

Arizona Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Catholic Charities
4747 N. 7th Avenue
Phoenix, 85013

October 25, 2012
10:00 a.m. – Noon

Engaging and mobilizing faith communities to improve the quality of life for vulnerable and impoverished people through a statewide collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

Minutes

I. Welcome, Invocation & Introductions Chair, Dr. Gary Kinnaman

Chair Gary welcomed attendees and attendees then introduced themselves.

Chair Gary provided a quick overview of the history of the Council; more information may be found on the Council's web site, www.GodEnriches.org. This site name was chosen because it is also our State Motto. Meeting archives may be found on the web site.

II. Lutheran Social Services Traci Gruenberger, Executive Vice-President

Traci spoke about the work of Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest and share a printed presentation about the organization. She shared that 1 in 5 Americans is impacted by the work of their organization nationally. She shared about the Family Resource Centers and the work that is done to assist families with parenting and bonding skills. Presentation can be seen here: <http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Lutheran-Social-Svcs-Presentation-10-25-12.pdf>

III. Updates

- a. ArizonaSERVES. Gary gave attendees an update on ArizonaSERVES. The Task Force has taken a number of steps to place Arizona's foster care crisis on the "front burner" of its activities. He also shared about Ten City Covenant and Movement Day.

- b. "Caring for Our Children and Youth."

Billy talked about how CityServe Arizona (www.cityserveaz.com) teamed up with ArizonaSERVES (www.ArizonaSERVES.gov) and the West Valley Human Services Alliance (www.wvhsa.acfbci.org) and held a one day summit called "Caring for Our Children and Youth – when hungry, when in foster care, when in school." The event was on October 5th at Living Streams Church in Phoenix, and was attended by approximately 400 people. Materials from the event are here: <https://docs.google.com/folder/d/0B8iXw8tnX6oNNW93TGVsREIDaEU/edit>

- c. Other Member Organization Updates

- i. Rob Slothower from Cricket shared information about their program called Lifeline which helps the needy by reducing the cost of cell phone bills by up to 30%. More information is found here: <http://www.mycricket.com/community/cell-phone-news/arizona-cricket-lifeline-credit>.
- ii. Lisa Scarpinato from Kitchen on the Street shared that they are providing 1,000 backpack meals weekly. Visit www.kitchenonthestreet.org

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- iii. Mitzi Lynton shared about the recent Interfaith Experience and the “Peace in Action” small group discussions that took place during the event. Approximately six different faiths were represented in each small group.
- iv. Bob Dunn from Youth Link shared about establishing networks with over 700+ youth pastors and ministry personnel to reduce turnover.
- v. Greg Powell spoke about the upcoming SAGA Senior Advocacy Group of Ahwatukee 2012 Symposium at the Pecos Community center on Saturday, November 3rd. The symposium will present the latest resources for Seniors and those who care for them. Included are interactive educational opportunities featuring industry experts. Keynote addresses by Karen and Senator John McComish and Billy Thrall of CityServe Arizona. Guest host is Kelly L. Madison, President of the Meningitis Foundation of America. The brochure can be viewed at <http://www.meetup.com/Senior-Healthcare-Professionals/events/88687702>

IV. New Business

V. Closing Remarks and Adjourn - Next meeting is December 6, 2012

Chair Gary thanked attendees for their participation. Sofia Tobar closed with prayer.

Attendees: Chair Gary Kinnaman, Regina Weiler, Rob Slothower, Traci Gruenberger, Jim Welter, Bob Dunn, Sofia Tobar, Linda Morris, Lisa Scarpinato, Jeff Bisgrove, Joyce Lopez-Powell, Scott Nueman, Mitzi Lynton, Gregg Powell, Liliana Jorge, Terrilyn Miller, Ben Sanders, Billy Thrall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Regina Weiler (for Chuck Fitzgerald)
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