



# Community Interfaith Liaison E-Newsletter

March 2006 – Issue #34

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](mailto: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/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/cil/).

*Sandra Chisholm  
Community Interfaith Liaison*

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## FAITH COMMUNITIES CAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT BY BUILDING COMMUNITY AWARENESS

More than three children die each day as result of abuse in the home. To bring this tragic statistic to everyone's attention and initiate efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, April has been declared National Child Abuse Awareness Month. Wednesday, April 5 has also been established as a National Day of Hope. The goal of both efforts is that of mobilizing everyone across America to stop child abuse and neglect.

As you might imagine, raising public awareness is one of the greatest challenges of fighting child abuse and neglect. The faith community's help is valued in these efforts to spread information about this tragic issue and prevent its continuance in our community. It is hoped that faith communities will consider sharing information about this serious issue with their congregations, members, and service participants this April.

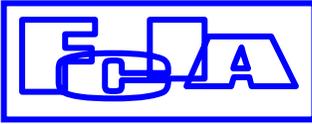


Faith community participation in this awareness campaign can be as simple as posting a poster, including a story in their April newsletter, or passing out "Blue Ribbons" to indicate the need to stop child abuse and neglect. Other efforts can include messages about child abuse and neglect in worship services, meetings, and/or classes.

Information about awareness messages and handout materials will be made available to faith communities at the Wednesday, March 8, Faith Communities in Action meeting to be held at 2 p.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center Conference Rooms 2 and 3 located at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax Virginia.

Bootsie Humanansky, from Childhelp USA and Fairfax Blue Ribbon Campaign, will be the guest speaker. Should you be unable to attend the meeting but would like more information on available materials, please contact Ms. Humanansky at [bootsieh@aol.com](mailto:bootsieh@aol.com)

## 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*

*Please RSVP to 703-324-3453 or email [ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov)*

Speakers from ... Northern Virginia Women's Interfaith Fellowship  
... Childhelp USA Treatment and Prevention of Child Abuse  
... Fairfax Partnership for Youth Task Force for Teen  
Depression and Suicide Prevention

Task Force Reports from Affordable Housing, Youth, Emergency Preparedness  
and Tolerance and Respect Task Forces.

#### 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

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 Houston, Texas, in 1979. 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 DC, 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"

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

7:30 p.m.

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

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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofw)

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Fairfax-Burke Shepherd's Center presents ...

"Lunch N' Life"

Thursday, March 30, 2006

12 noon – 2 p.m.

Speaker: Sharon Bulova, Braddock District Supervisor

St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church

5222 Sideburn Road

Fairfax, VA

Cost: \$5

The Fairfax-Burke Shepherd's Center invites adults over age 50 to our kick-off event, Lunch N/Life, on March 30, 2006, from 12 to 2 p.m. Sharon Bulova, Braddock District Supervisor, will be the guest speaker on the topic of local area history. The cost for the lunch is \$5 per person. Space is limited and reservations must be made no later than March 23 by calling Faye Quesenberry at 703-620-0160 or Patti Cook at 703-815-3408. The Shepherd's Center is a partnership of individuals, faith communities, civic organizations and local government working to provide life support and enrichment for adults over age 50.

Friday, March 31, 2006

Volunteer Fairfax presents ...

Nonprofit Emergency Response Planning Series

"Organizational Continuity"

Friday, March 31, 2006

George Mason University

Fairfax, Virginia

12 noon – 2 p.m.

When disaster strikes, nonprofits form a critical part of the community's response and recovery. They need to be prepared to meet the needs of their board, staff, and clients first so they can then assist the greater community. "Organizational Continuity" is an introductory approach to work place disruption. Participants will learn planning techniques to keep their organization functioning through emergencies and other crises. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. To register, visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).

Thursday, April 6, 2006

McLean Community Connections presents ...

McLean Community Connections Dialogue  
"Bias-Fear-Crisis: How Can Our Community Cope?"

