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FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARDS

FY 2001 Annual Report **Executive Summary**

The Federal Executive Boards (FEBs) were established in 1961 by a Presidential Directive to improve coordination among Federal activities and programs outside of Washington, D.C. The need for effective coordination among the field activities of Federal departments and agencies was then, and is still, very clear. Approximately 88 percent of all Federal employees work outside the National Capital area. Decisions affecting the expenditure of billions of dollars are made in the field, and Federal programs have their impact largely through the actions of field representatives of the departments and agencies. In addition, Federal officials outside of Washington are the principal contact of the Federal Government with the citizens of this country.

FEBs are composed of Federal executives in 28 major metropolitan areas across the Nation. The Boards focus on coordinating Governmental policy on matters affecting their local Federal community, providing leadership in the sharing of services between agencies, and participating as a unified Federal force in local civic affairs.

FEBs help our Government to work better and to work more economically. The Boards save time, effort, and money by coordinating common activities of local Federal departments and agencies. The significance and impact of FEBs are summarized in this report, and a few highlights of the many accomplishments during fiscal year 2001 appear below.

- FEBs responded to security and communication needs in their communities during, and after, the catastrophic events of September 11, 2001. FEBs provided time-sensitive and valuable information to local agencies on September 11, and followed up with briefings and meetings on issues of concern (anthrax, enhanced security procedures, etc.) to Federal employees. Such efforts contributed to the Government's critical need for continuity of operations.
- FEBs played a key role in identifying and sponsoring common needs training at no or low cost, saving the Government an estimated \$3.3 million.
- A majority of the FEBs sponsor Alternative Dispute Resolution/Shared Neutral Programs. Successful mediation saved taxpayers an estimated \$8 million in potential litigation costs.

- FEBs demonstrated that public servants do more than just their job, they also give back to their communities. FEBs promoted volunteerism and Federal employees donated thousands of hours. FEBs helped to implement the annual Combined Federal Campaign and raised more than \$72 million, out of a nationwide total of over \$242 million, for thousands of charities. FEBs contributed to a safe and adequate blood supply by sponsoring blood drives, immediately after the events of September 11 and all year through, which resulted in the collection of an impressive 44,463 units.

Once again, FEBs have demonstrated their value as an important resource to Federal and local communities. Plans for the coming year include many opportunities to help Federal employees work together to serve the American public.

Please direct any questions about this report to Paula Bridgham, Director for FEB Operations, at 202-606-1000 or plbridgh@opm.gov.