

**Best Practices in Faith-Health
Partnerships For Policy
Implementation**

The Public's Health and the Law in the 21st Century
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Outline of Discussion

- ◆ President Bush's Executive Order
- ◆ Governor Bush's Executive Order
- ◆ Florida Faith Based Advisory Board
- ◆ Governor's May 2006 Executive Order creating New Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Board
- ◆ Volunteer Florida Foundation
- ◆ Florida Department of Health's Faith Based Providers
- ◆ Abstinence
- ◆ Pregnancy Support Services
- ◆ Capacity Building – helping faith based providers work with and partner with Government

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- ◆ *"The paramount goal is compassionate results, and private and charitable groups, including religious ones, should have the fullest opportunity permitted by law to compete on a level playing field, so long as they achieve valid public purposes... The delivery of social services must be results-oriented and should value the bedrock principles of pluralism, nondiscrimination, evenhandedness, and neutrality."*
- ◆ **President George W. Bush, January 29, 2001**
- ◆ *"And so today, after four years of work, we continue to confront this culture, culture of process instead of results, head on. And the goal is, over the next four years, to change the culture permanently so faith- and community-based organizations will be welcomed into the grant-making process of government. That's the goal."*

**President George W. Bush
Remarks at White House Leadership Conference on
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
Washington, DC, March 1, 2005**

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President Bush Signs Faith Based and Community Initiative

December 12, 2002

- ◆ Executive Order: Responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development with Respect to Faith-based and Community Initiatives
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/12/20021212-5.html>
- ◆ President envisions an America where people in need are served by people who care. The President believes the Federal government can remove barriers that prevent faith-based and grassroots groups from doing more to help Americans in need.
 - make it easier for people in need to get access to the broadest range of assistance
 - Eliminate discriminatory barriers to participation by faith-based and community groups,
 - Create a level Playing Field for Faith-Based and Community Organizations
- ◆ Order directs agencies to take steps to ensure that all policies (including guidance, regulations, and internal agency procedures) are consistent with equal treatment principles. Specifically, ensures that no organization will be discriminated against, and that no beneficiary of Federally-funded social services may be discriminated against based on religion.

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Governor Jeb Bush signed an Executive Order in November 2004

- ◆ Created faith-based and community advisory board with a mission to help state government coordinate efforts to utilize and expand opportunities for faith based and community-based organizations to address social needs in Florida's communities.
- ◆ The 25-member, Governor-appointed board served as a policy advisor to the Governor on policies, priorities and objectives for the state's comprehensive effort to enlist, equip, enable, empower and expand the work of faith-based, volunteer and other community organizations to the full extent permitted by law.

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Volunteer Florida Foundation

http://www.volunteerfloridafoundation.org/pdfs/2006_FBC_Board_Report.pdf

- ◆ Via the Governor's Executive Order, Volunteer Florida Foundation has been designated to partner and provide support to the Board. Four subcommittees have been designated by this board, focusing on the following areas:
 - Education & training – providing guidance to state agencies on how to share information on grants and programs with faith and community-based organizations
 - Intermediary identification and evaluation – providing ideas to state government on how to work with small faith and community-based organizations and ensuring that efforts have strong accountability components.
 - Municipal and corporate partnerships – to explore how faith-based and community organizations can work in concert with these entities
 - Best Practices – to research, study and share national, state and local best practices that can result in positive, nurturing and cost-effective partnerships between state government and faith and community-based programs.

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GOVERNOR BUSH SIGNS LEGISLATION CREATING NEW FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED ADVISORY COUNCIL

- ◆ MAY 4, 2006 House Bill 599 signed into law, creating the New Florida Faith-based and Community-based Advisory Council within the Executive Office of the Governor to replace the existing Faith-Based Advisory Board, which has served since 2004.
- ◆ *"Florida's faith-based and community organizations are important allies to the state in providing critical social services to Floridians,"*
- ◆ The new council will:
 - advise the Governor and Legislature on policies, priorities and objectives for Florida's comprehensive effort to enlist, enable, empower and expand the work of volunteer faith-based and community organizations.
 - encourage government and the faith-based community to work together to improve social service assistance to Floridians.
- ◆ For more information visit www.myflorida.com

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How do we use this information?

- ◆ Provide outreach support to state agencies and their specific programs by notifying grassroots organizations of these programs and encouraging their participation. The representative state agencies and their programs are as follows:
 - Department of Children and Families Access to Recovery
 - Healthy Marriage Initiative
 - Healthy Adoption Initiative
 - Department of Corrections Faith and Character Institutions
 - Department of Education Family and Community Outreach
 - Faith Based and Community Council
 - Department of Health Great to Wait Campaign
 - HIV/AIDS Outreach
 - Department of Juvenile Justice Juvenile Mentoring Initiative
- ◆ In addition, we have built a strong local government network because of the urgent need for collaboration resulting from the hurricane devastation.
http://www.volunteerfloridafoundation.org/about_faithbased.php

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What Florida Department of Health Programs have Faith-Based Providers?

