

Arizona Council on
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
Minutes for July 22, 2010

The Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives is dedicated to engaging and mobilizing all faith communities to improve the quality of life for our most vulnerable and impoverished people through a statewide, action-oriented collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

- Welcome, Invocation & Introductions
 - Chair Gary Kinnaman welcomed attendees to Food for the Hungry at 10:10 a.m.
 - Invocation by Dr. C.T. Wright
 - All attendees introduced themselves; listing is attached
 - Guests: Marin Lersch (for Joyce Lopez-Powell), Guadalupe Waitherwerch.
- Review of previous Meeting Minutes.
 - Minutes from 6/24/10 meeting were unanimously approved (M – Jane; 2nd – Judith)
- Updates
 - ArizonaSERVES.
Chair Gary announced that Terry Crist, Senior Pastor at City of Grace Church in Mesa, is the ArizonaSERVES Task Force Chair; and the first Task Force meeting is scheduled for August 13th. Gary is appointed to this Task Force but will be out of town for this first meeting.
Judith shared that she will be Director Young's representative on the Task Force (when he does not attend) and that Chuck will be staff support for the Task Force. She also spoke about how the Task Force and this Council will be complimentary.
 - Arizona CityFest / Season of Service.
Billy spoke at length about the Season of Service that is to begin on October 5, 2010 and the Arizona CityFest to be held at Tempe Town Lake (now a mud bog) on March 19 – 20, 2011. More information is available at www.arizonacityfest.com. There are currently 300 churches signed-up to participate in the Season of Service. He spoke of maps provided by DES that shows Family Income by zip code in relation to churches. His staff will use these maps to recruit additional church partners.
Billy added, "the Season of Service is an excuse for us to come together and serve under 7 Categories, and highlight best practices"

Hunger	Homelessness	Family Well-Being	Education
Health Care	Existing Projects	Neighborhood Revitalization	

The Season of Service will also consist of monthly impact days, such as October 23, 2010 which is the national Make-a-Difference Day.
Jane asked Billy to speak about how SB1070 might affect CityFest turnout. He shared with attendees about his recent conversations and meetings with Hispanic church leaders. They, and he, believe the CityFest is a positive event for community members and that the entire effort will bring much needed healing. The CityFest and Season of Service message is one of hope and healing.

Chair Gary offered to assist the Season of Service staff with engaging Senior Pastors (and their congregations) of influence. He believes Arizona CityFest is the perfect catalyst for long-term community impact in our state.

- Arizona Hunger Campaign.

Chair Gary spoke of the May 6th launch in downtown Phoenix (50,000+ pounds of food?) and the Father's Day Food Drive demonstration project by a number of Phoenix-area churches. He believes the Father's Day drive collected 500,000+ pounds of food. More information regarding the Arizona Hunger Campaign may be found at www.endzhunger.org

Jane suggested that the Arizona Hunger Campaign leaders publish a schedule of upcoming food drives and provide faith community leaders with a toolkit to help them talk about the events. She also suggested we add "diapers" to the collection wish list.

Chuck will ask Russ Dickey, campaign director, to visit the Council in August and provide an update on the effort.

Chair Gary is very passionate about the issue of hunger in our state and would like for all of us to make this an extraordinary collaboration that is recognized nationwide.

- Council Projects & Activities

- Website.

Chuck spoke about the new Council website: www.acfbci.org. There was discussion regarding how we can use this website to inventory faith community projects and faith networks statewide.

Gary suggested a monthly standing meeting to preserve momentum. Chuck will work with the subcommittee on this.

- State FBCI Conference.

Gary will ask Vice-Chair Rick Knopf to convene the conference subcommittee prior to our August Council meeting. If we are to have a conference in January, it is time to get moving on it.

- New Business

- Judith announced that Chuck's role at DES is changing slightly. He will no longer lead the Aging & Disability Resource Center (www.azlinks.gov) effort in Arizona. This will allow him to dedicate 100% of his time to faith and community initiatives, to include staffing support for ArizonaSERVES.

- Marin spoke about United Way's relationship with the Family Wise Prescription Card program. The flyer she brought to the meeting will be sent via email to all Council members. This is a Financial Stability tool that assists low-income individuals and families with paying for prescription drugs. Billy is very excited about providing this free service to many of the churches his staff is connecting with.

- Chuck and Judith spoke about the July 16th Faith-Based Track of the Symposium in Support of Military Families. It was an excellent day with lots of great information about the issues facing military families, especially Arizona National Guard (ANG) families who are often left to fend for themselves. Chuck asked for Council members to think about how the Council might help to educate and engage faith communities in serving military families, especially ANG families. This will remain as a standing item on future Council agendas.

- Teri spoke about the effective use of storytelling to engage congregations in serving their communities. ELCA congregations are beginning to host "ministry partner

dinner” as a tool for storytelling. This was the highlight of the Grand Canyon Synod’s Convention in Tucson this summer.

- Jane suggested we convene future Council meetings at faith community locations. This would give the Council insight into some of the happenings in the faith community and would also allow for faith organizations to see first hand what the Council’s about. Chuck will find a location for our August meeting. Thank you for the location suggestions Jane, Billy, Judith and Gary.
- Closing Remarks and Adjourn
 - Chair Gary thanked the attendees for a great meeting and closed with a prayer.
 - Next meeting is Thursday, August 26, 2010; 10 a.m. to 12 Noon at a location to be announced.
 - Adjourned at 11:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

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Center

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shaded names participated on 7/22/2010

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	Steve Dave	Einbinder Uhler	Statewide	HUD		kenneth.a.einbinder@hud.gov david.m.uhler@hud.gov	
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	Vacant			Church of Jesus Christ of LDS			