

FOIA Marker

This is not a textual record. This FOIA Marker indicates that material has been removed during FOIA processing by George W. Bush Presidential Library staff.

Records Management, White House Office of Subject Files - RM (Religious Matters)

Stack:	Row:	Sect.:	Shelf:	Pos.:	FRC ID:	Location or Hollinger ID:	NARA Number:	OA Number:
W	12	21	8	2	12588	25451	12422	12256

Folder Title:

480588

10/22/01
1/2/02

1036577
480588



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

JOHN A. DELANEY
MAYOR

ST. JAMES BUILDING
117 WEST DUVAL STREET
SUITE 400
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

March 28, 2001

*Views RE: Faith-
Based & Community
Initiatives*

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear President Bush:

The City of Jacksonville is excited about the recent institution of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. We seek to open a dialogue with you regarding the implementation of this initiative as we believe we have an excellent relationship with faith-based service providers in our city.

The City of Jacksonville's Department of Community Services serves as the facilitator and coordinator for the Mayor's Public Service Grant Program (PSG). For this current fiscal year, our Public Service Grant Program funds 87 programs for over \$9.5 million. We are currently reviewing applications for 114 programs totaling nearly \$12.5 million for 2001-2002. Eligible applicants are 501 (C) 3 not-for-profit organizations in the Jacksonville area. PSG applications address employment, education, housing, health, crime and/or arts & recreation issues for the Jacksonville citizens in need. Children's programs fall under a separate, but coordinated, process through the Jacksonville Children's Commission.

Our Community Services Department has demonstrated that delivery of faith-based social programs is effectively facilitated through the guidance and expertise of local governments. We have proven experience in delivering cost effective social service programs to our citizens in need. We, like many local governments, have the resources to evaluate initiatives which direct program dollars to the organizations that provide the best services for the dollars invested. We can further reduce the cost of moving federal grant dollars down the chain from federal to state to the local service agencies.



Printed on Recycled Paper

978567

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION:

We would like to take the opportunity to be of service and lend support for this new initiative developed by your administration. We would welcome the opportunity to meet one-on-one with the Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives to discuss the following action items:

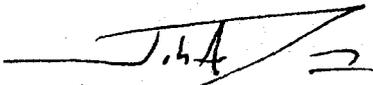
- The City of Jacksonville can offer a model funding delivery system which would be based upon our successful delivery of Public Service Grants, Children's Commission funding, Community Development Block Grants and Local Law Enforcement Block Grants to faith-based and community providers. Example: Our forms for a common application for funding and common quality assurance fund monitoring. Information about our grant application process can be found at www.coj.net/com. Scroll down to Public Service Grants.
 - A City of Jacksonville representative and a Jacksonville faith-based provider can serve on any Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives committee. This would enable input from local government and local faith-based service providers to guide their efforts.
 - We can provide the structure of Jacksonville's Human Services Council as a model for local public partnerships through which funding decisions are coordinated. Local partnerships such as this will be critical for directing funding for faith-based initiative programming from each of the five federal departments that annually grant monies.
 - We can offer to serve as the local government conduit for technical assistance programs made available to novice and small-scale organizations.
 - We recommend expansion of the Charitable Choice federal legislation to include federal spending for social services provided to state and local governments so it can be discussed by faith-based organizations.
 - We would support the Corporation for National Service's advice and offer the services of our Community Services Department's Office of Volunteer Services to recruit local volunteer experts to mentor small faith-based and community organizations.
-

- We propose the creation of a local Compassion Capital Fund, perhaps through our local foundations and corporations, which would be a public/private partnership that could match private giving with federal dollars to achieve two aims. First, it would fund technical assistance efforts to help small community and faith-based charities increase their capacity and expand their programs. Second, it would establish a revolving loan fund to enable smaller groups to cope with the slow flow of procurement funds.
- Our City suggests that we become one of the first communities to pilot the new approaches for faith-based and grassroots groups as we have already done so in collaboration with our local foundations. (For example, the Juvenile Justice Comprehensive Strategy which was funded by Local Law Enforcement Block Grants and the Jessie Ball duPont Fund).

It is imperative that these potential funding dollars not be tied up through the various bureaucracies. To do so would be an inefficient use of federal dollars that could be better put to use through direct programmatic services. Direct allocations to cities would serve to minimize multi-layered administrative bureaucracies and have a greater proportion of direct service dollars come to the service providers and their customers in the most timely manner possible.

We, in Jacksonville have seen first hand how faith-based service delivery helps our citizens in need. It is both cost-effective and an efficient use of our public dollars. We look forward to being an active partner in the implementation of this exciting new initiative and are at your disposal to provide any help we can to make your vision a reality.

Sincerely,



John A. Delaney, Mayor
City of Jacksonville, Florida

Cc: Governor Jeb Bush, State of Florida
John Dilulio, Office of Faith-Based Community Initiatives