



JUNE 27, 2008

Dear Newsletter Recipients,

This week, the White House brought together the “Armies of Compassion” to celebrate the success of the Faith-Based and Community Initiative in Washington, D.C. at a two-day conference. The Initiative, which President Bush said “Harnesses a power that no government agency can match,” has transformed the way the US Government cares for the sick, the poor, and the marginalized by leveling the playing field for faith and community based organization when seeking government funds. Its “quiet revolution” isn’t so quiet anymore.

President Bush’s speech below about those “armies” (many of you!) and their transforming work to change and save lives says it all.

Warmest regards,

Terri

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President Bush Attends Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives' National Conference

Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, D.C.

[Fact Sheet: Faith-Based and Community Initiatives: Delivering Help and Hope to Millions at Home and Around the World](#)

12:59 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Please be seated. (Applause.) How beautiful was that? From being a homeless mother of two to introducing the President of the United States. (Applause.) There has to be a higher power. I love being with members of the armies of compassion, foot soldiers in helping make America a more hopeful place. Every day you mend broken hearts with love. You mend broken lives with hope. And you mend broken communities with countless acts of extraordinary kindness.

Groups like yours have harnessed a power that no government bureaucracy can match. So when I came to Washington, my goal was to ensure that government made you a full partner in our efforts to serve those

in need. And the results have been uplifting. And that's what we're here to talk about today. It's an opportunity to celebrate your achievements, to thank you for your life-changing work, and to look ahead to ways that you will extend your record of compassion in the years to come.

I really want to thank Jay Hein, and those who worked hard to put on this conference. It looks like it's a successful one from here. (Applause.) I'm honored that members of the administration have come -- the Attorney General, Judge Michael Mukasey. Mr. General, thanks for coming. Secretary Ed Shafer, Department of Agriculture; Secretary Carlos Gutierrez, Department of Commerce; Director John Walters, Office of National Drug Control Policy -- thank you all for taking time to be here. (Applause.)

Ambassador Mark Dybul, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator -- Mark, thanks for coming, appreciate you being here. I'm going to talk about PEPFAR in a minute. But when I talk about PEPFAR, think about his extraordinary leadership, as I do.

I want to thank the Ambassador from the Republic of Rwanda. Mr. Ambassador, I'm proud you're here. And I want to thank all of those who have come around the country who work in our Faith-Based and Community Initiative for your leadership and your compassion and your decency.

You know, when I ran for President, like a lot of others around our country, I was troubled to see so many of our citizens' greatest needs going unmet. Too many addicts walked the rough road of recovery alone. Too many prisoners had the desire for reform, but no one showed them a way. Across the country, the hungry and the homeless and the sick and the suffering begged for deliverance -- and too many heard only silence.

And the tragedy that was -- a lot of good folks in America, a lot of good men and women who had the desire to help, but didn't have the resources -- they had the heart, but not the resources. And because many of them worked with small charities, they were overlooked by Washington as potential partners in service. And because many of them belonged to faith-based organizations, they were often barred from receiving support from the federal government.

So I set about to change that, at least from the federal perspective, with an approach called "compassionate conservatism." This approach was compassionate because it was rooted in a timeless truth: that we ought to love our neighbors as we'd like to be loved ourselves. (Applause.) And it was conservative, because it recognized the limits of government: Bureaucracies can put money in people's hands, but they cannot put hope in a person's heart. (Applause.)

Putting hope in people's hearts is the mission of our nation's faith-based and community groups. And today we're going to herald some of the results of the collective work of compassionate Americans. To me, it does not matter if there's a crescent on your group's wall, a rabbi on your group's board, or Christ in your group's name. If your organization puts medicine in people's hands, food in people's mouths, or a roof over people's heads, then you're succeeding. (Applause.) And for the sake of our country, the government ought to support your work. (Applause.)

I was reviewing my first major policy speech as a candidate for President. It seems like a long time ago -- (laughter) -- July 22, 1999. Here's what I said. I said: "In every instance where my administration sees a responsibility to help people, we will look first to faith-based organizations, charities, and community

groups that have shown their ability to save and change lives. We will make a determined attack on need, by promoting the compassionate acts of others."

As President, my first executive order was to establish the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the White House. (Applause.) And my next one led to the creation of Faith-Based and Community offices at 11 federal agencies. These offices were tasked with this new mission: to lower the legal and institutional barriers that prevented government and faith-based groups from working as partners -- and to ensure that the armies of compassion played a central role in our campaign to make America more promising and more just.

