



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives

FEBRUARY 29, 2008

Dear Newsletter Recipients,

This week the Faith-Based and Community Initiative's seven-year progress report was presented to President Bush by White House Director Jay Hein. The report, entitled "The Quiet Revolution, a Seven-Year Progress Report" focuses on the administration's efforts to shift from the large, distant, and impersonal transaction of Federal programs to the small, local and individualized care of effective faith-based and neighborhood organizations. We are proud of the progress the Initiative has made and have included this announcement in our newsletter below.

This presentation comes soon after the President's week-long Africa trip, which was highlighted in previous newsletters. This week we share some of the reviews of this Africa trip, found in newspapers and magazines across the country.

Finally, we would like to encourage you to sign up for this year's 10th Annual International Food Aid Conference being held in Kansas City, Missouri. This year USAID and USDA will be adding a new workshop for faith and community based organizations before the conference. All Conference information is included below, and the invitation to the workshop will be included in next week's newsletter. We hope you will join us.

Warmest regards,

Terri

Terri Hasdorff
Director, Center for Faith Based & Community Initiatives
U.S. Agency for International Development
U.S. Department of State
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20523
FBCI@usaid.gov

President Bush is Presented A Seven-Year Progress Report On The Success of His Faith-Based and Community Initiative

Below are excerpts taken from the White House Website's [Fact Sheet: The Quiet Revolution: A Seven-Year Progress Report](#)

On February 25, 2008, President Bush participated in a briefing on "The Quiet Revolution" report from the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (WHOFBCI). This report, available at www.fbc.gov, offers a portrait of the successful implementation of President Bush's vision to reshape government's approach to addressing human need. By leveling the playing field for faith-based charities and strengthening grassroots nonprofits to effectively help Americans in need, the Faith-Based and Community Initiative is having a tremendous impact on countless lives across our Nation and around the world.



- **To further highlight progress under the Faith-Based and Community Initiative, WHOFBCI will sponsor a Conference on Research, Outcomes, and Evaluation, June 26 and 27, in Washington, D.C.** This conference will highlight the wide range of research on new initiatives and the changes in governance that have occurred under the Faith-Based and Community Initiative (FBCI) over the past seven years.

FBCI Has Led A Quiet Revolution In The Way Government Addresses Human Need

The FBCI works to place locally-rooted solutions at the center of Federal efforts to help those in need. The Initiative has:

- Removed barriers and launched innovative programs to enable the government to partner with small, community-based nonprofits as never before.
- Established a level playing field for faith-based organizations and set clear, Constitutional guidelines for their use of public funds.
- Delivered in-person training to more than 100,000 social entrepreneurs, by teaching them how to better track their outcomes, write grants, and develop other key skills that help their organizations maximize impact for the people they serve.

Federal competitive awards are expanding the good work of both faith-based and community organizations across America and beyond.

- In 2006 alone, the Federal Government provided more than 18,000 direct, competitive awards to America's nonprofit organizations to aid the homeless, at-risk youth, recovering addicts, returning offenders, AIDS victims, and others.
- These grants totaled more than \$14.7 billion to boost services to people in need. Faith-based organizations were welcomed as a central part of this work, winning more than 3,000 grants in 2006 totaling nearly \$2.2 billion.

Faith-Based And Community Groups Are Supporting The President's Compassion Agenda Around The World

International programs like the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the President's Malaria Initiative, and other U.S.-funded efforts represent massive-scale implementation of the President's vision by empowering both American and indigenous FBCOs.

In 2007 alone, approximately 2,213 partners, or 81 percent of partners in PEPFAR's 15 focus countries were indigenous organizations – nearly one-quarter of which were faith-based. These partners have supported 15,000 project sites for prevention, treatment, and care.

The Congressional Quarterly Announced: Compromise Global AIDS Bill Sails Through House Committee

CQ TODAY MIDDAY UPDATE

Feb. 27, 2008 – 12:52 p.m.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee on Wednesday swiftly approved a bill to reauthorize President Bush's global AIDS program after members of both parties hammered out a compromise late Tuesday. The measure, approved by voice vote, would authorize significantly more funding than Bush requested while easing some of the social policy constraints the White House and Republicans had imposed on the program.

