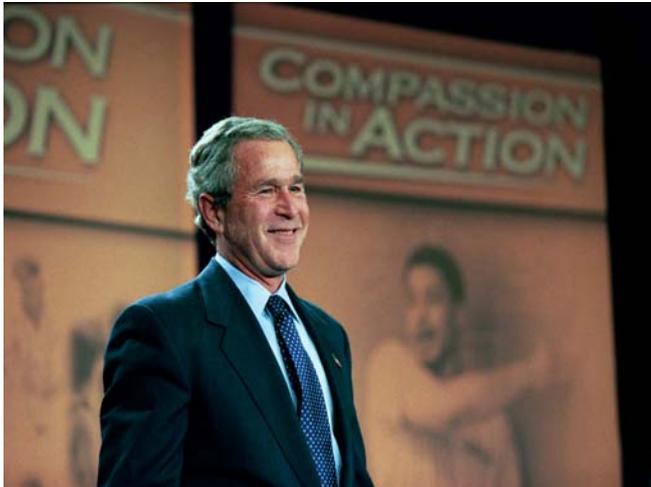




QUARTERLY UPDATE

Spring 2004



From the President

“The society we live in can be changed. I've seen it change. I've heard the stories of those who have been changed and are changing it. And it's that massive effort by people of concern and people of love to save lives which will change our nation for the better. In the midst of our plenty, there's darkness, but there's always hope. In the midst of plenty, there is sadness and loneliness, but there's always a soul to put your arm around and say, I love you.”

- *President George W. Bush, Remarks at the White House Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Los Angeles, CA, March 3*

WHITE HOUSE HOSTS THE 11TH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

On March 3, 2004, President Bush offered the keynote address at the White House Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, in Los Angeles, CA. 1,200 faith-based and community leaders joined the President as he hailed the progress being made in helping Americans most in need.

The conference was the 11th in a series of regional conferences to educate social service providers about President Bush's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. These free, day-long conferences have equipped more than 13,500 community leaders with information about the Federal funding process, government grants that are suited to their needs, and the legal issues for recipients of Federal funds. **The next White House conference will take place in Pittsburgh, PA, on April 21.** Visit www.fbc.gov for more information about these regional conferences.

The White House organizes the conferences together with the Departments of Justice, Agriculture, Labor, Health & Human Services, Housing & Urban Development, Education, and the Agency for International Development.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Compassion Capital Fund (CCF)

CCF assists faith-based and community organizations to increase their effectiveness, enhance their ability to provide social services, expand their organizations, diversify their funding sources, and create collaborations to better serve those most in need. Eligible applicants include faith-based and community organizations, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, colleges and universities.

- Grant applications are due May 18, 2004
- For more information visit www.hhs.gov/fbcj

Access to Recovery

HHS's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications from States to implement voucher programs for substance abuse clinical treatment and recovery services. Access to Recovery grants are limited to the immediate office of the Governor in each State.

- Grant applications are due June 4, 2004
- For more information visit www.atr.samhsa.gov

Mentoring Children of Prisoners

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is accepting applications for the Mentoring Children of Prisoners program. The program will provide 100,000 new mentors to children with incarcerated parents through grants available to faith-based and community organizations.

- Grant applications are due April 23, 2004
- For more information, visit www.hhs.gov/fbcj

PRESIDENT BUSH JOINS FAITH-BASED & COMMUNITY LEADERS IN NEW ORLEANS

On January 15, 2004, President Bush visited Union Bethel A.M.E. Church in New Orleans, where he met with Americans whose lives have been changed due to the efforts of faith-based and community organizations. The President also spent time with the dedicated people who run the programs that help those in need. President Bush spoke of the need to break down bureaucratic barriers to faith-based and community groups and encouraged partnerships between the government and the most effective social service organizations that are helping the most vulnerable Americans.



President George W. Bush visits with parishioners at Union Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in New Orleans, LA.

NEW INITIATIVES PROPOSED IN 2004 STATE OF THE UNION

In his State of the Union address, given this past January, President Bush proposed a new initiative to reduce the societal costs of re-incarceration by helping ex-offenders find work when they return to their communities. The four-year initiative will provide \$300 million for job training and placement, transitional housing, and mentoring services offered by faith-based and community groups.

Also, during his address, the President called on Congress to put into law the principle of equal treatment of faith-based organizations in the Federal grants process. The proposed legislation would put an end to discrimination against faith-based charities and ensure that more Americans would be able to receive the vital help they need from the most effective charities, regardless of whether the organization is secular or faith-based.

For the most up to date information about the Initiative, visit www.fbc.gov. Our website provides many helpful resources, including a Grants Catalog, facts about the Cabinet Centers, updated conference information, and current activities of our office. You can also join our mailing list on the website.

MORE GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

SAMHSA Grant-Writing Workshops

The US Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is sponsoring grant-writing and technical assistance workshops focused on explaining the grant application process to faith-based and community groups. For more information, visit http://www.samhsa.gov/faithbased/fb_traininglist.htm

Compassion Capital Fund Grantee Workshops

CCF grantees are hosting technical assistance workshops across the country to help grassroots groups increase their capacity and their ability to help more people in need. To access the workshop schedule, visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccf/calendar/ccfc.jsp>

Technology Opportunities Program Grants

Grants are now available through the Department of Commerce's Technology Opportunities Program (TOP). TOP grants are awarded to model projects demonstrating innovative uses of network technology.

- Grant applications are due April 27, 2004
- For more information, visit www.ntia.doc.gov/top/

STATE AND LOCAL OUTREACH

President Bush's Faith-Based and Community Initiative is advancing at the state and local levels. A bipartisan group of 20 governors have faith-based offices or liaisons. The United States Conference of Mayors and 180 mayors have opened a faith-based office. Cities with faith-based offices include Philadelphia, Miami, San Diego, and Memphis. OFBCI encourages faith-based and community organizations to contact state and local officials regarding how the groups can access state and local funding streams.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

Q: How can I get a list of all the cities and dates for regional conferences for the remainder of the year?

A: We post the most updated information regarding the locations and dates for our regional conferences on our website, www.fbc.gov. If you are unable to attend one of our conferences, please visit our website to view videos of recent conference presentations.