We've carried out this mission in two ways: First, we have helped level the playing field for faith-based groups and other charities -- especially small organizations that have struggled to compete for funds in the past. We've educated religious groups about their civil rights. We've made the federal grant application process more accessible and transparent. We've trained thousands of federal employees to ensure that government does not discriminate against faith-based organizations. We've ensured that these groups do not have to give up their religious character to receive taxpayer money. (Applause.)

With these steps, we followed a principle rooted both in our Constitution and the best traditions of our nation: Government should never fund the teaching of faith, but it should support the good works of the faithful. (Applause.)

Second, my administration has advanced policies that yield greater support for faith-based and community groups. In other words, it's one thing to talk it; it's another thing to act. So we worked with Congress -- and we've had a lot of help in the Congress. By the way, this wasn't an easy idea for some to swallow in the Congress. (Laughter.) And yet we did have good help. We amended the tax code to provide greater incentives for charitable donations, and we established what's called the Compassion Capital Fund, to help faith-based and community groups operate more efficiently and secure additional funding from the private sector. This year, we launched what's called the Pro Bono Challenge, a three-year campaign to encourage corporate professionals like accountants and lawyers to share their time and expertise with groups such as yours.

In all these ways, the administration has upheld its promise to treat community and faith-based organizations as trusted partners. We've held your organizations to high standard and insisted on clear results. And your organizations have delivered on those results. You've helped revolutionize the way government addresses the greatest challenges facing our society. I truly believe the Faith-Based Initiative is one of the most important initiatives of this administration. (Applause.)

I would like to share with you some of your record. Faith-based and community groups have revolutionized the way our government shelters the homeless. Together, we've worked to reduce the number of Americans who go to sleep each night vulnerable and exposed, unsure of where they'll sleep tomorrow. For example, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has partnered with faith-based and community groups to find homeless Americans safe places to stay. And according to the most recent data, this program has helped reduce the number of chronically ill [sic] homeless by nearly 12 percent -- getting more than 20,000 Americans off the street. (Applause.)

Faith-based and community groups have revolutionized the way we help Americans break the chains of

addiction. Through our Access to Recovery program, we provide addicts with vouchers that they can redeem at treatment centers of their choice. So far, Access to Recovery has helped approximately 200,000 addicts along the path to clean lives. (Applause.) And many have been inspired to call upon a higher power to help them break the chains of addiction. (Applause.)

One person who's turned her life around through this program is Ramie Siler. You don't know Ramie yet, but you're about to. Ramie was once lost to substance abuse and depression. Even when she tried to get clean for her daughter's high-school graduation, Ramie could not break free from her addiction. And then she found a faith-based group, a group of decent citizens reaching out to people like Ramie. It was called The Next Door. At The Next Door, Ramie met people who stood by her during the difficult times of recovery. They gave Ramie a second chance to become a productive citizen and a good mother. Today, she's reunited with her daughter, Dawn. She helps other women as a Next Door case manager. And I'd like to tell you what she said. She used the words of Saint Paul: "Old things have passed away; behold, all things are becoming new." (Applause.)

Ramie is with us today, with a Vanderbilt sophomore -- her daughter, Dawn. Ramie, where are you? (Applause.) There they are. (Applause.)

So you applaud for Ramie -- but you're also applauding for those compassionate souls at The Next Door. (Applause.) Faith-based communities -- our faith community is doing a fantastic job of saving lives.

Faith-based and community groups have revolutionized the way our government helps the children of prisoners. It's hard to imagine what it's like for a child to have to enter a prison gate just to get a hug from a mom or a dad. Government can't hug these kids -- but it can support caring mentors who do. Through our Mentoring Children of Prisoners program, we've joined with faith-based and community groups to match nearly 90,000 children of prisoners with adults who offer love and guidance and a positive example.

Faith-based and community groups have revolutionized the way our government gives prisoners across America a second chance. In the past, government frequently ignored groups like yours in its efforts to help former prisoners become productive citizens -- like, it just didn't enter people's minds that the faith-based and community groups could actually help change lives. Yet through the Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative that we created in 2004, we've enlisted faith-based and community groups to help provide services like job placement and mentoring programs for thousands of former inmates. Really what we did is help them find love.

And the work has made a huge difference. Nationwide, 44 percent of prisoners are rearrested within a year of their release. Yet among prisoners that have been helped by people like people in this room, the number is three times lower -- just 15 percent. (Applause.)

Faith-based and community groups have helped a lot in America, and they've help revolutionize the way our government alleviates suffering and disease around the world. I'm about to describe some of our programs. But oftentimes I'm asked, why? Why do you care what happens outside of America? I believe to whom much is given, much is required. (Applause.) And I believe we got plenty of capacity to help people at home and abroad. (Applause.) And I believe it is in the moral interests of the United States to

help when it comes to defeating malaria, for example.