"This bipartisan agreement will greatly facilitate congressional consideration of the vitally important legislation, and I hope and expect that it will be signed into law by President Bush this session of Congress," said acting Chairman Howard L. Berman, D-Calif.

Republicans and the White House had balked at an earlier Democratic draft that would have made sweeping changes to social policy provisions in the law, which has sent almost \$19 billion overseas to treat AIDS since 2003.

The bill approved Wednesday appeared to satisfy social conservatives and abortion opponents as well as Democrats.

It would replace a current requirement that one-third of all prevention funding go to abstinence education with a requirement for evidence-based, "balanced funding" for abstinence, fidelity and condom programs — the three prongs of traditional HIV prevention strategy. It would require reports to Congress if abstinence and fidelity programs make up less than 50 percent of spending in a given country.

The bill retained a requirement that groups seeking funds under the program have an explicit policy opposing prostitution and sex trafficking.

The compromise would authorize \$50 billion for the program over the next five years, a significant boost from Bush's call for \$30 billion. Democrats, implementing groups and even some Republicans said Bush's amount would merely sustain existing efforts without expanding the program, which provides anti-AIDS drugs to nearly 1.5 million people worldwide.

Final Responses to the President's Trip to Africa

On February 21 the President returned home from six days in Africa. The trip was an immense success and the reviews were too many to include in our newsletter. Listed below are a number of quotes from various sources responding to the President's trip and his policy in Africa.

President Bush's Commitment To Africa Described As "One Of The Most Remarkable ... Success Stories Of His Administration"

Los Angeles Times: President Bush "has arguably done more for that part of the world than any other U.S. president, though his critics seldom give him credit for it." "His \$15-billion AIDS program has provided antiretroviral treatment to more than 1.33 million people in sub-Saharan Africa, and he has committed unprecedented sums to fight malaria and other diseases on the continent." (Editorial, "Ghana's George Bush Motorway," *Los Angeles Times*, 2/22/08)

"By providing life-saving drugs to HIV-positive pregnant women, the president's program claims to have prevented 157,000 infants from becoming infected. This is a huge accomplishment."
(Editorial, "Married to HIV," *Los Angeles Times*, 2/22/08)

***The Richmond [VA] Times-Dispatch:* "President Bush's trip to Africa emphasized one of the most remarkable – but rarely remarked upon – success stories of his administration." "The president's \$15 billion crusade to battle HIV/AIDS on the continent has already saved 1.4 million lives – an astonishing number that should make all Americans proud. Bush is working to extend and expand the program." (Editorial, "Bush In Africa," *The Richmond [VA] Times-Dispatch*, 2/21/08)**

***The Washington Times:* President Bush's "administration has provided unprecedented levels of aid to fight disease, poverty and corruption." (Jon Ward, "Bush 'At Home' With Allies In Africa," *The Washington Times*, 2/22/08)**

***The Associated Press:* "The U.S. president is in Africa for six days to showcase American generosity and put a human face on foreign aid. His initiatives – with backing from Congress – have reduced cases of malaria and HIV/AIDS, expanded education and built up infrastructure in Africa." "Ghana has the kind of story Bush likes to promote: an African nation that has largely avoided ethnic clashes and played a busy peacekeeping role on the continent. Ghana has boosted its economy and cut its poverty markedly, although many people here remain poor." ("Bush Shifts His 'Mission Of Mercy' To Ghana," *The Associated Press*, 2/20/08)**

***The Christian Science Monitor:* "When President Bush announced the signature \$15 billion President Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), there were murmurs of disbelief amid the applause. But five years later, PEPFAR is still the largest and most comprehensive program for HIV patients in history, and may have saved millions of lives." (Scott Baldauf and Jina Moore, "Bush Sees Results Of His AIDS Plan In Africa," *The Christian Science Monitor*, 2/20/08)**

Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete: President Bush "will be remembered for many generations to come for the good things [he has] done for Tanzania and the good things [he has] done for Africa." His "legacy will be that of saving hundreds of thousands of mothers' and children's lives from malaria, preventing new HIV infections and giving hope to those infected through care and treatment, and helping millions of young men and women get education. Last but not least, the legacy of assisting African nations and peoples build capacity for their own growth and development." (President Kikwete, Joint Press Availability, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 2/17/08)

President Bush "is a supportive and outstanding partner, as we take the necessary measures to promote democracy, human rights and good governance."