McLean Community Center  
1234 Ingleside Avenue  
McLean, VA

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars: Thursday, April 6, 2006, is the date for the next Community Connections Dialogue. It will be held at the McLean Community Center from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The topic will be "Bias-Fear-Crisis: How Can Our Community Cope?"

The Community Connection dialogues are an open, respectful exchange of ideas and opinions that allow a group of people to explore differences, find commonalities, and think together. The dialogues provide persons of different cultural, ethnic, and faith groups with an opportunity to share and interact in a safe, facilitated setting as a way to promote deeper conversations and understanding. These exchanges help create resilience within the community to more effectively deal with community emergencies and crisis.

While over 100 people will attend the Dialogue, participant discussions will be at tables hosting only nine to ten people each. A trained dialogue facilitator will staff each table to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak and that discussion guidelines are followed.

The Dialogue is planned and presented by McLean Community Connections, a group of McLean and Great Falls residents representing the communities' diverse cultural, religious, racial, and ethnic populations. The committee originally formed after September 11, 2001, to foster community understanding and respect to strengthen community resilience for times of crisis. Should you be interested in joining this group's efforts or would like to learn more about community dialogue, please call Sandy Chisholm at 703-324-5185.

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.

Friday, April 21, 2006

Volunteer Fairfax presents ...

**Nonprofit Emergency Response Planning Series  
"Internal Emergency Response"**

Friday, April 21, 2006

George Mason University  
Fairfax, Virginia  
12 noon – 2 p.m.

This training focuses on how organizations can plan for the initial response in the moments after a disaster or emergency. Participants will learn about shelter in place needs, evacuation techniques, and other key functions to ensure the safety of the staff, volunteers, clients, or parishioners. There is no cost, but registration is required. For more information or to register visit, [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).

Sunday, April 23, 2006

Ventures in Community presents ...

CROP Walk

Sunday, April 23, 2006

Start at

Heritage Presbyterian Church

Fort Hunt Road

1:15 p.m.

Please join with your friends and neighbors to support the VIC Mt. Vernon CROP Walk this year. CROP Walks are a team effort supporting local and worldwide hunger programs. We need your faith community's participation to make this a successful walk. If students or scouts need volunteer community service hours, this is an excellent opportunity to earn them.

United Community Ministries (UCM) and New Hope Housing will share 25 percent of the CROP Walk proceeds for its food programs. UCM uses the money to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables for its food closet, and New Hope Housing uses its share to supplement food purchases at the Kennedy Shelter and Mondloch House. Church World Service (CWS) will use the remainder (75 percent) to supply family shelter kits, clean water, food, seeds and seedlings, and education programs throughout the world. For almost 60 years, CWS has been a first responder to disasters such as the 2004 tsunami in southeast Asia, the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan, the Gulf Coast hurricane destruction this past fall, and also to many ongoing projects in Africa, Vietnam, Cambodia, India, etc. For more information visit [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org).

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](mailto:susan.lydick@fairfaxcounty.gov).

Friday, May 26, 2006

Volunteer Fairfax presents ...

Nonprofit Emergency Response Planning Series  
"External Response and Community Engagement"

Friday, May 26, 2006

George Mason University  
Fairfax, Virginia  
12 noon – 2 p.m.

Participants will learn how their organization can assist in community recovery effort in case of a disaster or emergency. Information on providing and receiving volunteer support through Volunteer Fairfax and the Volunteer Mobilization Center will be highlighted. Organizations will take away tools to build plans to respond to more clients and heightened community needs. There is no cost, but registration is required. For more information or to register, visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).

Sunday, June 18, 2006 – Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Points of Light Foundation presents ...

National Conference on Volunteering and Service

Sunday, June 18, 2006 – Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Seattle, Washington

Volunteers climb mountains and lift lives. On the societal level, there are mountains of poverty, despair, homelessness, and illiteracy to overcome. On a movement level, volunteers seek higher ground of excellence in funding, management, and collaboration. And on a personal level, volunteers strive to be more helpful and relevant through their service.