Malaria is a disease which kills one African child every 30 seconds. And it is something we can do something about. The U.S. government launched a five-year, \$1.2 billion initiative in 2005 to cut the number of malaria-related deaths in 15 African nations by half. With strong support from groups like yours, our Malaria Initiative is producing results, tangible results. In just over two years, it's reached more than 25 million people.

The island of Zanzibar, which is affiliated with Tanzania, the infection rate has gone from 20 percent of babies born to less than 1 percent of babies born in 16 months. (Applause.)

The organizations about which I'm talking today are vital to the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, known as PEPFAR. We got to give everything initials in Washington. (Laughter.) We launched this program in 2003 -- this is a program that Ambassador Dybul runs so effectively. We launched this program in 2003 -- when we launched it there was about 50,000 people in Sub-Sahara Africa that were receiving anti-retroviral treatment for HIV/AIDS. As a result of a focused campaign, I'm pleased to announce that today we support treatment for nearly 1.7 million people. Think about that. (Applause.)

And one of the beautiful things about this initiative is that we're saving babies. To date, PEPFAR has allowed nearly 200,000 African babies to be born HIV-free. (Applause.)

These new numbers show the program is a huge success. And it would not have been a -- nearly the success it's been without the partners who carry out the work -- without the faith-based community that is on the front line of saving lives, not only here at home, but in places like Africa.

You know, it's been amazing to watch this experience; people who report back to Mark and myself talk about what's called the "Lazarus effect" -- where communities were once given up for dead have now found new life and new hope. (Applause.)

I traveled to -- you know, we had a fantastic trip to Africa; Laura and I went. And the outpouring of love for the American citizens is great. I mean, it is such an honor to represent our country, and to see the hard work of the American citizens and the generosity of the American citizens paying off in the smiling faces that line the road.

When we were in Tanzania we went to visit a clinic where a 9-year-old girl was HIV-positive, and she'd lost both her parents to AIDS. And for the last year, Catholic Relief Services had been helping the girl. And her grandmother said this: "As a Muslim, I never imagined a Catholic group would help me like that." And she went on to say, "I'm so grateful to the American people."

The United States Senate must follow the lead of the United States House and reauthorize this vital program. (Applause.)

I really am grateful for those who are here and those around the country who serve in the armies of compassion. It didn't require a government law to get you to sign up. You chose to do so out of the goodness of your heart. We made great strides in fulfilling the goal, and I am confident that the progress

that you have made over the last eight years will continue.

I'm confident because the movement is bigger than politics or any political party. (Applause.) This is not a political convention. This is a compassion convention. (Applause.) This is "we don't care about politic" convention. (Applause.) We care about saving lives.

You realize that 35 governors have faith-based offices -- 19 of them Democrats, 16 of them Republicans. Seventy mayors of both parties have similar programs at the municipal level.

I'm confident that this initiative has built a powerful grassroots network. We've trained over 100,000 social entrepreneurs. Isn't that amazing, in this brief period of time -- 100,000 people have been trained. Last year we provided more than 19,000 competitive grants to community and faith-based organizations. Why? Because we want to change America for the better. We want people to be able to be empowered to do their work of love and compassion, and bringing dignity to every human life. We've laid the foundation for an effort that will continue transforming lives long after I've been back to Texas. (Laughter and applause.)

I am confident about the power of this program because the initiative has tapped into the compassionate spirit of America. Over the past seven years, more of our fellow citizens have discovered that the pursuit of happiness leads by following the path of service. It's amazing what happens when you love somebody like you like to be loved yourself; your own soul is enriched. More citizens are understanding that by serving, you serve yourself. Americans have volunteered in record numbers; 60 million people have volunteered in America this year, nearly a third of them through faith-based groups. It's an amazing statistic, isn't it? It really speaks to the great beauty of our country.

I'm confident because I know how easily the compassionate spirit can spread. There's an interesting story that I want to share with you about Ugandan women who helped -- have been helped by PEPFAR. These were good souls who worked in a mine. They crushed rocks into gravel by hand. And it is tough work, really hard work. Then they heard about Katrina, and somehow they scraped together \$1,000, and they gave it to the U.S. Embassy for the storm's victim. And one woman said with pride: "We are now donors." (Applause.)

But I'm confident above all because I know the character of the men and women gathered in this hall. In your countless quiet acts of grace, you serve the highest ideals of our nation. These are the ideals that preserve America as the beacon of hope, the great light of freedom.

