

# Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Minutes for October 27, 2011

The Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (<http://acfbci.org>) is dedicated to engaging and mobilizing faith communities to improve the quality of life for our most vulnerable and impoverished people through a statewide collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

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- Welcome, Invocation & Introductions
  - Vice Chair Rick Knopf welcomed attendees at 10:02; Jane Wabnik read beautiful words of faith and encouragement.
  - Attendees introduced themselves: Tom Fenner, Lilana Jorge, Ina Mae Copeland, Debbie DiCarlo, Jessica Major, Billy Thrall, Jane Wabnik, Christina Martinez, Jim Welter, Brian Simpson, Jack Hanstein, Sarah Stadler-Ammon, Ben Sanders, Joyce Lopez-Powell, Jon McHatton, Dave Martinez, Aubrey Barnwell, Ken Einbinder and Chuck Fitzgerald.
- Pastor Sarah Stadler-Ammon, Grace Lutheran Church.
  - Pastor Sarah welcomed guests to the campus of Grace Lutheran Church. She spoke of the congregation's service to the community, including: feeding the hungry, providing heat relief shelter, a clothing/hygiene closet, a family planning clinic, and a mentoring program. Community partnerships are a key strategy for serving those in their community.
  - Thank you, Pastor Sarah, for providing us with a space for our meeting. And thank you for all you do in central Phoenix! “
- Arizona Impact Summit – solutions for the common good.
  - Jessica and Ben spoke about this event on April 23, 2012 at ASU in Tempe. The Council of Religious Advisors (CORA), ASU and our Council are the lead entities for delivering this one day Summit. A plenary “by invitation only” for 350 leaders will be followed by many topical breakout sessions. Two keynote speakers for the plenary have been identified: Lattie Coor, former ASU President; and Clarence Carter, Director of DES. We are looking for a Federal Government speaker, perhaps connected with the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.
  - Anyone interested in being a part of the planning team should contact Jessica or Ben Sanders directly.
- Updates
  - Representatives from Arizona were invited to NYC for a city initiatives meeting and the 2011 Movement Day. Ben and Billy provided a brief report on this trip. Two other cities with city initiatives for serving the community are San Diego and Boston.
  - ArizonaSERVES. Chuck gave attendees a brief update on the Task Force and the website [www.arizonaserves.gov](http://www.arizonaserves.gov). Next Task Force meeting is on November 18, 2011 and is always open to the public. Save the Date: ArizonaSERVES Summit, November 4, 2011 in Coolidge. Register at <http://azsummit.org>
  - CityServe Arizona and Season of Service 2 (<http://cityserveaz.com>).  
Billy provided an update on HopeFest Phoenix. It looks like April 14, 2012 at Chase Field. Details will be firmed up and distributed when available.  
Season of Service 2 is now underway; lots going on.

*Convene - Connect - Communicate - Celebrate*

Billy also spoke of last week's HopeFest Tucson; perhaps 20K people were served. Congratulations to Lisa Chastain and her team for providing a wonderful event for the people of Pima County. For more information about this event, visit <http://azhopenet.org>

- Transportation for the Underserved. Chuck spoke about how the West Valley Human Services Alliance (WVHSA; <http://wvhsa.acfbci.org>) will be hosting a Summit on February 10, 2011 in Goodyear. The WVHSA plans to bring community organizations together to address transportation solutions, especially for the needy.
- Joyce also spoke of "Market on the Move," an excellent opportunity for families to purchase fresh produce very cheaply (60 pounds for \$10!).
- Joyce also spoke of upcoming Project Connects. List is here: <http://www.vsuw.org/our-work/end-hunger-homelessness/project-connect>
- Ina Mae spoke of the organic garden efforts at 1<sup>st</sup> New Life Missionary Baptist Church; and a community outreach event on 11/12 that will provide household items to those in need. Contact Ina Mae if you'd like to help with either of these: [fnl1902csc@yahoo.com](mailto:fnl1902csc@yahoo.com)
- Tom reported that a Veterans Standdown will occur at the Phoenix Coliseum on February 3-4, 2012.
- Jack spoke of the St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Nogales, and its medical mission in that community.
- New Business
  - Pastor Aubrey would like the Council to consider how it may help with the expected return of many active military personnel at year's end. We will attempt to get a veterans/military speaker for our December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.
  - Ben suggested we invite Will Gonzales, City of Phoenix prosecutor, to our next meeting to discuss his efforts in the Palomino area relating to schools. We will extend the invitation.
- Closing Remarks and Adjourn
  - Next meeting is Thursday, December 1, 2011; 10 a.m. to 12 Noon at Catholic Charities, 4747 N 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix.
  - Vice Chair Rick thanked attendees for their participation in yet another excellent meeting; we adjourned at 11:48.

Respectfully Submitted:  
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