While volunteers have made tremendous progress, there is much more to do. The conference will both raise our sights to the climb ahead and give us the route to get there. Join us in Seattle June 18-20, 2006, for an uplifting experience. For information on registration fees and hotel reservations, visit [www.volunteeringandservice.org](http://www.volunteeringandservice.org).

## News, Announcements, & Updates

### ⌘ Nominations Accepted for Independent Sector Award ...

The Leadership Independent Sector Award, established in 1999, recognizes outstanding organizations for their leadership in investing in the people of the nonprofit sector as they work to build community. The award honors an organization that supports the development of future leaders, both within the organization and within the sector, in the organization's policies and daily operations. Anyone can nominate an organization by filling out a nomination form. The nomination deadline is March 17. For more information about this award, visit Independent Sector's [web site](#).

### ⌘ George Mason Students Seek to Assist Nonprofits with Special Events

George Mason University (GMU) students enrolled in "Principles of Fundraising" are seeking volunteer opportunities in local nonprofit organizations to work on fundraising events. Projects should offer students the opportunity to gain hands-on understanding of special events, including administrative tasks leading up to as well as support on the day of the event. Events taking place in April are preferred. For more information, contact [Heather Hare](#) at GMU's Center for Service and Leadership or (703) 993-2902.

### ⌘ SafetyNET Background Checks Extended

SafetyNET background checks program has been extended until June 2008. Through this congressionally approved extension, mentoring programs will be able to access FBI fingerprint searches for \$18 with a 3-5 day turnaround time. In the future, organizations that serve young people may also be eligible for this program. MENTOR, a mentor advocacy organization for mentor programs, will be working with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the FBI to develop a system to handle background checks for the larger youth-development community. This is part of the ongoing effort to create a permanent system for accessing FBI searches that is widely available, affordable and timely. Learn more about MENTOR and the [SafetyNET program](#) at <http://www.mentoring.org>.

### ⌘ Catering that Makes a Difference

The S. John Davis Career Center is a Fairfax County Public School located at Marshall High School in Falls Church that provides career and employment skills instruction to students with disabilities. The Culinary Arts class prepares each dish while maintaining proper kitchen standards of etiquette and sanitization. Through this class, students attain the skills and knowledge necessary to perform important job functions in a kitchen or restaurant. In addition, these students develop a work ethic and a sense of responsibility. The Center's menu includes breakfast (muffins and Danish); appetizer dips; nine different salads; cheese, vegetable, fruit, and mini-sandwich platters; pasta entrees; and cookie and dessert bar trays. Orders must be placed one week in advance and picked up at the Center in Falls Church, which is open Tuesday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For more information, contact [Rebecca McDermott](#) at (703) 714-5600.

### ⌘ Free Clothes from Groveton Baptist Church

Groveton Baptist Church provides free clothes through their Clothes Closet which is open to the public Thursdays from 7 – 9 p.m. and Fridays from 1 – 2:30 p.m. The church is located at 6511 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. For more information, call 703-768-9084.

### ⌘ Volunteers Needed for Meals on Wheels

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Meals on Wheels (MOW) program is currently looking to fill several volunteer leadership positions:

- The *Fairfax* MOW group needs a volunteer to serve as Treasurer. This position is responsible for the finances of the MOW group including a monthly report to the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.
- The *Eastern Fairfax* MOW group needs volunteers for two leadership positions: Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. These positions are responsible for the finances of the MOW group including a monthly report to the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging. It would be helpful if the prospective candidates lived in the Eastern part of the county in Annandale, Falls Church, McLean, Great Falls, or the Tysons area.

