



DHS' Faith-Based Initiative's Working Group Meeting, May 29, 2018

Upcoming Workings Together:

Next Working Group meeting will be
Tuesday, June 26
1:30-3:30 pm.
Sinkin Center

Asset Based
Community
Development (ABCD)
training for Action
Teams will be Tuesday,
Dec. 5, 6:30-8:30 pm
Sinkin Center @ SAC

*Compassion Integrity
train-the-trainer
certification is available
at one's cost*
Dec. 11-13, CCISE in GA
(9 currently going)

**Winter 2018
Convening will be mid-
late January.**

Urgent Response
Alert: Shortage of winter
coats in shelters and
centers in San Antonio.
Consider and encourage
coat drives for all ages -
click for details - [a.zip.ma/
3Kmb](http://a.zip.ma/3Kmb) Txt STOP to OptOut



*To opt-in to the F-BI
Urgent Response Alert:
Text Compassion to
55000*

Overview

Foci of the seventh meeting of the San Antonio Faith-Based Initiative's Working Group were:

- Review progress and updates from the 1st year of the Working Group
- Collaborative discussion of each member's perspective the impact Faith Based Initiative (F-BI) has had in the past year throughout San Antonio.
- Representatives transition in/out of Working Group for youth engagement

Preparation

This was the first of the to-date four Working Group meetings to intentionally include All Action Teams. To do so and to prepare the above foci:

- Faith Based Initiative Representative business cards were ordered to be distributed.
- Sinkin Center was secured as the venue.
- Evites were extended to all 83 volunteer members.
- 1 Year Review Surveys were created and printed.
- Room was set to a more collective atmosphere.

Meeting

At the May 29th meeting:

- 8-10 people attended. All received F-BI Representative business cards
- Ann Helmke, F-BI Liaison, reviewed everything the F-BI and Working group have done in the past year.
 - Including but not limited to:
 - All of the convening's in the first year
 - 500 spiritual caregivers trained in response to Hurricane Harvey
 - The formation of action teams
 - Start of District 3 Pilot Project
 - Mental Health Conference
 - Compassion training progress
- F-BI 1 year surveys handed out to be completed
- Discussion concerning surveys and personal opinions on impact F-BI has had on San Antonio community:
 - Bruce, Latter-Day Saints representative, discussed that his congregations have loved the community engagement that the F-BI has facilitated them to take part in.
 - Keith, Haven 4 Hope representative, noted that District 3 (D3) meetings have shown how positive an impact organic religious diversity can have on productivity of outreach services provided by congregations.
 - Ann asked Chicago, Resourcing Specialist of F-BI, his take on what brought him into F-BI
 - Chicago responded that he wanted to end the divisiveness and hatred that most people have towards other religions.
 - Chicago also noted that this is not at all what he experience when started working with the F-BI.
 - Bruce mentioned that with the compassion training they will need to start viewing policies from a different perspective and hopefully that will help us and the community as a whole.
 - John, Mennonite representative, expressed his interest in connecting with Spanish congregations to help out with Immigration Action Team.

- Howard, Community of Churches for Social Action representative, noted the difference between providing and doing the services that churches provide and being in the ministry of presence that most ministers of faith provide.
 - Ann and several others mentioned that it is not one service or one presence that will help and heal. It is a both/and situation. We need both services and presence to fully heal.
- Ann brought up transitioning some members of the working group out and bringing in people half their age into the working group.
- Ann also talked about updates and changes with action teams.

Moving Forward

- District 6 Congregational meeting/pilot project to start taking place.
- Continue working with and pumping new life and energy into action teams.
- Convening date not set but will be in fall.
- Get compassionate and get your congregations signed up on the Urgent Action Alert

Attendees by Action Teams (Leads are Working Group members):

Generational Poverty – Howard Anderson

Homelessness & Hunger – Keith Wideman

Immigration & Refugees – John Garland

Communications – Mehmet Oguz

Technology – Bruce Baillio (Lead)

Urgent Response – Ann Helmke

Investigative – Bill Neely, Chicago Schuller