Benin President Boni Yayi: "[D]uring his two terms in office, President Bush showed great concern for Africa, its well being, and of the development of its people." (President Yayi, Joint Press Availability, Cotonou, Benin, 2/16/08)

Ghana President John Agyekum Kufuor: "We note with great admiration [President Bush's] commitment to the respect of human rights, democracy, and good governance, as well as [his] humanitarian support for the drive towards poverty alleviation." "We recognize also [President Bush's] exemplary dedication to the fight against diseases, like malaria and the HIV/AIDS pandemic." (President Kufuor, "President Bush and President Kufuor Exchange Toasts," Accra, Ghana, 2/20/08)

Columbia University Professor And Rwandan Health Program Instructor Josh Ruxin: President Bush's "administration is really the first one to put the AIDS global pandemic on the policy map." "It was the Bush administration that got out of talking about millions for AIDS and instead talking about billions." (Peter Baker, "Bush Heads To Africa, Scene Of Successes On Health Policy," *The Washington Post*, 2/16/08)

Acting Coordinator Of Care And Treatment At The Treatment And Research AIDS Center Joseph

Nyibizi: "I think PEPFAR makes a very big difference – not only in the number of people receiving [medication], but also in the quality of care." (Scott Baldauf and Jina Moore, "Bush Sees Results Of His AIDS Plan In Africa," *The Christian Science Monitor*, 2/20/08)

Musician And Activist Bono: "President Bush has every reason to be proud of what he and so many others have accomplished in Africa." (Peter Baker, "Bush Heads To Africa, Scene Of Successes On Health Policy," *The Washington Post*, 2/16/08)

Liberian Singer Juli Endee: "Thank you, George Bush." "'Thank you for democracy,' she crooned over the electric guitar, shaking her hips wrapped in yellow cloth. 'Thank you for the rule of law,' she sang. 'Thank you for debt relief.'" (Rukmini Callimachi, "Thank You George Bush," *The Washington Times*, 2/21/08)

Head Of PEPFAR, Kenya, Warren W. Buckingham: "Pepfar has proven that increased resources can be used effectively and rapidly." (Edmund Sanders, "New Life For African AIDS Patients," *Los Angeles Times*, 2/15/08)

[Click here](#) to read more on the President's trip.

[Click here](#) to read more about the President's Africa Policy

Register now for the 10th Annual USAID and USDA International Food Aid Conference!

Includes an Introductory Workshop for FBCOs on Partnering with the United States Government



This year USAID and USDA will be adding a new workshop for faith and community based organizations to their jointly hosted annual International Food Aid Conference. This workshop will be held the morning of April 14 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri. More than 700 participants, from over 25 countries, are expected to come together from April 14-16, 2008 in Kansas City, Missouri for the tenth annual conference.

For the first time ever, the USAID and USDA Centers for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives will co-host a seminar for faith and community based organizations who are interested in partnering with the government. We encourage all private voluntary organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, commodity and transportation companies, and university scientists and administrators interested in food assistance to attend.

Participants will meet policy and operations staff from USAID and USDA while learning more about the latest developments, news, and best practice examples in the area of food aid. The forum will present an excellent opportunity to collaborate with other organizations leading the charge in this area.

All interested participants are encouraged to apply before discounted registration ends on March 27, 2008. On-line registration will continue until April 3, 2008 and participants can register at the conference

as space remains available.

The invitation to the USAID and USDA workshop will be available in next week's newsletter.

To view the Conference agenda, topics, and website, please [click here](#).

To visit USDA's website for more information, please [click here](#).

USAID to Create Separate Asia Bureau and the Middle East Bureau

On March 2, 2008, the Bureau for Asia and the Near East (ANE) will be divided into two separate, regional bureaus: the Asia Bureau and the Middle East Bureau. These two bureaus have been created in order to enhance oversight and strengthen inter-agency coordination for our programs in these regions.