Additionally, we are in immediate need of volunteers to deliver meals, Monday – Friday, to senior adults who live in the following areas: Annandale, Baileys Crossroads, Falls Church, Manchester Lakes, Centreville/Chantilly, Fairfax, Tysons, Herndon/Reston, and Little River Glen. Volunteers who speak Vietnamese are needed in Falls Church. The job involves picking up meals at specified sites between 10:30 a.m. – noon, and delivering the meals to seniors by 1:00 p.m. Drivers can choose to deliver meals on a daily, weekly, biweekly, monthly or substitute basis.

For more information on MOW volunteer leadership positions or meal delivery, please call the Fairfax AAA Volunteer Intake Line at 703-324-5406 or E-mail [melanie.mitchell@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:melanie.mitchell@fairfaxcounty.gov).

⌘ **Faith-Based & Community Calendar Available on Virginia Department of Social Services Web site**

The Virginia Department of Social Services has recently added a feature on their Web site ... the Community Calendar. Groups or organizations can self-post training and other opportunities of interest to community organizations to aid in publicizing events. For more information, visit [www.dss.virginia.gov/community/ocp/calendar/index.cgi](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/community/ocp/calendar/index.cgi).

⌘ **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.

## Resource & Grant Opportunities

### ***Digest of Federal Grants with Faith-Based and Community Organization Eligibility - 2/21/2006***

#### **The Roundtable on Religion and Social Welfare Policy**

**By: Roundtable Correspondent Allison Sarnoff with Lisa Montiel**

**First published: February 21, 2006**

The grant opportunities this week for community and faith-based organizations are through programs administered by the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, 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, experience with specific foreign countries, or matching funds to be provided by the applicant.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

Eligible faith-based and other organizations may apply for a research project concerning *Costs to Private Provider Participation in Immunization Information Systems*. This study must include both examination of costs to provider participation in the Immunization Information Systems and strategies to reduce these costs.

The project must include the following: quantify the costs to health care providers of immunization related activities that are conducted through interaction with immunization information systems; identify predictors of provider costs of participation in the Immunization Information Systems, including Immunization Information Systems and practice-level predictors; develop strategies to overcome cost barriers and enhance utilization of immunization information systems based on the predictors identified in objective two; and evaluate the acceptability and feasibility of these strategies with state immunization and health department administrators responsible for improving provider participation in Immunization Information Systems, as well as with providers at the practice level.

One award totaling \$200,000 per project year is available. Projects may last for up to two years. Letters of Intent are due March 1, 2006. Applications are due April 10, 2006. The program announcement is at: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=8037>.

Eligible applicants are sought for *Grants for Injury Control Research Centers*. These centers will: build the scientific base for the prevention and control of fatal and nonfatal injuries and related disabilities; integrate, in the context of a national program, professionals from a wide spectrum of disciplines to perform research in order to prevent and control injuries more effectively; encourage investigators to propose research that involves intervention development and testing as well as research on methods to enhance the adoption and maintenance of effective intervention strategies among individuals, organizations, or communities; and provide technical assistance to injury prevention and control programs within a geographic region.

The project will also conduct research that will help expand and advance the understanding of fatal and nonfatal injuries and related disabilities, their causes, and prevention strategies. Relevant research objectives include the following: Dissemination Research to conduct studies to build knowledge on methods, structures, and processes to implement existing evidence-based interventions, programs and policies to prevent injuries and related disabilities; Intervention Evaluation Research to evaluate the efficacy, effectiveness, and cost effectiveness of primary prevention or control interventions, programs, and policies to prevent injuries and related disabilities; Foundational Research to cover the basic studies and public health surveillance approaches that define and quantify the extent of an injury problem; and Developmental Research to support the design and preliminary testing of potential strategies to prevent and control injuries.

A total of \$5,433,000 in total funds is available for six awards, with a maximum yearly budget of \$905,500 for each of up to five years. Letters of intent are due August 2, 2006. Applications are due September 1, 2006. The program announcement is at:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/CE07-001.htm>.