A few years ago, I met a young guy named Elijah Anyieth. Elijah was a little boy, and his village was bombed during Sudan's civil war. He lost both his parents, and spent years wandering from one refugee camp to another. Eventually, he resettled in Virginia -- thanks to a partnership between a faith-based group and the State Department. Once Elijah arrived, a local Catholic charity found him a place to call home. He came to a foreign soil after wandering in refugee camps, and he found some love.

He enrolled in high school. Just last month, he graduated from college. He's landed his dream job: The boy who grew up without electricity or running water is now a mechanical engineer. (Applause.) Elijah, where are you? There he is, right there. (Applause.) You applaud for a good man named Elijah, but also

for those kind souls who share in the great story of this good man. (Applause.)

It's only in a place like America -- think about it, think about our country for a second -- could a life nearly extinguished by hate be restored by love and compassion. (Applause.)

So I've been proud to stand by you as you have worked these miracles across our country. You probably don't even realize some of the acts of kindness are miracles. I'm telling you they are. And you can find it in the hopeful expressions on the people you've helped. And so I thank you for your efforts. I thank you for your life-changing work. And I thank you for your record of compassion that I'm confident you will build on in the years to come. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless our country. (Applause.)

Fact Sheet: Faith-Based and Community Initiatives: Delivering Help and Hope to Millions at Home and Around the World

President Bush Discusses The Important Role Of His Faith-Based And Community Initiatives In Transforming the Way Our Nation Addresses Human Need

Today, President Bush will address the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI) "Innovations in Effective Compassion" National Conference. President Bush used his first executive order as President to establish the Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives at the White House, and his next one created Faith-Based and Community offices within major Federal agencies. These offices were tasked with a bold mission: to lower the legal and institutional barriers that prevented government and faith-based groups from working as partners and to ensure that the armies of compassion played a central role in the campaign to make America more promising and more just.

In Partnership With America's Armies of Compassion, The Faith-Based And Community Initiative Has Waged A Determined Attack On Need

The Faith-Based and Community Initiative has helped level the playing field for faith-based groups and other charities – especially small organizations that had struggled to compete for funds in the past. Federal agencies have issued 15 regulations mandating that faith-based organizations be treated the same as secular groups and has applied these regulations across the Federal Government. It has educated religious groups – as well as thousands of Federal employees – to ensure these rules are fully applied.

President Bush and his Administration have advanced policies that yield greater support for faith-based and community groups. Working with Congress, the Administration has:

- Trained more than 100,000 social entrepreneurs to build their capacity and more effectively engage need.
- Amended the tax code to provide greater incentives for charitable giving and activities.
- Established the Compassion Capital Fund to help grassroots nonprofits that serve the needy to increase their effectiveness and reach.

- Launched the Pro Bono Challenge, a three-year campaign to encourage corporate professionals like accountants and lawyers to share their time and expertise with the nonprofit sector.

The Faith-Based And Community Initiative Is Helping To Revolutionize The Way Our Government Addresses The Greatest Challenges Facing Our Society

The Initiative has moved government away from large, bureaucratic programs toward responses led by social entrepreneurs that harness the passion and personal touch of neighbors serving neighbors. For example:

- **Addiction Recovery:** To date, the Access to Recovery (ATR) program has provided approximately 200,000 recovering addicts with vouchers that allow them to choose among a range of clinical and supportive services, including those offered by faith-based providers. As a result, thousands of faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) are serving recovering addicts through ATR, many of them partnering with government for the first time.
- **Prisoner Re-entry:** The President's Prisoner Re-entry Initiative links returning nonviolent offenders with FBCOs that help them find work and avoid relapse into criminal activity. Only 15 percent of these former offenders have been re-arrested again within one year, a rate far less than half the national average.
- **At-Risk Youth:** Through the Mentoring Children of Prisoners program, the Administration has joined with faith-based and community groups to match nearly 90,000 children of prisoners with adults who offer love, guidance, and a positive example.
- **Community Health Services:** The President's Health Center Initiative has exceeded its goal of creating new or expanding 1,200 community-based health center sites. The Initiative has boosted the number of low-income individuals receiving medical services from local clinics by 4.7 million since 2001.
- **Homelessness:** The Department of Housing and Urban Development has greatly expanded partnerships with faith-based and community groups to help find homeless Americans safe places to stay. These efforts have contributed to a nearly 12 percent reduction in the number of chronically homeless Americans – meaning more than 20,000 individuals have moved from the streets or shelters to a new residence.
- **Global Health:** International programs like the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) represent massive-scale implementations of the President's vision to empower American and indigenous FBCOs. In 2007 alone, more than 2,200, or 87 percent, of PEPFAR partners were indigenous organizations, and nearly one-quarter of all partners were faith-based. The latest PEPFAR results show that we now support treatment for more than 1.7 million people. Additionally, in just over two years, PMI has helped reached more than 25 million Africans with lifesaving prevention and treatment services.
- **Disadvantaged Students:** The latest data show that more than 515,000 children received after-school tutoring through Supplemental Educational Service providers, many of which are faith-based and community organizations.
- **Disasters:** In 2006, the Administration created a Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to more fully integrate FBCOs into preparedness and response at every level of government. The National Response Framework was also revised in 2006 to provide a more central role to nonprofit organizations. Since Hurricane Katrina, over 93,000 participants in National Service programs have given more than 3.5 million

