



SALUTE TO NATIONAL SERVICE HEROES



A W A R D E E P R O F I L E S

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HOUSE RAYBURN BANQUET ROOM
WASHINGTON, DC - MAY 15, 2001

NATIONAL LEVEL AWARDEES

Dr. Stephen R. Covey
Co-Founder, Franklin Covey Company, and
Author, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*

Dr. Stephen R. Covey – husband, father of nine, and a grandfather – is an internationally respected leadership authority, family expert, teacher, organizational consultant, founder of the former Covey Leadership Center, and co-founder/co-chairman of Franklin Covey Company, the largest management and leadership development organization in the world.

In an era in which style and strategy are often touted as tools for success, an audience of millions has appreciated and embraced Stephen Covey's straightforward message that principle-based, value-centered relationships alone can bring lasting fulfillment. Applied on all levels – from individual development and family enrichment to career progress – his philosophy has proved effective in his own life and thereby made him a model for others. This author of multiple best-selling books and inspirational speaker has not only juggled career and family but integrated both in a lifelong God-centered commitment to promoting healthy families and a morally healthy society.

Covey's bestseller *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* has sold more than 12 million copies in 32 languages and 75 countries throughout the world. Subsequent books, including *First Things First* and *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families*, likewise skyrocketed on the bestsellers list.

Pastor Freddie and Ninfa Garcia
Founders, Victory Fellowship
San Antonio, Texas

In 1972, Freddie and Ninfa Garcia, who had conquered their addiction to drugs through faith, responded to the calling they felt to reach out to others who were trapped in webs of alcohol and drugs and launched the Victory Fellowship ministry. The ministry had humble beginnings in a two-bedroom bungalow in the crime-ridden west side of San Antonio, where furniture was moved out to make room for a growing number of people who came for help. With their single-minded, selfless, God-centered commitment, it was destined to expand to the level of international impact. Since its founding, Victory Fellowship has freed more than 13,000 drug addicts and alcoholics from their addictions and has expanded to 65 sites throughout the southwest United States, Mexico, and South America.

Although the Garcias' outreach has been inspired and fueled by faith, it has been implemented with clear goals, careful planning, and wise management, with the founding mission always in mind. Responding to the needs of addicted men and women, families and children, the ministry has developed more than 55 interrelated programs and activities including a leadership academy, drop-in centers that have been safe havens from street violence for youth, drug prevention and education outreach, family-strengthening mentorship, principle-based youth organizations for boys and girls, and prison ministries. Just as the Garcias inspired hope and emulation through their personal example, each of Victory Fellowship's centers is headed by a married couple with firsthand experience of the battle with addiction who are available 24 hours a day to provide guidance, care and immediate, heartfelt response to the needs of those they serve.

Rev. Herbert H. Lusk II
Founder, People for People Inc., and Pastor, Greater Exodus Baptist Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Former famed running back for the Philadelphia Eagles Herb Lusk not only sharpened his athletic skills through his sports training but also developed a number of character traits that will remain for a lifetime. Among these are the ability to think strategically and to work with a team, perseverance, the ability to be goal-focused, innovative and positive thinking, and (as the "praying running back" will tell you) a conviction in the power of faith. When he moved on from

his football career in 1981, he entered a larger playing field, where all these qualities would play a critical role in his effectiveness – the arena of spiritual revitalization and community development. After earning his master's of divinity degree, Reverend Lusk became pastor of the Greater Exodus Baptist Church in an impoverished area of North Philadelphia. In 1989, inspired by the vision of a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of the residents of his inner-city community, he launched People for People (PFP) with a mission "to break the vicious cycle of poverty in the lives of people by practicing the principles of Jesus, providing them with positive alternatives to the lifestyles of gangs, drugs, welfare dependency and crime."