Eligible faith-based and other organizations may apply to study *Prevention of Airborne Infections in Occupational Settings*. This grant will fund basic, applied, or population research that advances the prevention of airborne infectious diseases in occupational settings. While a variety of research approaches are acceptable, studies related to the reduction of exposure by environmental or administrative controls, detection and quantification of exposure, documentation of exposure-response relationships, use of respirators or other personal protective equipment, or decontamination are desired.

Specific research areas may include: development of improved strategies for early identification and isolation of infectious cases; development of improved approaches to detect and quantify airborne infectious agents and settled infectious agents with potential for re-aerosolization; studies establishing exposure-response relationships for induction of disease by airborne infectious agents; characterization of infectious aerosols generated by infectious people, biological weapons systems, or other sources; determination of infectious aerosol size distribution and impact of factors such as temperature, humidity and UV irradiation on aerodynamic properties, viability and infectivity of these aerosols; elucidating factors that affect re-aerosolization of settled agents; developing approaches to predicting the relative importance of airborne and contact disease transmission; engineering controls such as optimization of ventilation and other building characteristics, and UV germicidal irradiation; and issues in use of respirators to prevent transmission of airborne infectious diseases such as fit testing methods and interpretation, respirator selection, and innovative approaches to enable longer use or re-use of respirators when they are in short supply.

A total of \$1 million will be awarded for three to six. Letters of intent are due March 17, 2006. Applications are due April 18, 2006. The program announcement is at:  
<http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OH-06-002.html>.

Eligible applicants are sought for a project to research *Racial/Ethnic Differences in Parental Factors Related to Children Missing Scheduled Immunization Visits*. The grant will support a project that identifies the factors related to why parents miss a scheduled immunization appointment for their child or how often parents reschedule after a missed appointment. The project will focus on identifying the factors for parents of different races and ethnicities and among parents of different socioeconomic levels (particularly among those living in or near the poverty threshold).

The successful applicant will conduct the following activities: select a medium or large urban area with a total population of at least 100,000 people, with documented significant racial/ethnic disparities in

childhood immunization rates; establish partnerships with immunization service providers in order to identify parents who have scheduled appointments but then did not bring children in for immunizations; develop and pretest the parental survey in collaboration with partnering organizations; implement the parental survey through use of telephone and/or in-person interviews; document and validate the degree of implementation of the survey, including number of persons successfully reached and not reached by survey strategies; response rate by parental race/ethnicity and socioeconomic status; determine parental factors related to children missing scheduled immunization visits; and collaboratively disseminate research findings in peer reviewed publications and for use in determining national policy.

A total of \$250,000 is available for one two-year project. Application due dates have yet to be determined. The program announcement is at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/IP06-008.htm>.

Eligible faith-based and other applicants are sought for a study on *Reducing Sexual Risk for HIV Acquisition and Transmission among Methamphetamine-Using Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) who are Not Currently in Substance Abuse Treatment*. The intended outcome of this research program is the development of interventions for methamphetamine-using MSM that demonstrate potential efficacy in reducing the risk for HIV acquisition and transmission.

The research project will support up to four sites to work collaboratively with each other and with federal investigators to develop and conduct preliminary testing of interventions intended to reduce sexual risk behavior of methamphetamine-using MSM who are not currently in substance abuse treatment. It is expected that during year one, each site will develop its own distinct intervention based on prior research and theory and on formative work conducted as part of this project. It is expected that during year two, each awardee will enroll 50 to 80 MSM to participate in the intervention. A repeated measure, pre-post test design with brief follow-up (one to three months) should be used to evaluate the interventions. Awardees are expected to collaborate with other funded sites and federal investigators in the development of a common subset of assessment items and common data management procedures as determined in post-award grantee meetings.

A total of \$900,000 is available for up to four grants. Letters of intent are due March 13, 2006. Applications are due April 10, 2006. The program announcement is at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/PS06-007.htm>.

