

Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Minutes for April 26, 2012

The Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (www.GodEnriches.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.

- Welcome, Invocation & Introductions

Chair Gary Kinnaman welcomed attendees. Telephone line difficulties prohibited Council members and guest from calling into the meeting.

- “Who do you trust with your child?” Mark Klym, DES Division of Children, Youth and Families. Mark spoke to attendees about this campaign to raise awareness and to promote peaceful parenting. ChildHelp (<http://www.childhelp.org/mychild>) is the lead community partner for the campaign which emphasizes “safe caregiving” and learning to recognize the warning signs of an “unsafe caregiver.” Council members will receive, from Mark, a detailed email containing how to get involved, how to get printed materials, and how to access agency resources for promoting the safe caregiving of children.

Mark also spoke reminded attendees that April is National Prevent Child Abuse month. He encouraged all of us to participate in a Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils. Here is the list of 16 Arizona Councils: <https://www.azdes.gov/main.aspx?menu=156&id=2040>

- Updates

- Billy Thrall provided an update on HopeFest Phoenix (<http://cityserveaz.com>); it took place on April 14, 2012 at Chase Field. 200+ community and government agencies provided services during this one day event to the working poor. More than 700 haircuts were given, 270 people received dental care, 2,200 volunteers helped out and approximately 15,000 people received services free of charge. A final report is forthcoming and will be provided to Council members when it is available.
- The Central Arizona Dental Society’s Dental Mission of Mercy is scheduled for 12/7 and 12/8 in central Phoenix. This will be a free dental care event for those without dental insurance. Valley of the Sun United Way offered to help CADS identify potential attendees.
- Chair Gary Kinnaman spoke of a “pastors of influence” group that has come together to serve the Phoenix area. Their effort is titled “Undivided: One Church Serving the Valley” and will focus on improving conditions for children. An initial effort has seen local congregation “adopt” elementary school faculty and families. Additional areas of emphasis include foster care and hunger relief.
- Chair Gary Kinnaman also spoke of the “Local Church, Local Outreach” project he is leading to connect community service leaders with one another. Key partners in this effort are Salem Communication and Arizona’s Department of Economic Security. Two questions asked of church outreach leaders are the core of this project; what are you doing in the community? and, How are you working with other churches and community organizations?
- Joyce Lopez Powell informed attendees of the Valley of the Sun United Way’s pool fence initiative. This project provides pool fences for qualifying low-income families. Look for an informational flier via email.

Convene - Connect - Communicate - Celebrate

- Marvin Murray suggested the book “Forces for Good” as a resource for individuals and organizations serving in their communities.
- Liliana Jorge asks Council members to help secure a meeting place for HUD’s grant writing symposium. If you can offer a location that will accommodate 50-75 people for a day-long event, contact her at liliana.jorge@hud.gov
- Chuck Fitzgerald spoke of the Arizona Diamondback’s “Faith and Family” nights at Chase Field. The first such night this year is May 11th. Neighborhood Ministries will be the beneficiary of this event that includes a baseball game and an after game concert by The Crowder Band. The second “Faith and Family” night is scheduled for August 24th.
- Steve Capobres spoke of a Catholic Charities Paths to Hope breakfast on May 10, 2012 featuring Michael Bidwell <http://catholiccharitiesaz.org/Events/PathstoHopeBreakfast.aspx>
- Closing Remarks and Adjourn
 - Next meeting is Thursday, May 24, 2012; 10 a.m. to 12 Noon at Catholic Charities, 4747 N 7th Avenue, Phoenix.
 - Chair Gary Kinnaman thanked attendees for their participation in yet another excellent meeting; Reverend Ina Copeland led us in prayer, and we adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Attendees: Gary Kinnaman, Jose and Jessica Bellman, Liliana Jorge, Debbie DiCarlo, Mark Handy, Mark Klym, Marvin Murray, Joyce Lopez-Powell, Ina Copeland, Antwan, Mitzi Lyndon, Terrilyn Miller, Billy Thrall, Ben Sanders, Elaine Sullivan, Steve Capobres and Chuck Fitzgerald.

Respectfully Submitted:
 Chuck Fitzgerald
 Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
 Arizona Department of Economic Security
cfitzgerald@azdes.gov