Since its founding, People for People has had a powerful impact on the neighborhood it serves and was recognized in 1998 with a national Points of Light award. Though many of the organization's programs were created for children, with recognition that strong families are the foundation for successful futures, a number of projects were launched to promote the self-sufficiency, employment opportunities, and spiritual and physical health of adults as well. Currently, the four main program areas of PFP include job training and work-readiness, after-school homework assistance, enrichment programs for youth, and computer skills training. PFP's job training class has been highly successful in moving men and women from welfare to work. Approximately 85 percent of the more than 80 individuals who graduated from the program secured full-time employment. PFP also offers such necessities as transportation, clothing, food, and child care to ensure that those who receive training can take advantage of employment opportunities. Hundreds of the community's children are grateful for the academic boost and chance for positive recreational activities that PFP provides. Each weekend, more than 150 children participate in Friday and Saturday enrichment programs. With a vision of even larger, long-range community economic development, on August 1, 2000, People for People opened the doors of its Community Development Credit Union.

Bishop Harold Calvin Ray
Founder and CEO, National Center for Faith Based Initiative
West Palm Beach, Florida

For many men and women, a successful and thriving career in law is a life goal. But for Bishop Calvin Ray and his wife, Brenôa, such career success was merely preparation for a steadily expanding and evolving mission of public service. Inspired by a calling to apply his acumen and education to nurture community revitalization and societal renewal, he left a position as a law professor and committed himself to the revival of an impoverished area of West Palm Beach, Florida, through the Redemptive Life Fellowship, which he founded in 1991. His leap of faith was blessed. As the Redemptive Life Fellowship grew into a multimillion-dollar ministerial enterprise, new life and a sense of community blossomed through programs including entrepreneurship; mentorship of personal, family, and corporate stewardship; and youth intervention programs designed to enhance and inspire career opportunities in the local community.

Yet, continually inspired to serve on a larger level, Bishop Ray had a vision of a much larger scope of service. The next stage of his ministry was the launching of the National Center for Faith Based Initiative, a cross-denominational collaboration of more than 20,000 churches, reaching 80 million individuals, with a mission to "eliminate historic poverty and dependency-inducing systems through the development of self-actuating and self-sustaining community-based economies." Through a series of programs that promote family strengthening, high moral standards, and personal responsibility, NCFBI promotes societal renewal as well as economic revitalization, asset building, and prosperity. Key to the success of Bishop Ray's efforts is collaboration and networking that crosses all boundaries of race, denomination, and ethnicity. Providentially, as Bishop Ray's vision and scope of work have expanded, tools to implement them have emerged. Plans are under way to utilize state-of-the-art satellite technology to link leadership tiers in global economic policy forums, and an e-commerce network.

Bishop Ray and the National Center for Faith Based Initiative served as co-conveners of the recent House-Senate Majority "Faith-Based Summit" in Washington, D.C.

Kenith and Scyretty Sandifer

**State Managing Partners, Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization
Cleveland, Ohio**

In the urban Milwaukee neighborhood where Kenith and Scyretty Sandifer first began work with the Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization (IRFFR), the streets had been considered off limits to children who may want to ride their bicycles or play a game of tag. Drug dealers had claimed their corners, and residents who feared stray bullets from gang fights didn't readily venture outdoors. With nearly 80 percent of the households headed by single parents, many of the youths had turned to gangs to provide them with a version of rites of passage to manhood. In the midst of this environment, the Sandifers planted seeds of hope as their own home abounded with life, love, and laughter. An oasis in their neighborhood, they served as parental role models and a source of counseling and support that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

With firsthand experience with the challenges of domestic reconciliation, the Sandifers felt called to enlist in IRFFR's family-strengthening efforts after a couple representing the institute visited their home. In 1999, Kenith became an outreach specialist for IRFFR in Milwaukee, and the couple has since been promoted to the position of managing partners in Ohio. Charles A. Ballard founded IRFFR in 1982 with the mission of encouraging fathers to become involved in the lives of their children in a loving, compassionate and nurturing way. For many, the road to responsible fatherhood and family reunification is fraught with obstacles that range from drug and alcohol addiction to joblessness and unresolved problems with the courts. What would appear to be an intimidating journey back home is made possible through the personal and principled guidance, spiritual support, and practical advice offered by committed couples (site-based "managing partners") of the institute, such as the Sandifers. Such personal, onsite investment by couples has proved to be very effective. An independent evaluation of the institute's efforts reported that, of the fathers who participated in the program, 97 percent spent more time with their children and are providing financial support, 96 percent had improved their relationship with their children's mothers, 70 percent completed twelve years of education and nearly 12 percent completed at least one year of college, and 62 percent had full-time employment.

