

February 5, 2007

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U.S. Department of Labor: Forming Effective Partnerships

On January 30th, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) honored the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board (NVWIB) and its partners as “Champions of Compassion.” Jay Hein, Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and Jedd Medefind, Director of the DOL Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, each praised NVWIB and its partners for their efforts to build effective relationships between the government and grassroots groups. They acknowledged the organizations’ deep commitment and the impact of their caring touch on the lives of many who might otherwise have gone without needed services.

In July 2005, DOL awarded NVWIB an 18-month, \$481,500 grant as part of a pilot program to help Workforce Investment Boards across the country form partnerships with grassroots organizations. NVWIB partnered with 14 sub-grantees and targeted diverse populations including the homeless, individuals with disabilities, immigrants, and other low-income populations. The SkillSource Group, a subsidiary of NVWIB, provided extensive technical assistance to the grassroots organizations by helping them connect with local SkillSource One-Stop Career Centers, manage their grants, learn reporting requirements, and create strategic plans.



Jedd Medefind; Naila Alam, CEO & Founder, Express Care; Jay Hein; Yasmeen Durrani, Director, Express Care; David Hunn, CEO, SkillSource Group

At the event, Naila Alam, a Pakistani immigrant and Founder/CEO of Express Care, spoke of the grant’s impact on the Muslim community in her area. She described a homeless, Muslim widow living with her small children in a shelter. Through the training services of Express Care, the widow found a job at an assisted living center where she has begun management training.

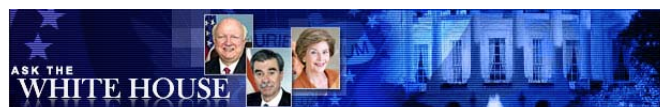
To learn more about the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board and its partners, visit: www.myskillsource.org/home/nvwib/FCBO/FCBO-home.asp.

If you are interested in receiving our weekly e-newsletter, “OFBCI Update”, visit www.fbc.gov and click the “Join Our Mailing List” link.

Ask the White House with Jay Hein

On January 19th, Director Jay Hein participated in *Ask the White House*, an online interactive forum which allows members of the general public to pose questions directly to senior Administration officials.

Director Hein described the Compassion in Action Roundtable series, launched this past January, and articulated ways the Faith-Based and Community Initiative is being implemented at the state and local levels. He explained how President George W. Bush's vision for the Initiative respects



constitutionally established principles and how the White House educates grassroots groups on the resources available to them from the Federal government.

To read Jay Hein's comments and interviews with other Administration officials on *Ask the White House*, visit: www.whitehouse.gov/ask/.

"Unlocking Doors" Conference with the University of Southern California

On January 24th, the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and the University of Southern California (USC) Center for Economic Development co-sponsored an "Unlocking Doors" Conference. Hosted on USC's campus, the event featured a discussion between representatives from both the public and private sectors on successful housing models in a region with unique needs.

The conference highlighted the efforts of HUD's Faith-Based and Community Liaison for the region, Stephen Clark, to forge stronger partnerships between HUD, government leaders and local organizations. The partners aim to identify and implement successful practices of



affordable housing for the homeless, seniors, and other needy populations in Los Angeles. A representative from USC announced the university's intention to create a Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the Center for

Economic Development to further study the importance of these organizations in local communities throughout the country.

For more information on the Unlocking Doors Initiative visit: www.hud.gov/offices/fbc/unlockingdoors/.

Promising Practice: Spotlight on Education Provider

The *No Child Left Behind Act* provides for supplemental educational services (SES) for disadvantaged public school students to ensure they receive high-quality education. SES pays for tutoring and other academic enrichment services provided outside of the regular school day to help improve students' achievement in reading, language arts, and math. Parents of eligible students may obtain these services for their children free of charge from an approved provider of their choice. Faith-based and community organizations are eligible to be approved providers of this critical support and are vital partners in the provision of SES.

Project IMPACT, founded in 1986 by Dr. Matthew Harris, is a model SES provider. The nonprofit began as an extension of First Christian Church of Lynwood's (CA) social outreach program and has grown to provide counseling, tutoring, parent education, job training and placement, and mentoring services to over 440 students and their families in seven school districts across Los Angeles. Project IMPACT has been an approved Department of Education SES provider since 2003.

To learn more about SES, visit: www.ed.gov/about/inits/list/fbc/suppservices.html.

To learn more about Project IMPACT, visit: www.projectimpactusa.org.

**FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVE
THE WEEK AHEAD**
Monday, February 5, 2007 | Saturday, February 10, 2007

Monday, February 5

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Shayam Menon participates in a Texas Education Agency Workshop.
Austin, TX

Tuesday, February 6

THE WHITE HOUSE: Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives hosts monthly conference call with state FBCI directors.
Washington, DC

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: Jedd Medefind participates in the First National Transforming Communities Conference entitled, "Families, Communities, and Gangs," presented by the Latino Coalition.
Los Angeles, CA

Wednesday, February 7

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Shayam Menon participates in the No Child Left Behind, Supplemental Educational Services, and 21st Children Creative Learning Centers Technical Assistance Workshop.
Arlington, TX

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: CFBCI Staff participates in Supplemental Educational Services Technical Assistance Workshop.
Brooklyn, NY

Thursday, February 8

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES: Elizabeth Robertson and Alyson Rose-Wood attend an event focused on "What Faith-Based Organizations are Actually Doing in the Fight Against AIDS," sponsored by the World Health Organization in collaboration with the Washington National Cathedral Center for Global Justice and Reconciliation.
Washington, DC

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: Shayam Menon participates in the No Child Left Behind, Supplemental Educational Services, and 21st Children Creative Learning Centers Technical Assistance Workshop.
St Louis, MO

Friday, February 9

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE: Steve McFarland addresses the Faith-Based Programming, Reentry and Recidivism Symposium presented by the Ohio Institute on Correctional Best Practices.
London, OH