In addition, the Central Asian Republics(CAR), previously grouped in the Europe & Eurasia (E&E) Bureau, will relocate to the Asia Bureau to better develop a prosperous, stable, and peaceful South and Central Asia region, and to strengthen the north/south ties for Afghanistan north through the Central Asian Republics. The two bureaus will more closely correspond to the Department of State's regional bureau alignment.

The following countries/regional platforms will be covered by the Asia Bureau, with a budget of approximately \$2.5 billion:

Afghanistan	Mongolia	CAR Regional
Bangladesh	Nepal	Kazakhstan
Burma	Pakistan	Kyrgyzstan
Cambodia	Papua New Guinea	Tajikistan
China	Philippines	Turkmenistan
India	Sri Lanka	Uzbekistan
Indonesia	Timor Leste	
Laos	Vietnam	

The following countries/regional platforms will be covered by the Middle East Bureau, with a budget of approximately \$2.3 billion:

Egypt	Lebanon
Iraq	Morocco
Jordan	West Bank/Gaza
Yemen	Middle East Regional

Federal Funding Opportunities

USAID

USAID has posted a cooperative agreement for US Nongovernmental or Non-US Nongovernmental Organizations that meet Eligibility Requirements as described in the Request For Applications (RFA). The request for applications should focus program objectives to: (1) improve housing through financial services targeted to the poor and very poor in the developing world and (2) through participation in a learning network, generate replicable processes, tools and methodologies for scaling up the housing microfinance sector. Subject to the availability of funds, USAID intends to award approximately 4 to 8 cooperative agreements, valued between \$400,000- \$1.2 Million, for a total value of \$4 Million over a three-year performance period. USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted. As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 25, 2008. For more

information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Jordan USAID-Amman has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for a community mobilization School Construction and Rehabilitation Program. The primary stakeholders (students, teachers, principals, parents and other community members) are involved in the implementation of school construction by providing their insight, opinions, specific needs, expectations and also available skills. For more details, please refer to Section I of the RFA. As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 26, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Kazakhstan USAID-Almaty has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for a human rights program in Uzbekistan. USAID is seeking applications from all qualified organizations for a human rights program that benefits Uzbekistan. Under this two year program, USAID/Central Asian Republics (USAID/CAR) seeks to support activities which protect, promote and enforce human rights. As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 26, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

USAID has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for food and technical assistance activities. To access the RFA, read more about FANTA II activities, or obtain contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 28, 2008.

Guinea USAID-Conakry has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement seeking RFAs. They are seeking full applications from prospective partners to implement activities to enhance democratic governance, foster economic growth and improve natural resource management to the benefit of the people of Sierra Leone. The program is to be designed and implemented with an integrated, comprehensive, multi-sector approach, addressing the U.S. Foreign Assistance Framework Objectives. As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 31, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Madagascar USAID-Antananarivo has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for social marketing programs for child, maternal, and reproductive health products and services. The purpose of this program is to expand and build upon the achievements of USAID's previous Social Marketing and Behavior Change program in Madagascar. The overall aim of this program is to contribute to the improvement of the health status of the Malagasy people, especially women and children. This will be accomplished through a social marketing project designed to improve health among key target groups by ensuring widespread access to affordable, high-quality family planning, reproductive health, HIV prevention, malaria prevention and treatment, diarrhea disease prevention and treatment, STI treatment, and safe water treatment products. Special focus will be given to social marketing activities designed to expand the reach of essential health products and services further into rural and underserved areas. The solicitation will also target youth age 15-24 in order to assist them to delay onset of sexual debut, delay pregnancy, and protect themselves from unwanted pregnancy and STIs including HIV. As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 14, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Senegal USAID-Dakar has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement seeking applications from organizations for a cooperative agreement to fund a program entitled "Enabling Quality, Access, and Transparency in Education for Senegal". As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 28, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Dominican Republic USAID-Santo Domingo has posted an APS announcing USAID's intention to awarding multiple grants. Eligible applicants are Dominican NGOs operating legally under Dominican law, foreign organizations operating under the relevant Dominican laws and that have the required clearance to operate in the Dominican Republic from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The RFA is seeking project proposals to administer aid for the Out of School and At Risk Children and Youth program. Applicants must specify the length of time and requested funding level in the submitted concept paper.