Dr. C. DeLores Tucker

President, National Council for Black Women

Dr. C. DeLores Tucker was never one to shy away from controversy – regardless of the personal risk that might be involved. In 1965 she joined Martin Luther King Jr. in his march from Selma to Montgomery to protest racial discrimination and promote civil rights legislation. Her undaunted courage and passionate commitment to the cause of justice and equality of opportunity earned her a reputation as a trailblazing leader, and, striving for a foothold where she could have the most impact, her career record is studded with a number of impressive "firsts." In 1971, she became the first African American woman to serve as secretary of state, and she remained active in this capacity in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania until 1977. She is also the convening founder of the National Political Congress of Black Women, for which she now serves as chair, and president of the National Council for Black Women. In addition, she is president of the Bethune DeBois Fund, Inc., which she founded in 1991. She has also served as chair of the Democratic National Committee Black Caucus and is the founding president of the Martin Luther King Jr. Association for Non-Violent Change – the first and only association in the United States to be commissioned by Mrs. Coretta Scott King. Her many efforts and accomplishments have won her more than 300 awards and honors.

In 1998, Dr. Tucker turned her attention to a new source of devastation that was afflicting minority youth and women – the violent message of "gangsta rap" music. With the same passion and conviction that were evident in her struggle for civil rights, she bravely proclaimed that such music was "directly responsible for violence, drug use, and misogynistic actions toward women. Lamenting a generation of youth who are falling prey to destructive messages and are growing up without knowing the value of the birthright their predecessors fought and died for, Dr. Tucker declared, "Never before has a generation turned to self-genocide as a form of rebellion." Her stand against a source of moral dissolution in our nation demanded courage and an unwavering sense of priorities. In the face of those who claimed that expressions, which undermine the moral foundation of society, should be defended as First Amendment rights, and despite pending opposition from a powerful media industry, she is clear that the future of our children is of paramount importance and must be an overriding concern.

STATE LEVEL AWARDEES

ALABAMA

Bishop Frank Kirkwood – New Covenant Christian Center / “Adopt-a-Block”

Bishop Kirkwood is a noted pastor, evangelist and Bible teacher who hosts the “Seeking the Lost Remnant” radio broadcast and is founder of the New Covenant Christian Center and the Seeking the Lost Remnant Tent Crusade Ministries. He believes that children are our most valuable assets and that the Word of God provides the foundation for young adults to be effective leaders in the future. Through his Adopt-a-Block program, Kirkwood reaches at-risk youth in the inner city, offering them love, hope and educational programs. His ministry has closed down numerous crack houses, replacing reliance on drugs with reliance upon God. The program works with groups of five, each becoming like a “pastor of a block.” He has recently acquired a gymnasium and a skating rink, which he is renovating and offering to the youth of the community.

ALASKA

Elgin R. Jones – Kids’ Kitchen

Once he became aware that many children who spent their days in Anchorage’s recreation centers did not go home to eat and went hungry throughout the day, Elgin Jones decided to do something about it, so he founded Kids’ Kitchen. He knew that many young people who were from homes where single parents struggled to make ends meet or from dysfunctional families never experienced the warm relationships that can develop around a family dinner. Jones felt called to respond to the needs of these children, beginning with their nutritional needs. In 1996, he launched Kids’ Kitchen to provide them with hot, nutritional meals. Currently the program serves an average of 200 freshly cooked meals at three youth centers in the city each weekday. Supplies are gleaned through a network of businesses, churches, community residents and volunteer organizations. Jones uses mealtimes as a focal point where children can also receive the guidance, support and care they so desperately need. Each meal begins with a prayer and is a time of conversation and sharing. Through Kids’ Kitchen, youths also receive mentoring, homework help, and advice on handling the problems they face.