hours of service and managed 262,000 volunteers in response and recovery efforts.

- **Economic Development:** Since 2002, the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) has increased the number of its partnerships with FBCOs by 70 percent. Since 2001, EDA has invested over \$175 million in 236 projects led by faith-based or other community nonprofits, which were anticipated to create more than 88,000 jobs and \$3.8 billion in private investment.
- **Hunger:** The United States is the world's largest provider of food aid, helping to feed more than 35 million hungry individuals in FY 2007. Faith-based and community organizations are vital allies in effective delivery of domestic nutrition assistance, which has increased by more than 75 percent (to \$59 billion) since 2001. USDA also works with a variety of faith-based and community groups to provide food aid around the world.
- **Veterans:** From 2002 to 2007, the number of FBCOs funded through the VA's Grants and Per Diem Program to serve homeless veterans rose from 176 to 506, a 287 percent increase. Additionally, over 80 percent of homeless veterans in residential programs with VA services were appropriately housed one year after their discharge from the program. As of last year, VA estimates that the number of homeless veterans was nearly cut in half over just five years.

The Faith-Based And Community Initiative Has Built A Powerful Grassroots Network

- **Federal competitive awards are expanding the good work of both faith-based and community organizations across America and beyond.**
 - Last year alone, the Federal Government provided more than 19,000 direct, competitive awards to America's nonprofit organizations to aid the homeless, at-risk youth, recovering addicts, returning offenders, people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, and others.
 - These grants totaled more than \$15.3 billion and all served to boost services to people in need. Faith-based organizations were welcomed as a central part of this work, winning more than 3,200 grants in 2007 totaling over \$2.2 billion.

Today 35 governors – 19 Democrats and 16 Republicans – have their own faith-based and community initiatives. Additionally, more than 70 mayors of both parties have similar programs at the municipal level.

- **Americans have volunteered in record numbers.** Of the 60 million people who give their time to others, more than one-third do so through faith-based groups.

Charitable giving is now at an all-time high. In 2007, donations to America's charities topped \$300 billion for the first time.

Paradigm Of Hope

Evaluating The Faith-Based Initiative

By Gary Andres
The Washington Times
June 26, 2008

Popular presidential history prefers sound bites to epic narratives. FDR brought us the New Deal; Lyndon Johnson, the Great Society; while Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush both helped usher in the end of the Cold War – all remarkable accomplishments. Yet their real stories include many more chapters.

These presidents changed more than history's top headlines. And the current occupant of the White House is no exception. Prosecuting the global war on terror – including the response to the September 11 terrorist attacks – will no doubt fill many pages of President George W. Bush's narrative. But for the next two days, the White House is hosting an event that should better frame an underreported part of President Bush's legacy, his Faith-Based and Community Initiatives program. The conference features cabinet members, academic experts, practitioners and the president himself, discussing and evaluating ways to solve some of society's toughest social ills.

Political debate surrounding these issues usually misses the point. Civil libertarians trot on their hobbyhorses shouting the initiative tramples barriers separating church and state. How dare you insert God where only government should tread? Or they portray this as some secret plot by the conservative Christian backers of the White House to proselytize a nation drifting somewhere East of Eden.

These smokescreens obscure the real debate and the true contribution of President Bush in this area. The heart of the controversy is about "means," not "ends." The Faith-Based Initiative asks fundamental questions that makes some traditional liberals extremely uncomfortable: Is there a better way to address the needs of the underprivileged? Does the federal government have a monopoly on compassion? Can we stop debating "if," when we need to extend a helping hand and start discussing "how?"

Simple, but profound, questions like these shake status-quo, liberal interest groups to their very core. That's the real reason they fight so hard against the kind of change President Bush proposes. And it's the reason that White House efforts today and tomorrow – as well as over the past seven years – deserve a lot more attention in this context. While the press loves to cover fights between godless liberals and conservative crusaders, they miss a bigger, more important debate.