Eligible faith-based and other organizations may apply to research *Support and Resources Needed for Universal Childhood Influenza Vaccination: Providers' Perspective*. This project will help expand and advance understanding of the feasibility of implementing a universal influenza vaccination recommendation for children in provider offices. The research objectives are to determine physicians support for a universal childhood influenza vaccination recommendation (all 2-18 year olds), identify office policies of physicians and medical practices that would be implemented to handle seasonal spikes in vaccination; measure current resources used to vaccinate in medical offices; and forecast the additional resources needed to implement a universal influenza recommendation.

The successful project will design, conduct, and analyze a state-wide, cross-sectional survey of family physicians and pediatricians who provide vaccination to children; design, conduct, and analyze a physician site visit protocol to a subset of physicians who completed the survey to observe work practices and collect information needed to measure resources used for vaccination; build a model to forecast the additional amount of capacity that will be needed to accommodate seasonal increases in patient load; and collaboratively disseminate research findings in peer reviewed publications and for use in determining national policy.

A total of \$395,000 will be available for one two-year project. Letters of intent are due March 1, 2006. Applications are due April 10, 2006. The program announcement is at:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/IP06-005.htm>.

Eligible applicants are sought for research on Using *Immunization Information Systems to Increase Childhood Immunization Coverage*. The goal of this project is to determine the cost-effectiveness of using centralized Immunization Information Systems to generate reminder and recall notices for children due or overdue for vaccinations.

The research objectives are to: evaluate the cost-effectiveness of using Immunization Information Systems to increase the timely and complete receipt of vaccinations by children up to age 36 months; and to identify the most cost-effective, feasible and potentially sustainable intervention to increase overall coverage levels and the timely receipt of vaccinations among children up to 36 months of age.

A total of \$440,000 is available for one award of up to two years in length. Letters of intent are due March 1, 2006. Applications are due April 10, 2006. The program announcement is at:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/IP06-007.htm>.

### **Health Resources and Services Administration**

Eligible faith-based and other organizations may apply for the *National Maternal and Child Health Data Resource Center Cooperative Agreement Program*. The successful applicant will develop mechanisms to support, expand and expedite the public use of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau's National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs and the National Survey of Children's Health to assure that these two resources are readily able to be used to provide an evidence base for state and local maternal and child health programming

The project will: make available the services of experienced HRSA/MCHB personnel as participants in the planning and development of all phases of the project; participate, as appropriate, in any conferences and meetings conducted during the period of the Cooperative Agreement; review, approve, and implement procedures to be established for accomplishing the scope of work; assistance and refer in the establishment of Federal interagency contacts that may be necessary in carrying out the project and assisting MCHB in dissemination and program communication goals; participate in the dissemination of project activities and products; and facilitate effective communication and accountability to HRSA/MCHB regarding the project with special attention to new program initiatives and policy development in the public health field relating to maternal and child health.

A total of \$525,000 is available to fund one project. Applications are due March 20, 2006. The program announcement is at:  
<http://apply.grants.gov/opportunities/instructions/oppHRSA-06-100-cfda93.110-cid2025-instructions.doc>.

### **National Institutes of Health**

Eligible applicants are sought for two funding opportunities on *Preclinical Therapeutics Development for NeuroAIDS* - one is a large research grant and the other is a small research grant Both grant opportunities will support research studies focused on the development of novel assays or HIV-gene reporter systems in appropriate cells/lines which are sensitive to either viral replication in brain cells or viral-induced central nervous system-related injury. The development of such assays or gene reporter systems should demonstrate validity and reproducibility and ultimately be useful in screening novel therapeutic

compounds and novel treatment strategies that protect against HIV or Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy (HAART)-related neurotoxicity. The development of animal models for drug screening is also encouraged, including models that incorporate chronic drug use, withdrawal, or addiction pharmacotherapy. Similarly, the validation of an existing simian immunodeficiency virus (or other) model of pathogenesis as a screening vehicle is greatly encouraged. Interested applicants are referred to the program announcement for the fourteen specific research areas.

