



Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter

February 2006 – Issue #33

The Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter is a publication of the Fairfax County Community Interfaith Liaison Office (CIL) providing Fairfax County faith communities and faith- and community-based organizations with current news about human services and community strengthening resources, workshops, events, and community coordinated initiatives that support the mission of Fairfax County Government.

If you have questions about an upcoming event, wish to submit information for possible inclusion, or would like to receive more information regarding an event that has already taken place, please send an e-mail to ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov. If you would like to be removed from the Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter, please send an e-mail with the word "Unsubscribe" in the subject line. For more information on the Community Interfaith Liaison Office, please visit our Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/cil/.

*Sandra Chisholm
Community Interfaith Liaison*

Contents

- ❖ Feature Article
- ❖ Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) ... *Next Meeting March 8, 2006*
- ❖ Events...Workshops...Conferences
- ❖ News, Announcements, & Updates
- ❖ Resource and Grant Opportunities

Feature Article

Congratulations!

Northern Virginia Faith Communities and Small Community Based Organizations Receiving Department of Labor Grants

The SkillSource Group Inc. (SSG), the nonprofit entity of the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board (NVWIB), awarded fifteen (15) one year grants totaling \$327,000 to local faith and community-based organizations in January. The grants, ranging in size from \$10,000 to \$25,000, will support faith and small community-based organizations employment programs which focus on jobseekers unaware or reluctant to visit a Northern Virginia SkillSource One Stop Center. This collaboration, between local faith and small community-based organizations, will strengthen the SkillSource One Stop Center efforts to respond to challenges presented by jobseekers with multiple needs, including limited English, reading and math skills or lacking access to reliable transportation or child-care.

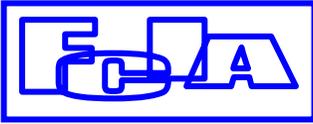
The grants are part of a larger Federal grant from the U.S. Department of Labor designed to strengthen and build stronger relationships between the Northern Virginia Workforce System area businesses and targeted communities. Workforce Organizations for Regional Collaboration (WORC), an affiliate of Goodwill of Greater Washington, has been contracted to support the implementation of this faith and community workforce initiative. WORC will provide training and consultation to each of the awardees to strengthen skills for program implementation and build capacity for program sustainability.

Faith and Small Community-Based Organizations receiving awards are:

Benedictine Educational Assistance Community Outreach to Neighbors Prince William County	(B.E.A.C.O.N.)
Beacon Hill Missionary Baptist Church	Fairfax County
Business Development Assistance Group	Fairfax County
Charity Group of Good Affinity, Inc.	Prince William County
Communities in Schools of Northern Virginia	Fairfax County
Express Care, Inc.	Fairfax County
Good Shepherd Alliance, Inc.	Loudoun County
GRACE Ministries of United Methodist Church	Fairfax County
Korean-American Association of Northern Virginia	Fairfax County
Laurie Mitchell Employment Center, Inc.	Fairfax County
Lincoln-Lewis-Vannoy Communities for Assistance and Improvement, Inc. (LLV)	Fairfax County
Lorton Community Action Center, Inc.	Fairfax County
The Korean Central Senior Center (Central Korean Presbyterian Church)	Fairfax County
The Lamb Center (Truro Episcopal Church)	Fairfax City
Vienna Presbyterian Church	Fairfax County

For information on the Northern Virginia Workforce Board and the SkillSource Group, Inc., contact the President/CEO David Hunn or Development Director Janice Brangman at (703) 752-1606, the Virginia Relay TTY 711 or visit online at www.myskillsource.org.

Faith Communities in Action



Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) is a network of faith communities, community-based organizations, and government agencies that fosters interfaith communications and cooperation to build and strengthen human services resources throughout Fairfax County.

Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) Meeting Wednesday, March 8, 2006 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Government Center Conference Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA
Conference Rooms 2 & 3

ALL FAITH COMMUNITIES INVITED TO ATTEND

2006 Meeting Schedule

2 – 4 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

Wednesday, March 8, 2006
Wednesday, May 10, 2006
Wednesday, July 12, 2006
Wednesday, September 13, 2006
Wednesday, November 8, 2006

Events...Workshops...Conferences

Saturday, February 4, 2006

Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. presents ...