President Bush has created a new archetype of compassion and a more effective way for the federal government to help people solve problems. Many of the successes are already outlined in an impressive White House report issued last January titled "The Quiet Revolution."

The report highlights how President Bush has transformed thinking about helping the poor and distressed communities. It rejects "the failed formula of towering distant bureaucracies." Instead, as candidate Bush said in 1999, "[I]n every instance where my administration sees a responsibility to help people, we will look first to faith-based organizations, to charities, and to community groups."

This "quiet revolution" has indeed transformed government and social-service delivery at a variety of levels and should become a part of this president's legacy. Mr. Bush recognizes that mobilizing "armies of compassion" and creating a more welcoming environment for faith-based organizations requires pushing these ideas beyond an office in the White House. Eleven major federal departments or agencies now have faith-based centers looking for ways to remove barriers, train and encourage community activists and re-orient the way the federal government addresses social problems.

And by focusing on providing flexibility and more numerous, smaller grants, the Faith-Based Initiative

has helped deliver training to more than 100,000 social entrepreneurs for populations such as at-risk youth, disaster victims, recovering addicts, returning prisoners, individuals with HIV/AIDS and the homeless.

States have also responded to the president's call. Thirty-five governors from both political parties now operate offices dedicated to working more cooperatively with faith-based and community organizations.

Moreover, "the measure of compassion is more than good intentions, it is good results," Mr. Bush said in 2002. This week's conference will also focus on accountability – what works and what doesn't – in allocating scarce federal resources to these community organizations.

The president's new approach is all about a better way to solve problems through more intentional involvement of faith-based and community groups. No American president has done more to retool the federal government's approach. History writers should not overlook this effective alternative to the traditional welfare state and Mr. Bush's contribution to building a new paradigm of hope.

Gary Andres is vice chairman of Dutko Worldwide.

Federal Funding Opportunities

USAID

Ukraine USAID-Kiev The primary goal of the USAID Ukraine SCSU program will be to strengthen and assist leading pro-reform Ukrainian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to sustain and consolidate democratic gains. The program will address systemic sector-wide challenges to civil society as well as support NGO monitoring and advocacy initiatives from various spheres of public life which are essential in advancing Ukraine's reform process. As of June 24, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 04, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Georgia USAID-Tbilisi is seeking applications for a Cooperative Agreement to fund a program that will address the challenge of the extreme shortage of professionally qualified staff needed to effectively manage the new, predominantly private sector health services and the dramatic expansion of private health insurance companies by expanding graduate level opportunities for training in health and insurance management in Georgia. Implementation of the activity will increase supply of professionally qualified health service and health insurance managers needed to manage Georgia's newly privatized health care sector and the public health sector in Georgia. Program implementation will begin around September 15, 2008. As of June 24, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 04, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Hungary USAID-Budapest The goal of this program is to improve the enabling environment for civil society and strengthen civil society's role in advocating for and influencing the development and effective implementation of public policy. As of June 24, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 01, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

El Salvador USAID-San Salvador The overall purpose of this agreement is to strengthen the capacity of the national response for the prevention and provision of HIV/AIDS services, by improving the National AIDS Program (NAP) capability in these areas, especially for Most at Risk Populations (MARPs). As of June 24, the closing date of this announcement is July 30, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Thailand USAID-Bangkok is seeking applications (proposals for funding) from U.S. or non-U.S. non-profit or for-profit nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), public international organizations (PIO or IO), and other non-USG organizations to implement a program to provide support for credible, peaceful and fair suco council and possibly also municipal and national elections and to enhance the capacity of newly-elected suco councils to strengthen citizen participation in village and municipal governance, including local decision-making, information-gathering and -dissemination, as well as conflict prevention and mitigation in Timor Leste. The authority for the RFA is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended. As of June 18, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 11, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Paraguay USAID-Asuncion is seeking applications to implement the program Promoting Sustainable Business Initiatives while Conserving Biodiversity by Fighting Poverty in Paraguay. The overall objective of this program is to contribute with the improvement of the economic and social wellbeing of families in and adjacent to significant importance ecological areas in Paraguay (terrestrial or water) through a Global Development Alliance mechanism. The recipient of this award will propose a method for assisting poor farmers and communities in areas of Paraguay through sustainable methods in order to obtain alternative sources of income to stop relying on slash-and-burn farming. To reach this objective, applicants need to closely coordinate with local and national actors. This is important because could influence the achievement of project goals. Given that most important areas for conservation are surrounded by rural communities or extensive production, activities should be developed to periodically monitor the ecological health of the area and the robustness of economic development activities. USAID/Paraguay intends to award up to two Cooperative Agreements pursuant to this RFA. As of June 18, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 16, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Bangladesh USAID-Dhaka is seeking applications for a Cooperative Agreement from qualified organizations to implement a program entitled "Actions for Combating Trafficking-in-Person (ACT) Program." Through this award, USAID/Bangladesh seeks to combat human trafficking in Bangladesh through the prevention of trafficking-in-persons, enhancing the protection of the victims and improving victim care, and strengthening the Government of Bangladesh's capacity to prosecute traffickers and trafficking related crimes to help ensure that the rule of law and human security is improved. This ACT project will build upon current efforts in country, including those sponsored by USAID. The scope of the activity will focus mainly on vulnerable populations, in particular but not exclusively on victims and potential victims of trafficking into the sex trade and the prevention of labor migration abuses and human trafficking related to migrant labor. A comprehensive approach that includes Prevention, Protection and Prosecution, the three pillars of ACT activities as defined in the United States Government's (USG) policies related to combating human trafficking, will be addressed in this activity. This activity is expected to last four years and will have a total estimated US. Government contribution of approximately \$3.5 million. As of June 18, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Brazil USAID-Brasilia is seeking applications from U.S. NGOs, non-U.S. NGOs and PVOs to implement a three-year program to conserve biodiversity in indigenous areas of the Brazilian Amazon. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 17, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