A total \$275,000 for a two year program is available for the large grant. \$50,000 over two years will be awarded to the small grant. Applications for both grants are due May 1, 2006. The program announcement for the large grant is at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-139.html>.

The small grant program announcement is at:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-06-140.html>.

### **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

Faith-based and other organizations that are part of a community-based coalition may apply for the *Drug Free Communities Support Program*. This project will: reduce substance abuse among youth and, over time, among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse; and establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, private nonprofit agencies, and Federal, State, local and tribal governments to support the efforts of community coalitions to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth.

Funded projects must measure: age of onset of any drug use (including alcohol, marijuana and tobacco); frequency of use in the past 30 days (including alcohol, marijuana and tobacco); perception of risk or harm (including alcohol, marijuana and tobacco); and perception of disapproval of use by parents (including alcohol, marijuana and tobacco).

A total of \$12 million is available for 120 projects. No more than 20% of these funds may be used for direct services. Applications are due April 10, 2006. The program announcement is at:

[http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants06/RFA/sp\\_06\\_003.pdf](http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants06/RFA/sp_06_003.pdf).

### **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

#### **Office of Justice Programs**

Eligible applicants are sought for a *Training and Technical Assistance Program for Mentoring Initiative for System Involved Youth*. The successful applicant will provide training and technical assistance to the four mentoring sites receiving awards under Mentoring Initiative for System Involved Youth; facilitate the development and use of research-driven training and technical assistance materials by these demonstration sites; foster the use of effective program design elements; assist in identifying, implementing, and sustaining community partnerships; strengthen communication and information sharing among the demonstration sites; and increase the number of adult volunteers and enhance the skills of volunteers and professionals working with these programs. Applicants are referred to the program announcement for the twelve specific deliverables.

A total of \$500,000 is available for one two-year project. Applications are due April 17, 2006. The program announcement is at:

<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/ttamentoring06.pdf>.

## **U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Eligible faith-based and other organizations may submit concept papers to implement activities under the *Inter-Agency Emergency Plan Annual Program Statement for the US Government Mission to South Africa*. This program is part of the \$15 billion, five-year, President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Emergency Plan.

The initiative will support projects that include the following activities: prevention of HIV transmission, treatment of AIDS and associated conditions, palliative care for HIV infected and affected individuals, including caring for orphans and other vulnerable children, and policy, strategic information and systems strengthening. Examples of specific project activities can be found in the announcement.

Funding between \$500,000 and \$2 million for each award lasting up to two years is available. Concept papers are due March 31, 2006. More details can be found at:

<http://apply.grants.gov/opportunities/instructions/opp674-06-002-cfda98.001-cid674-06-002-instructions.doc>.

Eligible faith-based and other applicants are sought for the *Post-Earthquake Health Recovery Program* in Northern Pakistan. The goals of this project are to improve the functions of the primary healthcare system in Pakistan by developing and using human and financial resources more effectively and efficiently, maintaining high quality and accessible services, and increasing communities' demand for quality health services.

The project will aim to strengthen the primary healthcare system in select districts and rural communities within Northern Pakistan, mainly through technical assistance to health managers, administrators, service providers and community members. The focus will be on efficient implementation and utilization of human and financial resources to improve the quality of and access to healthcare services offered at the primary and secondary levels of care within select communities. Target populations will be those who were directly impacted by the earthquake and segments of populations who were already disadvantaged, such as women and children. Among the activities expected are: improving financial and human resource management and capacities; improving access to and quality of primary healthcare services; and, increasing communities' demand for quality health services.

A total of \$28.5 million is available over a four year period. Applications are due April 3, 2006. The program announcement is at:

<http://apply.grants.gov/opportunities/instructions/oppUSAID-PAKISTAN-391-06-011-RFA-cfda98.001-instructions.DOC>.

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.

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