Events 101

Saturday, February 4, 2006

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA

Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., invites you to attend its fourth annual Events 101 Workshop. Events 101 is a single-day conference packed with sessions and information to assist you in your own organization. Attendees will be able to choose from more than 25 session topics during the course of the day. All registrants will receive a Fairfax Event Planners Resource Guide along with lunch, a snack, and an ice cream sundae networking part at the end of the workshop. Registration for Fairfax-based nonprofit, faith communities and community organizations is \$49. Fees for other categories vary. Register no later than Wednesday, February 1, 2006. For more information, call 703-324-5315 or visit their Web site at www.celebratefairfax.org.

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives presents ...

Workshop: Faith-Based & Community Organizations

Overview for the Federal Funding Process

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Hilton Harrisburg and Towers Hotel
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Registration Deadline: February 2, 2006

The White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives will host a workshop in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for representatives from faith-based and community organizations that have a track record of applying for government grants, especially those from groups that have not yet won grants. This regional conference will offer a general overview of the Faith-Based and Community Initiative, information about the federal funding process, available funding opportunities, and the requirements that come with the receipt of federal funds.

Registration is free and is available for up to three representatives from any organization on a first-come, first serve basis. The registration deadline is 5 p.m., Thursday, February 2. For more information, visit www.dtiassociates.com/FBCI/tartgetWorkshopDesc.cfm.

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Vienna-Tyson's Regional Chamber of Commerce presents ...

90 Minutes to Fill Your Pipeline for Nonprofits

Wednesday, February 15

7:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Fairfax Co. Economic Development Authority
8300 Boone Blvd., Suite 450
McLean, VA

This free workshop, presented by Joan Fletcher of Winning Ways, Inc., and Terry Nicholetti of *Washington Business Journal*, teaches participants tips to maximize exposure for their agency and to effectively use community resources to create public relations opportunities. For more information or to register, call 703-281-1333 Ext. 21 by February 10.

Sunday, March 5, 2006

Arlington Metaphysical Chapel presents ...

"Love is the Link: A Hospice Doctor Shares
Her Experience of Near-Death and Dying"

Speaker: Pamela Kircher, MD

Sunday, March 5, 2006

2 – 4 p.m.

Kenmore Middle School Auditorium
200 S. Carlin Springs Rd. (At Rt. 50)

Tickets: \$25

Dr. Kircher is a family physician and Hospice doctor, graduating from Baylor College of Medicine in 1979, Houston, Texas. Currently she serves as the Director of Integrative Medicine at Mercy Medical in Durango, Colorado. After having a near-death experience at the age of six during an episode of meningitis, which is detailed in her 1995 book, "Love Is The Link"(Larsen), Dr. Kircher eventually came to terms with the effects of that event in her life. The result is that she has

become a national speaker on integrating complementary medicine into the conventional medical setting as well as end-of-life issues. She is a board-certified Hospice and palliative-care physician who serves patients through the Hospice organization.

Arlington Metaphysical Chapel WELCOMES ALL in the greater D.C., Virginia, and Maryland areas associated with: Hospice, Palliative Care, Nursing, Medical, Retirement Gerontology Centers, All Church denominations and Seminaries, AS WELL AS all individuals who have become aware that they, too, know the experience, Near-Death-Syndrome, to attend and hear Dr. Kircher. For more information, call 540-554-2098.

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

George Mason University – Fairfax County Commission for Women presents ...

"Finding Balance in Busy Lives"

Presenter: Janette Muire, Associate Professor
New Century College – George Mason University

Wednesday, March 8, 2006
7:30 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

No RSVP required

As more parents juggle the demands of the workplace and raising children, it becomes important to recognize how to maintain balance and perspective. This presentation focuses on the evolving nature of work and the increased demands at home, and offers suggestions on how to seek balance and a less stressful life. This lecture series is co-sponsored by the American Association of University Women. Refreshments will be provided. Free parking is available. No RSVP is required. For more information, call 703-993-8846.

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Fairfax County Commission for Women and Office for Women presents ...

