

Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Minutes for May 26, 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.

- Welcome, Invocation & Introductions
 - Chair Dr. Gary Kinnaman welcomed attendees at 10:09 a.m.; thanking the “busiest people in Arizona” for taking the time to participate. Chair Gary read aloud the Council’s purpose statement (see above).
 - Vice-Chair Dr. Rick Knopf led attendees in an opening prayer.
 - Attendees introduced themselves: Gary Kinnaman, Rick Knopf, Chuck Fitzgerald, Ben Sanders, Linda Morris, Jack Hanstein, Joyce Lopez-Powell, Brian Simpson, C.T. Wright, Aubrey Barnwell, Kristen Schmidt, Scott Neuman (phone), Jon McHatton (phone), Linda Leatherman (phone), Tamera Zivic, Jessica Leach, Jim Welter, Marvin Murray.
- Review of previous Meeting Minutes.
 - Minutes from the April 28, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.
- Updates

ArizonaSERVES. Chair Gary and Chuck gave attendees a brief update on the Task Force and the website www.arizonaserves.gov. Next Task Force meeting is on June 17, 2011. Save the Date: ArizonaSERVES Summit, September 8, 2011 in Mesa.

Chuck gave an example of how faith-based and community organizations might use the ArizonaSERVES website. See a “CPS Visits” connection example at: https://www.azdes.gov/Arizona_Serves.aspx?menu=332&id=6619

 - CityServe Arizona. Vice-Chair Rick spoke of three goals for this year: 1) develop a website, 2) deliver Hope Fest Phoenix, and 3) further develop and inventory service best-practices and coalitions/networks involved in Season of Service.
 - Council website. Chair Gary and Vice-Chair Rick will be providing funds to pay for the annual hosting bill that is currently due (approx. \$150). Linda M. and Joyce will investigate the possibility of using their organizations as a fiscal agent for the Council. Ben will coordinate this effort, including a possible domain name change/addition. Thank you Gary, Rick, Linda, Joyce and Ben!
 - Member Organization Updates.
 - Joyce spoke of United Way’s (www.vsuw.org) partnership with United Phoenix Fire Fighters Association in providing free pool fences for qualifying low-income families. See www.saverkids.org for more information.
 - She also spoke of the upcoming changes to Medicaid in Arizona. Official details may be found at <http://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.aspx>.
 - Jon asked a favor of each Council member and attendee. For Our City (www.forourcity.org) is very close to entering into agreement with the City of Mesa. If you have any community leadership connections in Mesa, please contact them and provide assurances that For Our City is a successful, trusted, best practice for bringing all sectors of the community together for the common good. Also, encourage them to accept the forthcoming breakfast invitation from Mayor Smith to kick-off this effort.

- Linda L. spoke of a new collaboration between Pima County, Open Table, Job Corps regarding an “open table model” for youth aging out of Foster Care. This effort is very new and more information will be available in the coming weeks.

She also spoke of the DHS Faithful Readiness Conference to be held in September (originally January 2011). Its purpose: to foster partnerships among faith leaders and community leaders with local, state and federal homeland security and emergency management officials and to improve resiliency against all hazards by promoting a whole of community approach and developing cross sector solutions. Come and share resources, learn new skills and strengthen partnerships to enhance your capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from all hazards.

- Scott spoke of a recent Asset-Based Community Development training seminar in Coconino County conducted by Mike Green.
- Jack informed attendees of the national information resource we all have available to us called the Episcopal Public Policy Network (http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109350_ENG_HTM.htm).

- New Business.

- Chair Gary spoke of his recent trip to the Dominican Republic to attend the World Vision conference. The purpose of the conference was to help faith organizations to work outside their own walls, and to work together. Sound familiar?
- Ben suggested the Council take a leadership role in convening a statewide “best practice” Human Services Conference in 2012 – similar to the White House OFBCI Conference in May of 2007. Ben, Kristen, Jessica, Jim and Jack will bring a group together to unpack this idea and make recommendations to the Council. Thank you!

- Closing Remarks and Adjourn

- Next meeting is Thursday, June 23, 2011; 10 a.m. to 12 Noon at Catholic Charities, 4747 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix.
- Chair Gary thanked the attendees for their participation in yet another excellent meeting; Jack closed with a word of prayer. We adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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