El Salvador USAID-San Salvador is seeking applications for an estimated twelve month program aimed at promoting public dialogue directed at reducing political polarization on key economic issues in El Salvador. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 7, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) based in Thailand USAID-Bangkok is seeking applications from U.S. educational institutions or non-governmental organizations to implement a US-China Clean Energy Partnership program, pursuant to section 634(h) of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, 2008. The chosen recipient(s) will be responsible for ensuring achievement of the program goal and objectives to promote clean energy use in China, in coordination with other regional activities of USAID/RDMA. Funding for this activity is to be allocated over a three-year period. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is

Jul 17, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Liberia USAID-Monrovia is seeking applications from qualified non-governmental organizations to assist the Ministry to Health to Rebuild Basic Health services in Liberia. The integrated activity would partner with the Government of Liberia's efforts to expand the coverage of Basic Package of Health Services, including HIV/AIDS, Maternal and Child Health, Family Planning and Reproductive Health, Improved Environmental Health (e.g. Water Supply, Hygiene and Sanitation), and Control of other infectious Diseases through support to some 105 health facilities, expand community Outreach, and enhanced Behavior Change Communication Program which support and promote healthy behaviors. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 22, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the Dominican Republic is seeking applications from qualified national non-governmental organizations and not-for-profit and for-profit entities (including NGOs, business associations, and universities and academic institutions) to participate in its Batey Community Development project providing development support in publicly owned bateyes. Considering the multi-sectoral scope of the project, the formation of manageable and cost effective consortia of qualified organizations is encouraged. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Kenya USAID-Nairobi seeks qualified U.S. and non U.S. organizations and institutions, in the form of partnerships or consortia that include Somalia organizations, interested in providing the services described in this solicitation to provide basic Education and Water services while supporting Government institutions and community groups. The integrated activity is expected to improve access to quality education, water and sanitation services. This activity will also furnish an Education advisor to the Transitional Federal Government. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

USAID/Vietnam is currently seeking concept papers from qualified non-governmental organizations capable of designing and implementing model projects that will provide support to people with disabilities in Danang and surrounding areas. Programs and activities could include, but are not limited to enhancing earlier intervention for those who are disabled, providing support to existing rehabilitation clinics and services, expanding access of people with disabilities to essential health and education services, initiating or strengthening community based rehabilitation services and support, improving income generation and employment opportunities, strengthening the capacity of local organizations to provide services, improved community-based information around reducing risk exposure, and surveillance and prevention of disability. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Dec 04, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Iraq USAID-Baghdad is seeking applications from qualified organizations to implement the next phase of the Iraq Community Action Program (CAP III). CAP will promote diverse and representative citizen participation throughout Iraq, will engage and assist local government in articulating and acting on needs identified by communities and will assist innocent victims of military operations. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Sep 30, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Public Private Alliances. USAID is currently requesting applications for PPAs in Kosovo, Nigeria, India, Indonesia, and other Mission locations. For more information, [click here](#).

US Agency for International Development has posted a cooperative agreement for registered U.S. and non-U.S. NGOs, non-profit, and for profit organizations willing to forego profit. The purpose of the Annual Program Statement is to solicit applications for funding. The United States Government, through USAID/Washington and in close collaboration with USAID/Cotonou, USAID/Nairobi, USAID/Pretoria, and USAID/Lusaka, is seeking full applications from prospective partners to implement activities in support of creative and timely responses to the USAID-related components of the Presidential Women's Justice and Empowerment Initiative (WJEI). To access

the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is July 23, 2008.

Ethiopia USAID-Addis Ababa has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement to solicit applications for funding from prospective new partners to support implementation of the United States Government's President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (hereafter referred to as Emergency Plan or also referred to as PEPFAR) in Ethiopia. The United States Government, through USAID/Ethiopia, is seeking, from prospective partners, concept papers to be followed by full applications (if concept papers are selected) to implement activities in support of the Prevention for at Risk Populations in High Prevalence Urban Areas in Ethiopia. The U.S. Government Mission in Ethiopia anticipates awarding a limited number of grants or cooperative agreements (hereafter called Agreements) for a period of no less than one year and no more than three years. Meanwhile, depending on successful implementation, needs and availability of funds, the period of performance could be extended by one or two additional years. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is July 31, 2008.

USAID has posted a grant notice for conflict mitigation and reconciliation programs (with possible multiple awards). The Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (DCHA/CMM) within USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) invites applications from U.S. and non-U.S. non-profit or for-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations (IOs) and other qualified non-U.S. Government (USG) organizations (including faith-based organizations and community based organizations) to carry out activities, under grants or cooperative agreements, that support conflict mitigation and reconciliation programs and activities that bring together individuals of different ethnic, religious or political backgrounds from areas of civil conflict and violence. A program performance period of up to twenty-four (24) months is anticipated for each award -- between \$100,000 to \$600,000 each. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is August 12, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

USAID has posted a grant notice for Public Private Partnerships in Ethiopia. The USAID/Nigeria Economic Growth, Partnership and Private Sector (PPS) Team is strongly committed to building public-private partnerships that mobilize resources, expertise, creative approaches, and technologies that address development issues in Nigeria under the Global Development Alliance (GDA) Annual Program Statement (APS). [Click here](#) to view the entire announcement. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is September 30, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Nigeria USAID-Abuja has posted a cooperative agreement for registered Nigerian indigenous organizations, U.S. and non-U.S. non-governmental organizations (NGO), faith-based organizations (FBO), community-based organizations (CBO), foundations, private organizations affiliated with public academic institutions, parastatals, professional organizations, non-profit organizations, and for-profit organizations willing to forego profit. They are looking for proposals to strengthen civil society to combat HIV/AIDS in Nigeria. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is January 31, 2009. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Department of State

As part of the U.S. Government's (USG's) participation in the **Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate (APP)**, the **Department of State (DOS)** is issuing this Request for Assistance (RFA) seeking proposals from U.S. and Chinese organizations interested in contributing to the Partnership's goals through innovative public-private partnerships. These goals include reducing greenhouse gas emissions; advancing sustainable economic growth; reducing poverty; creating new investment opportunities; building local capacity; and improving economic and energy security. This RFA seeks proposal submissions, from U.S. and Chinese organizations, based on the Concept Papers provided in Attachment B of this RFA. An interested lead grant

applicant organization may submit a total of two proposals in response to this RFA, which address the specific issue as noted in the problem statement of a selected Concept Paper. Funding of the selected proposals is totally dependent on, and subject to, availability of Department of State funding for the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate. To qualify for DOS funding under this RFA, a submitted proposal must demonstrate that the applicant and any partnering organizations will contribute resources to the proposed program that are at least equal to the level of resources sought from DOS in the grant application. Grants or Cooperative Agreements will be awarded in the range of US\$250,000 - US\$2,000,000. All proposals must be received electronically, NO LATER than 17:00 hours U.S. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on July 11, 2008, at the following electronic address: APP_US@state.gov. Any submissions received after that time will be deemed invalid. Submissions will not be accepted by mail or courier. For more information, [click here](#).

Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration provides assistance to Colombian refugees in the Andean region as well as the first 90 days of emergency assistance to IDPs in Colombia (mid and long-term assistance to IDPs is provided by USAID). Priority countries in the Andean region include Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Panama. PRM funding available for these projects generally ranges between \$100,000 and \$750,000. Each project will be funded for a period not to exceed 12 months. Project objectives should therefore be achievable within a 12-month time frame. Proposals must list other sources from which you are seeking or have already obtained funding, such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the host government, other US government agencies, and international donors, including funding and in-kind contributions from your own organization. As of June 6, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 10, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

For all federal grant notices, visit [grants.gov](#).

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to sign up to receive regular updates from the USAID Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, or if you would like to discontinue receiving the newsletter, please [click here](#).