"Women's Voices"

Wednesday, March 29, 2006
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference Center

The Fairfax County Commission For Women and the Office For Women are sponsoring a forum, *Women's Voices*, on Wednesday, March 29, 2006. The forum will be held at the Fairfax County Government Center at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

This is a chance to hear from panel experts and participate in discussions about key issues affecting women in our community: preventive health, financial fitness, elder care, personal safety, and domestic violence. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet locally elected officials. Information from the day's discussions will be shared with county policymakers, including the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The entire community is invited to participate for all or part of the day's events. Lunch will be provided. The forum is free and open to all but reservations are required. We invite you to make a difference in the lives of women and girls in Fairfax County. Come, learn, and let your voice be heard!

For further information, to make reservations or for special accommodations, please contact the Office For Women at (703) 324-5730, TTY: (703) 324-5706 Fax: (703) 324-3959 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw

Wednesday, April 12, 2006

George Mason University – Fairfax County Commission for Women presents ...

Effective Networking

Presenter: Patricia Carretta, Associate Dean of University Life
George Mason University

Wednesday, April 12, 2006
7:30 p.m.

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

No RSVP required

Regardless of who you are or what you do, networking is an important skill that can increase your efficiency, productivity and resources. This presentation addresses how to network effectively in your personal and professional life – to find a new job, meet new people, further a cause, increase your client/customer base, recruit volunteers, collaborate to provide services, or build membership and support for your organization. This lecture series is co-sponsored by the American Association of University Women. Refreshments will be provided. Free parking is available. No RSVP is required. For more information, call 703-993-8846.

Thursday, May 4, 2006

Fairfax Partnership for Youth, CrisisLink & Virginia Dept. of Health presents ...

"Second Annual Conference: Bridging the Gap

An Interfaith Conference on Suicide Prevention
and Mental Wellness

Thursday, May 4, 2006

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

St. Matthews United Methodist Church
Annandale, VA

Save the date for the Second Annual Bridging the Gap Conference. The conference will deal with the issues of suicide prevention and mental wellness and is open to religious leaders and clergy of all faiths; youth ministers and group leaders; congregational care workers; religious educators; pastoral and school counselors; parish nurses and hospital chaplains; support group facilitators; and interested others. For more information, please contact Susan Lydick at 703-324-5292 or email susan.lydick@fairfaxcounty.gov.

News, Announcements, & Updates

⌘ New Hours for Department of Family Services ...

The Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Self-Sufficiency Division, has expanded its business hours to serve you better. Our public assistance offices are now open Monday through Thursday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays. We trust that you will be pleased with the new schedule.

⌘ Nurturing Parenting Programs Start in March ...

Five Nurturing Parenting programs will be starting in March. The free programs will meet 5:30 ~ 8 p.m., one night a week and include dinner and child care.

- Ages 5 through 11, in Spanish.
Thursdays, March 2 ~ June 1; Mt. Vernon Woods Elementary School, Alexandria. For information or to enroll, call Mario at 703-324-7405 or Vera at 703-324-7737, TTY 711
- Age 5 through 11, emphasis on African-American culture.
Mondays, March 6 ~ June 12; Antioch Baptist Church, Fairfax Station. For information or to enroll, call Keesha at 703-324-7501 or Nancy at 703-324-7723, TTY 711.
- Parent/Adolescent program, in English. (Children included through age 18.)
Mondays, March 6 to May 29; Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church, Alexandria. For more information or to enroll, call Nancy at 703-324-7723 or Krissa at 703-324-7745, TTY 711.
- Age 5 through 11, in English.
Tuesdays, March 7 ~ June 6; St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Herndon. For more information or to enroll, call Nancy at 703-324-7223 or Keesha at 703-324-7501, TTY 711.
- Age 5 through 11, in English.
Thursdays, March 9 ~ June 8; Grace Presbyterian Church, Springfield. For more information or to enroll, call Nancy at 703-324-7723 or Krissa at 703-324-7745, TTY 711.

For reasonable ADA accommodations, contact [Nancy Coffey](mailto:Nancy.Coffey@fairfaxva.gov), 703-324-7723, TTY 711.

⌘ Volunteers Needed to Change Lives with CASH

Join Team 1040 and help low-income families keep more of what they earn. The Fairfax County CASH (Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope) program is now recruiting volunteers to help meet the goal of getting \$2 million back

into the hands of low-income county residents by helping them claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (worth up to \$4,000 per family).

