC was asked to look over the outline to see if there were any obvious errors or omissions.

This handbook will serve as a starting point for Indiana Faith-Based and Community Organizations and will provide a quick overview of early issues facing faith-based and community organization as well as providing additional resources and websites.

Pastor Dan Haifley expressed his concern pertaining to the awarding of grants, indicating community initiatives seem to receive more grants than faith-based initiatives. He indicated it appears as though the government is indicating they want to support faith-based initiatives by the creation of Offices of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, but don't seem to fund faith-based initiatives. Further discussion ensued and Ms. Parker-Sawyers advised that government funds can't be used for postulation or conversion. However, this does not mean that a faith-based institution cannot receive money from the government; they can if they are providing a service that is open to anyone and does not have a prerequisite of participating in a religious activity. When receiving government funds, it is imperative to make sure those funds received are used for non-religious activities. Funds received from parishioners and/or congregations for programs that are just intended for a denominational act should be accounted for separately and not mingled with funds received from a governmental entity.

Ms. Parker-Sawyers encouraged the IFBAC to engage in the kind of communication and conversation represented by the question raised by Pastor Haifley. She indicated that it the only way Governor Daniels can lead Indiana is by knowing what the various corners of the state are thinking and saying. She also reminded the council that there are 33 Offices of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives around the country, and the likelihood of this initiative ceasing to exist is very slim regardless of who is President of the United States.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Simpson, Administrative Assistant  
Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives