



# QUARTERLY UPDATE

Summer 2004



## WHITE HOUSE HOSTS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

On June 1, President Bush addressed a crowd of 1,600 at the 1<sup>st</sup> White House National Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, in Washington, DC.

The President cited the accomplishments of the Initiative and recognized faith-based and community organizations for their compassionate efforts to help Americans most in need. Earlier in the day, the President signed an Executive Order creating additional Centers for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in three Federal agencies – the Department of Commerce, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Small Business Administration. These Centers join seven other Centers already created by the President to help ensure that faith-based and community social service organizations can compete for government resources on a level playing field with all other applicants.

## WHITE HOUSE REGIONAL CONFERENCES

On July 8 in Boston, the White House hosted a regional conference that is part of a series to educate social service providers about the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. More than 900 faith-based and community leaders learned about the government grants process, available funding opportunities, and legal principles that apply to the receipt of Federal funds.

**The next White House Regional Conference will take place in St. Louis, MO, on Tuesday, September 14.** Visit [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov) for more information about the conferences and to register online for the St. Louis event.

## From the President

"And miracles happen, all the time, in America. They happen because loving souls take time out of their lives to spread compassion and love. And lives are changing. Listen, our society is going to change one heart and one soul at a time."

- President George W. Bush, Remarks at the First White House National Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Washington, DC, June 1, 2004

## PRISONER RE-ENTRY INITIATIVE DEVELOPS

Working together, the U.S. Departments of Labor, Justice, Housing and Urban Development, and Health and Human Services are developing the framework for the four-year, \$300 million Prisoner Re-entry Initiative (PRI) that the President announced during the 2004 State of the Union Address. The PRI will help ex-offenders find and keep employment, obtain transitional housing, receive mentoring and, as appropriate, direct them to other supportive services such as substance abuse and mental health treatment. This initiative will complement existing Administration efforts to address recidivism and to mentor the children of prisoners. For more info, please contact the Employment and Training Administration at the Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210.

## FREE HUD GRANT WORKSHOPS

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is conducting free, two-day, intensive Grant Writing Training Workshops between now and September 2004. The workshops will train nonprofit organizations to secure Federal and private funding. For more info, visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/fbc/grantworkshop.cfm>.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

**Q:** Since most Federal grant money is distributed through the states, who can I contact in my state to learn more about accessing government grants?

**A:** Visit our website, [www.fbc.gov](http://www.fbc.gov), to find contact information for several state faith-based liaisons who provide guidance to faith-based and community organizations about available government resources.