Volunteer tax preparers, screeners and translators help neighbors who make less than \$37,000 per year claim tax refunds that can help pay current bills, reduce debt, or pay education expenses. Residents who participate in the program also save on tax preparation expenses, which typically cost more than \$150. The tax preparation is done online and submitted electronically to the IRS.

Volunteers are required to pass an IRS certification test which qualifies them to prepare basic 1040, 1040EZ and 1040A returns. Free training is provided online or in classroom sessions. On average, volunteers spend 8 hours learning the material and passing the 50-question test.

Fairfax CASH is a collaborative effort to leverage existing resources to provide financial literacy education and services to residents of Fairfax County with low incomes. The campaign recruits volunteers to prepare federal and state tax returns for free to ensure that taxpayers reap the benefits for often underutilized tax credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit. To volunteer or for more information, contact Tom Meagher - 703-324-5319, TTY 711 or email tom.meagher@fairfaxcounty.gov. or visit the Office of Partnerships Web page at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/partnerships.

⌘ BeFriend-A-Parent

Share your knowledge and empathy with a parent who would benefit from having a mentor. The Fairfax County Department of Family Services is currently recruiting volunteers for our BeFriend-A-Parent Program. You will build a trusting mentor relationship with a Family Services client. You'll listen, learn and work together on parenting and personal needs and skills. Opportunities exist throughout the region. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old. Training and staff support is provided. At least a six-month commitment is required; 4-6 hours a month is spent with the client.

The next training for prospective mentors is on Saturday, February 4, 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Fairfax. Thanks for considering BeFriend-A-Parent mentoring. It's a great opportunity! Please contact Laurie Eytel, Volunteer Manager, Children, Youth and Family Division at 703-324-7871/leytel@fairfaxcounty.gov for more information.

⌘ BeFriend-A-Child ... Build a Bright Future

Create a strong foundation and help build the future of a child by mentoring with Fairfax County's Department of Family Services' BeFriend-A-Child program. Enjoy one-on-one activities with a child as well as varied and fun

monthly group activities. We provide ongoing support to make your mentoring experience a positive one. You CAN make a difference!

Volunteers must be at least 21 years old. Children referred are between 5-12 years of age. Careful screening, training, and coaching are provided. Meet with your mentee for four hours every other week. We ask for a year's commitment. *The next training for prospective mentors is on Saturday, February 4, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Fairfax.* Contact Chuck Berlin at 703-324-7874 or email charles.berlin@fairfaxcounty.gov, or Ann Rieger at 703-324-7072/ ann.rieger@fairfaxcounty.gov.

⌘ ABCs of Parenting Class Series Starts March 7, 2006

SCAN's (Stop Child Abuse Now) next ABCs of Parenting class series will be in English and will take place from March 7-April 25, every Tuesday night from 6 – 8:30 PM. The class will follow the Nurturing Parenting Program curriculum and will address topics such as family communication, discipline strategies, handling stress, stages of child development, and more. The class is free and open to individuals from all counties. Childcare and dinner are provided. Registration and a brief intake interview are required. Please have parents call Kerry Lutz 703 820-9001 to register.

⌘ 28th Annual Human Rights Award Nominations

The Fairfax County Human Rights Commission is accepting nominations for the 28th Annual Human Rights Award. Every year the commission recognizes individuals, non-profit organizations and private businesses that have made outstanding contributions in the area of human rights in Fairfax County. Help the commission identify individuals or organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life in Fairfax County through social service, civic or humanitarian efforts or innovative employment programs. For more information or a nomination form, visit www.co.fairfax.va.us/hrc.

⌘ Community Summit to End Homelessness

Chairman Gerry Connolly and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors have announced that a Community Summit to End Homelessness will take place on Friday, April 7, 2006, at the Freddie Mac Conference Center in McLean, Virginia. The all-day event is sponsored by Freddie Mac and the Freddie Mac Foundation in partnership with Fairfax County.

⌘ Nominate a Community Hero Today

Do you know a great volunteer who deserves to be recognized? Nominate individuals or groups for a Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award. Deadline for nominations is February 17. Nominees will be honored at a ceremony on April 20. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org for more information.

Resource & Grant Opportunities

FAITH AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS NEEDED FOR VIOLENCE/GANG PREVENTION PROGRAM FOCUS – LATE ELEMENTARY-AGED YOUTH

STIPEND \$2,000

Prevention Services of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) is coordinating the implementation of a multi-session, out-of-school violence/gang prevention program focused on late elementary school-aged youth. The program is 12-15 sessions and combines components of two effective prevention programs with a focus on gang prevention. The program is part of a grant initiative funded through the Virginia Department of Criminal Services through the Governor's Office. The grant is managed by the Fairfax County Gang Prevention Coordinator with the Department of Community and Recreation Services as the fiscal agent. The program is designed to help kids avoid gang involvement, feel safe in their neighborhoods, develop skills in peacefully resolving conflict, become more aware of the legal consequences of certain choices, and become involved in healthy activities. The program includes a parent/care-giver component to reinforce the program themes with adults involved in the lives of participants. This program includes a third party program evaluation to determine effectiveness and make recommendations for future program directions.

Community Services Board (CSB) Prevention Services is seeking partners to implement the Violence and Gang Prevention Program. Partnering organizations must agree to:

- Deliver services to older elementary-age (4-6 grade) children
- Deliver services in one of the following areas: Reston/Herndon, Culmore/Bailey's, Annandale/Springfield, Huntington neighborhoods/Rt. 1
- Complete a six hour facilitator training
- Work collaboratively with a CSB mentor who will help assure a smooth implementation
- Follow the curriculum, conduct the evaluation component, and complete all required paperwork

CSB Prevention Services will provide the following to partner organizations:

- Training for program facilitators
- Ongoing technical assistance and support
- All program materials and supplies
- A \$2,000 stipend to partner organizations that successfully complete all program requirements including paperwork
- Provide assistance in assuring cultural competence in implementation

For more information contact:

Ken Barter, (703) 968-4018, Kenneth.Barter@FairfaxCounty.gov

Patti McGrath, (703) 934-8735, Patricia.McGrath@FairfaxCounty.gov

Jamie MacDonald (703) 934-8770 Jamie.MacDonald@FairfaxCounty.gov

Grants for Faith-Based Collaborations 2006 Partners in Transformation Awards Program

The Faith and Service Technical Education Network (FASTEN) offers resources to faith-based practitioners, philanthropies, and public administrators who collaborate to renew urban communities. FASTEN's 2006 Partners in Transformation Awards Program will provide grants to faith-based organizations and houses of worship operating programs in collaboration with organizations outside the faith community in the following states: AL, CA, FL, LA, MS, NC, NY, OK, TX, and VA. Grants will focus on three categories of service: Emergency Disaster Response (short-term relief efforts); Community Recovery/Rebuilding Efforts (long-term developmental efforts, e.g., jobs and housing); and Services Addressing Deep Pockets of Poverty (e.g., youth programs, healthcare, jobs programs, etc., in historically poor/distressed neighborhoods).

The application deadline is March 1, 2006. Visit their Web site, http://www.fastennetwork.org/display.asp?Page=2006_INFO for more information.

Digest of Federal Grants with Faith-Based and Community Organization Eligibility - 01/24/2006

The Roundtable on Religion and Social Welfare Policy

By: Allison Sarnoff, Roundtable Correspondent with Lisa M. Montiel.

First published: January 24, 2006

The grant opportunities this week for community and faith-based organizations are through programs administered by the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Potential applicants should be aware that some grant programs require specific medical, educational or scientific expertise, or experience with particular foreign countries.

Special note:

Applicants interested in fiscal year 2006 funding opportunities with the Department of Health and Human Services and/or the Department of Housing and Urban Development should note that these agencies are encouraging prospective applicants to register early with grants.gov.

Complete information on early registration for the Department of Health and Human Services funding opportunities can be found at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/E6-396.pdf>

and for the Department of Housing and Urban Development at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa06/earlyreg.pdf>.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for any of the following types of projects under the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program: community food projects, training and technical assistance, and planning projects. Successful applicants for the first type, community food projects, will conduct activities to meet the food needs of low-income people; increase the self-reliance of communities with regard to meeting their food needs; and promote comprehensive responses to local issues and/or meet specific state, local, or neighborhood food and agriculture needs.

