HHS Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships

Helping At-Risk Populations Combat Flu

Kimberly T. Konkel MSW

The President’s Vision for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships

“The White House Office for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships will be a resource for nonprofits and community organizations, both secular and faith-based, looking for ways to make a bigger impact in their communities, learn their obligations under the law, cut through red tape, and make the most of what the federal government has to offer.”

- On occasion of Executive Order signing, February 2009
Four Goals for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships:

- Strengthen the role of community organizations in the economic recovery and poverty reduction
- Promote responsible fatherhood and healthy families
- Reduce unintended and teen pregnancy, and support maternal-child health
- Foster interfaith dialogue and collaboration at home and around the world

HHS Partnership Center: Mission and Purpose

We lead the Department’s efforts to build and support partnerships with faith-based and community organizations in order to better serve individuals, families and communities in need. This year we are focusing on 3 strategic priorities -- public health outreach, economic recovery, common ground initiatives.

We are a resource for secular and faith-based organizations and leaders seeking to:
- Increase their impact in their communities.
- Make the most of what HHS has to offer.
- Understand federal grant opportunities and responsibilities.
Building Partnerships and Capacity

- Partnerships = Two way communication
  - Input from the front lines of service delivery
  - Identify best practices, and community needs

- Grants and non-financial resources
  - Grants
  - Multiple resources throughout federal government – a look ahead ...

HHS Partnership Center Newsletter

- Sign up at [www.hhs.gov/partnerships](http://www.hhs.gov/partnerships); click on “Subscribe to our Newsletter.”

- Bi-weekly updates on HHS and federal government resources, publications, programs, and trainings.

- Receive a list of regularly updated HHS funding opportunities for faith-based and community organizations.
Project Goal: Extending “Reach”

To build relationships and capacity within trusted networks of faith-based and community organizations that extends reach to vulnerable, at-risk, and minority populations for prevention and treatment of influenza.

Building on:
• CDC with IHP/Emory (‘01 to ‘07) trained 78 teams of religious and public health leaders in 24 states to collaborate on eliminating health disparities.

Project Objectives

1. Establish formal engagement with diverse multi-sector sites across the U.S. for influenza prevention (including vaccination) and treatment outreach and provision of services to vulnerable populations.

2. Coordinate capacity building events and community outreach activities in partner organizations and across sites.

3. Establish monitoring and evaluation models to capture population based interventions of this nature.
Ten Unique Multi-Sector Sites

- Chicago – Center for Faith and Community Health Transformation (Advocate Health Care and UIC)
- Lowell, MA – Lowell Community Health Center
- NYC – South Brooklyn Interfaith Coalition (Lutheran Health Care)
- PA – Schuylkill County’s Vision
- St. Louis – Nurses for Newborns Foundation
- Los Angeles – Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Medical Foundation
- Detroit – United Health Organization, Project Healthy Living
- Memphis – Methodist LeBonheur Center of Excellence in Faith and Health
- Colorado – Penrose-St. Frances Mission Outreach
- MN – Minnesota Immunization Networking Initiative (Fairview Health Services)

Responding to 2009 H1N1 Flu

- 25,000 – Number of copies of “H1N1 Flu: A guide for faith-based and community organizations” distributed.
- 4,000 – Estimated number of community, state and local leaders who participated one of 20 HHS Partnership Center hosted calls about H1N1 Flu.
- 115,827 – Approximate number of people vaccinated via collaboratives
- 4606 – Number of organizations engaged in outreach to vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations via these networks
2010 Accomplishments

Across the 10 sites:
- 13,686 Vaccinations
- 138 Vaccine Events
- 1093 Vouchers Distributed
- 39 Clinic Volunteer Training Events

Go where your client lives

Non-Traditional Settings:
- Soup kitchens
- Crisis centers
- Temples, mosques
- Child-care and senior centers
Across Boundaries of .....Fear, Mistrust, Misinformation, Income, Language, & Culture

Diverse Ethnicities > 20
- African American
- Caucasian
- Native Amer.
- Hispanic
- Burmese
- Vietnamese
- Cambodian
- Laotian
- Chinese

Religious Traditions * > 65
- Buddhist
- Muslim
- Hindu
- Catholic
- Lutheran
- Presbyterian
- Episcopal
- Baptist
- Christian Reformed
- Evangelical Free
- Methodist
- UCC/UUA

* Secular/community and faith-based organizations participated in this project.

Start where your client is

- 309 educational events/encounters
- Reaching in-person, > 4710 persons
- In hand, 383 “Flu Ready” Bags
Next Steps

- Identify ways to increase number of sites and replicate “best practices” in locations with low vaccination rates.
- Engage site leaders and their local and state public health partners in conducting capacity building.

- Expand evaluation to measure capacity and outcomes from various approaches to reach at-risk populations.

www.hhs.gov/partnerships
partnerships@hhs.gov
202.358.3595

www.whitehouse.gov/partnerships
whpartnerships@who.eop.gov