Abstinence Education

Chronic Disease – Diabetes

Pregnancy Support Services

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Florida's Abstinence Program
Chapter 445.019, F.S. Teen Parent and Pregnancy Prevention Diversion Program

- ◆ 1997 – First applied for grants in accordance with Section 510 under Title V of the Social Security Act
- ◆ 1998 – 17 Grants awarded.
 - 11 Community based
 - 6 Faith Based
- ◆ 2006 -41 grants awarded during fiscal year 2005-2006.
 - 23 Community based
 - 7 Faith-based
 - 8 County Health Departments
- ◆ Funding Sources and Amounts:
 - 9 - TANF and General Revenue funded (\$2 million TANF; \$71 thousand General Revenue);
 - 10 - Title V Formula Grant funded (\$3.9 million);
 - 22 - General Revenue funded (\$645 thousand; these were mini-grants)

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**ABSTINENCE PROGRAM
STATE GOALS**

- ◆ Overall goal is *"to decrease teen sexual activity and subsequently reduce the incidence of teen births and sexually transmitted diseases through promotion of sexual abstinence as the expected norm for unmarried teens."*
- ◆ How do we do that?
 - Increase the number of males participating in abstinence education and abstinence promoting activities.
 - Increase the number of parents and significant adults participating in abstinence-only education and abstinence-promoting activities.
 - Increase community commitment and support for abstinence-only education and abstinence-promoting activities.

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What are the Major Hurdles for Government and Faith Based Organizations?

1. Creating a partnership where Faith Based providers are able to work with government
 - Learning what funds are available and how to access those funds
 - Understanding and learning how to traverse the separation of their religious activities and convictions from the implementation of the government funded program
 - Ensuring an awareness and understanding of the various rules, regulations and laws that govern the funding.
 - Ensuring that government staff understand the day to day challenges for these providers while providing technical assistance which allows the provider to meet the requirements without burdening them with unnecessary paperwork and procedures.

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What are the Major Hurdles for Government and Faith Based Organizations? (continued)

2. The Department's solution has to clearly identify the ground rules up front and the build the capacity of Faith Based Organizations by providing training and support using a number of methods:
- Workshops
 - Designation of a program staff contract manager
 - Individualized technical assistance
 - Regular communication between contract manager and provider
 - Conference calls
 - listserv notifications
 - Regular monitoring of performance

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How do we measure Successes?

- ◆ Measuring Success:
 - Primarily by provider's ability to adhere to and meet terms and conditions of the contract agreement
 - Their achievement of the identified deliverables (e.g., Number of youth served, Number of encounters, Number of Males, etc)
 - Ability to accomplish the service tasks identified in the contract
 - Ability to implement the program consistent with the approved program description and design
 - Ensure funds are spent for the intended purpose and clearly accounted for
 - Timeliness of delivery of the services and work products

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Deliverables

- ◆ The TANF and Title V providers are paid on a unit cost basis quarterly for the following deliverables:

- Total number of Unduplicated Youth Clients
- Total Number of Completers (defined as those youth clients that participate in 80% or more of the abstinence-only classes and supplemental activities
- Total Number of Male Youth Clients
- Satisfaction Surveys from 25 percent of total Unduplicated Youth Clients
- Total Number of Parents, Guardians and Significant Adults
- Properly completed Work Plans and Progress Reports

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Deliverables
(continued)

- ◆ These Providers are also required to:
 - provide continuous abstinence-only education classes to the target youth clients
 - administer a youth curriculum at least quarterly
 - conduct at least one (1) parent abstinence-only activity each quarter
 - conduct at least one (1) community-education activity each quarter
 - identify and recruit new partnerships
 - must provide a cash or in-kind match for the grant funds received

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Deliverables
(continued)

- ◆ The General Revenue funded Mini-Grant Providers are paid on a fixed price basis monthly for the following core deliverables:
 - Total Number of Unduplicated Youth Clients
 - Total Number of Encounters
- ◆ These Providers are also required to:
 - identify the anticipated number of their Unduplicated Youth Clients that will be male
 - recruit a pre-determined number of parents, guardians and other significant adults to participate in the services and activities
 - provide abstinence-only education classes to the targeted youth clients
 - submit monthly progress reports
 - identify and recruit new partnerships
 - must provide a cash or in-kind match of the grant funds received

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THE END

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