Successful applicants for the training and technical assistance projects will assist potential applicants for Community Food Projects Grants become familiar with the USDA and the federal grants process and provide operations assistance to currently funded community food projects. Grants for planning projects will support assessments and planning activities that will improve a community's food security and lead to a community food project.

A total of \$4.6 million is available, with grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$300,000 each. Up to ten percent of this total amount available may be awarded for training and technical assistance projects and up to five percent may be awarded for planning projects.

Letters of intent are due February 13, 2006. Applicants will then be notified whether they are invited to submit a full application based on their letter of intent. Applications will be due April 13, 2006. The program announcement is at:

http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/06_community_food.pdf.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Faith-based and other organizations may apply for an Early Reading First Program grant. Funds will support local efforts to enhance the oral language, cognitive, and early reading skills of preschool-age children, especially those from low-income families.

Activities include providing preschool-age children with high-quality oral language and print-rich environments, providing professional development for staff, identifying and providing scientifically-based activities and instructional materials, and implementing screening reading assessments or other appropriate scientifically-based measures to determine whether preschool-age children are developing the language, cognitive, and early reading skills they need for later reading success.

A total of about \$102 million will be awarded for 23 to 68 grants with three year project periods. Pre-applications are due February 20, 2006 and full applications are due May 8, 2006.

The program announcement is at:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/earlyreading/2006-359a.pdf>.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Eligible applicants, including faith-based organizations, are sought for the Job Opportunities for Low-Income Individuals (JOLI) Program. The purpose of the JOLI program is to provide technical and financial assistance to private employers in the community to assist them in creating employment and business opportunities for individuals receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and for other low-income individuals.

Projects may focus on new business ventures, business expansion, or self-employment/micro-enterprise opportunities. Successful applicants for the new business ventures component will develop a new business that trains and employs 40 to 100 TANF and/or low-income persons. Projects under the business expansion strategy will provide technical and/or financial assistance to businesses already in existence to allow the businesses to expand resulting in the creation of new, permanent, full-time jobs for low-income persons. Projects under the self-employment/micro-enterprise component will create self-employment/micro-enterprise opportunities for eligible participants.

A total of \$5 million is available for between ten and 12 awards. Individual awards may not exceed \$500,000 for a project period. Applications are due March 21, 2006.

The program announcement is at:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/pdf/HHS-2006-ACF-OCS-EO-0054.pdf>.

National Institute of Health

Faith-based and other organizations may apply for a grant entitled Sarcoidosis: Research into the Cause of Multi-organ Disease and Clinical Strategies for Therapy. The program will encourage research that seeks to identify not only the cause of sarcoidosis, but also related predisposing factors, such as genomic, proteomic, metabolomic, lipidomic or glycomic factors related to the etiology of sarcoidosis.

The goal of the research is to delineate possible causes and phenotypic host characteristics in susceptible or at risk people so that preventive strategies can be developed, early diagnosis improved, and better antidotes or therapy devised to lessen initial disease immunopathology.

Applications for the next cycle of funding are due February 1, 2006. The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed project. The program announcement is at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-123.html>.

Applicants are sought for research on Structural Biology of Membrane Proteins. The project will develop research and methods to enhance the rate of membrane protein structure determination and to determine specific membrane protein structures. In addition to the structures of integral membrane proteins, the structures of the complexes formed between these proteins and their biological partners are of interest. Areas of interest include innovative methods for production of membrane proteins in sufficient quantities for characterization and structural studies of membrane proteins.

Applications for the next cycle of funding are due February 1, 2006. The amount of individual awards is dependent on the scope and scale of the proposed project. The program announcement is at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-119.html>.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment is seeking applicants for Family Centered Substance Abuse Treatment Grants for Adolescents and their Families (or "Assertive Adolescent and Family Treatment Program"). Successful applicants will provide services to adolescents and their families/primary caregivers using previously proven effective practices that are family centered.

Specifically, SAMHSA encourages projects to implement the Assertive Community Reinforcement Approach coupled with Assertive Continuing Care. Descriptions of these approaches can be found in the program announcement.