As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 30, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

The US Agency for International Development Food for Peace grant announcement has been posted on Grants.gov. Eligible applicants include U.S. non-profit organizations and Public International Organization (PIO). Applications may request a maximum of 75 metric tons (MT) of commodities (currently valued at approximately \$173,000) and up to \$100,000 of funding. It is not mandatory, however, that these exact levels be requested or in this proportion. (Note: Funding is available for costs directly associated with the movement, management and monitoring of IFRP commodities. Funding will not be considered for the following costs: vehicle purchase, project materials, tools and office equipment.) To read more about USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) and to obtain a link to fiscal year 2008 IFRP Guidelines and Procedures, [click here](#). To access the announcement on Grants.gov and for contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is June 2, 2008.

US Agency for International Development has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement to solicit partners to implement activities in support of creative and timely responses to encourage the abandonment of traditional practices that promote and condone gender-based violence. USAID is specifically interested in those traditional harmful practices that have received limited attention from the development community. The geographic focus under consideration is USAID's geographic definitions of Africa and Asia & the Near East (ANE). To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is June 12, 2008.

US Agency for International Development has posted an unrestricted grant announcement seeking partners to meet the critical basic needs of internally displaced people and returnee populations (both old and new caseload) in Kabul Province. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is June 21, 2008.

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 February 29, 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 February 29, 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 in the countries listed below. 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 February 29, 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](#).

Department of State

The Department of State has posted a grant, with the intentional of awarding several grants to different organizations, for nonprofits having 501(c)(3) status and private institutions of higher education. They are requesting anti-trafficking in persons proposals for capacity-building programs with locally-based organizations abroad. Programs must include mentoring and partnerships concerning such topics as: developing models for providing comprehensive and effective services for adult and child victims; training initiatives with a focus on identifying and understanding the complex needs of victims; building working relationships with law enforcement responders and other community stakeholders; and, strengthening advocacy skills and public awareness-raising efforts. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 3, 2008.

The Bureau of Cultural and Educational Affairs has posted two grants for nonprofits having 501(c)(3) status and private institutions of higher education. They are seeking proposals to administer this semester-long program for Chilean pre-service teachers. Post-secondary educational institutions may apply independently or in a consortium with other post-secondary institutions. The program will include academic coursework and practicum/student teaching for Chilean EFL student teachers in their penultimate year of undergraduate study. The program will take place during the fall semester of 2008. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 13, 2008.

The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has posted a cooperative agreement for nonprofits having 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education) and international organizations. Proposed activities should support refugees in Chad, primarily the 280,000 refugees from Sudan and the CAR. Proposals may include work in the following sectors: protection, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, camp management, community services, micro-enterprise and livelihoods development, humanitarian air services, humanitarian information services, gender-based violence prevention and support, and psychosocial support. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 14, 2008.

The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has posted a cooperative agreement seeking organizations to provide refugee assistance. Limited funding is available to support NGOs working with UNHCR to address the needs of Liberian refugee returnees. Proposed activities should support Liberian refugee reintegration via programs in the health sector (including both physical and mental health). Proposals should target areas of high refugee return (e.g., Lofa County) where refugee returnees make up at least 50% of targeted beneficiaries. Evidence of a well-developed transition/exit strategy from the project activity will be especially important. Priority will be given to proposals from organizations that can demonstrate: (1) a working relationship with UNHCR and 2008 UNHCR funding and/or support for the proposed activities and/or overall country program; (2) a proven track record in providing proposed assistance (both in the health sector and specified location) to Liberian refugee returnees; (3) evidence of coordination with development organizations and/or host government entities that could take on support of any ongoing efforts; and (4) appropriate targeting of beneficiaries in coordination with UNHCR and other relevant organizations. As of February 29, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 14, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click](#)

[here](#).

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 [click here](#). If you would like to discontinue receiving the newsletter, [click this link](#).