Up to \$5.2 million will be awarded for up to 17 grants. Individual awards are expected to be \$300,000 annually for up to three years. Applications are due March 29, 2006. The program announcement is at: http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants06/RFA/TI_06_007_adolescent.pdf.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Housing and Urban Development will soon release its annual SuperNOFA listing the discretionary funding opportunities available for Fiscal Year 2006. However, HUD has released the "General Section" of the SuperNOFA that provides information on policies and requirements applicable to all grant programs. Details can be found at:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-531.pdf>.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for a program on Building Community Capacity to Reduce the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth. The successful applicant will plan and deliver five to seven train-the-trainer institutes and provide technical assistance to the sites that participate in the training institutes. The sites may be cities, metropolitan areas, single states, or multi-state regions.

The trainings and technical assistance will focus on improving community capacity to recognize exploited youth and youth at risk for exploitation; intervene appropriately with and compassionately serve victims; and effectively investigate and prosecute cases against adults who exploit children and youth.

A total of \$1 million is available for a single cooperative agreement of up to 24 months. Applications are due March 21, 2006. The program announcement is at:

<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/csectta2006.pdf>.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Qualified faith-based and other organizations may apply for the Development Assistance to the North Caucasus cooperative agreement. The purpose of this program is to improve the livelihood of residents of the North Caucasus by expanding economic opportunities, developing communities, promoting tolerance, promoting effective local governance and improving health services.

The projects under this program should be aimed to support the transition from humanitarian assistance and conflict mitigation to relief and recovery in the North Caucasus (Chechnya, Dagestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachay-Cherkessia, Adygeia and North Ossetia).

Successful applicants will engage in one or more of the following activities: expand economic opportunities (i.e., access to credit, microfinance opportunities); develop communities through community reconciliation and citizen participation in community improvement projects; promote tolerance through training, cross regional networking, and services to vulnerable groups; promote effective local governance through training, assistance in planning and budgeting, and administrative best-practices; and improve health services.

Multiple awards totaling approximately \$2,000,000 will be granted. Applications are due March 10, 2006. The program announcement is at: <http://apply.grants.gov/opportunities/instructions/opp118-06-001-RFA-cfda98.001-instructions.DOC>.

Accommodations

Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all County programs, services, and activities. Special accommodations/alternative information formats for Faith Communities in Action (FCIA) meetings and Community Interfaith Liaison Office meetings, events, and workshops will be provided upon request. Please call 703-324-3453 or TTY 703-803-7914 to request special accommodations or if you have any questions or concerns. Please allow seven working days in advance of the event in order to make the necessary arrangements.

Back Issues



<i>Issue #1.....</i>	<i>February 10, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #21.....</i>	<i>December 2004</i>
<i>Issue #2.....</i>	<i>February 24, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #22.....</i>	<i>January 2005</i>
<i>Issue #3.....</i>	<i>March 10, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #23.....</i>	<i>March 2005</i>
<i>Issue #4.....</i>	<i>March 24, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #24.....</i>	<i>April 2005</i>
<i>Issue #5.....</i>	<i>April 7, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #25.....</i>	<i>May 2005</i>
<i>Issue #6.....</i>	<i>April 21, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #26.....</i>	<i>June 2005</i>
<i>Issue #7.....</i>	<i>May 5, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #27.....</i>	<i>July 2005</i>
<i>Issue #8.....</i>	<i>May 19, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #28.....</i>	<i>August 2005</i>
<i>Issue #9.....</i>	<i>June 2, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #29.....</i>	<i>September 2005</i>
<i>Issue #10.....</i>	<i>June 16, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #30.....</i>	<i>October 2005</i>
<i>Issue #11.....</i>	<i>June 30, 2003</i>	<i>Issue #31.....</i>	<i>November 2005</i>
<i>Issue #12.....</i>	<i>January 2004</i>	<i>Issue #32.....</i>	<i>December 2005</i>
<i>Issue #13.....</i>	<i>February 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #14.....</i>	<i>March 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #15.....</i>	<i>April 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #16.....</i>	<i>June 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #17.....</i>	<i>July 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #18.....</i>	<i>August 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #19.....</i>	<i>September 2004</i>		
<i>Issue #20.....</i>	<i>October 2004</i>		

Contact Information

Community Interfaith Liaison Office
Department of Systems Management for Human Services

Sandy Chisholm, Community Interfaith Liaison

12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 220
Fairfax, VA 22035

Phone: 703-324-5185

Fax: 703-803-8598

E-mail: ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov

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