ALASKA

Hon. James C. Hayes – Mayor of Fairbanks

James Hayes has always been concerned with the welfare of others. From a young age he had a great interest in public education, which led him to become a schoolteacher and member of the school board. Later serving on the Fairbanks City Council for two terms, in 1992 he became the first elected black mayor in Alaska and was reelected in 1995, this time as a “strong mayor,” and again in 1998. His public involvement over the years has been extensive as he served in numerous positions in the areas of consumer protection, transportation, human rights, public utilities, and energy and environmental concerns, among others. He is a recipient of the Political Awareness Award from the Anchorage Black Caucus and was on the State of Alaska Governor’s Task Force. A licensed and ordained minister, he has been the pastor of the Fairbanks Lily of the Valley Church of God in Christ since 1997 and is a member of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance.

ARIZONA

Rev. Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr. – Tanner Chapel AME Church

The pastor of Tanner Chapel AME Church in Phoenix, Rev. Dr. Thomas has served as chaplain in the U.S. Army Reserves since 1982. He began his service in Arizona in 1991, and since then has worked diligently in the Phoenix metropolitan community. He serves on the board of directors of numerous organizations including Central Arizona Shelter Services, Arizona Department of Health Services, NAACP Executive Council, and the Arizona Department of Economic Security. He is a member of the Fifth District Economic Development Board of the AME Church, the Arizona Values Foundation, the Collaboration for a New Century 2000, and the African American Christian Clergy Coalition and serves as chairman of the African American Relations Committee for the Boy Scouts of America. He is also chairman of the board of the Arizona African American Faith Partnership and the Tanner Community Development Corporation. In addition to his community involvement, he is also president of the Arizona Ecumenical Council of Churches.

ARIZONA

Rev. Eve Nuñez – Help 4 Kidz

After the tragic loss of her own son Frankie, who died of a brain tumor in 1993, Reverend Nuñez left a successful 20-year career in the food service industry and dedicated herself full-time to serving at-risk and high-risk youths in the inner city through a foundation she established called Help 4 Kidz. She and her husband opened their home as a temporary shelter for displaced and homeless youths who are referred from agencies including the Phoenix Police Department, the Red Cross, and Child Help. The costs of the program are paid for strictly by donations and from her husband's paycheck. Reverend Nuñez has served as a chaplain for two youth detention facilities, and the couple also provides food and supplies, along with home visits, to as many as 150 families each week. Last Christmas, Help 4 Kidz gave 2,000 gifts to needy families. Help 4 Kidz features a Sunday camp that has provided support and special activities for hundreds of children, including tutoring, sports, drama, dance, and music activities, as well as anger management and anti-violence classes and the simple, much needed, healing agents of hugs and hope.

ARKANSAS

Dr. Dee Bennett – Greater Friendship Inc.

Dr. Dee Bennett has been actively involved in education, politics, health, and issues of fair housing and equal employment, among others. She served three terms in the Arkansas state legislature, during which time her most rewarding experience was to co-sponsor the Breast Cancer Bill and other legislation relating to family and youth. She also was instrumental in establishing Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday as a state holiday. Involved in many organizations, she is currently executive director of Greater Friendship, a nonprofit community-based organization that offers year-round tutoring for grades 3-12 and a drug and alcohol education and prevention program for both youths and adults that serves an average of 250 clients annually. Once a recording artist who gave concerts throughout the United States and Canada, she held many benefit performances for hospitals, prisons and senior citizens homes.

CALIFORNIA

Pastor Elmer E. Jackson – Christ Extended Hand Church

At the age of 35, after years of working in the grocery business, Elmer Jackson came to know the Lord and became a minister in 1984. A year later he founded a non-denominational church, Christ Extended Hand. Serving a multi-ethnic congregation, the church grew and developed a number of programs to meet the needs of the community. A drug and alcohol rehabilitation home was established for men in 1993, and one for women in 1996. A substance-abuse support program called Conquerors was launched in 1994, with weekly meetings open to the public. As the church and its work grew, Pastor Jackson also served on a number of community boards, programs and public service activities. With an ever-expanding vision of service to the community, Pastor Jackson hopes to one day secure a hotel or large facility that could house several ministries. Among the many services that the church offers are food and clothing distribution programs; a street ministry for the homeless; outreach to convalescent homes; a youth program that provides inspiration as well as school supplies for students; and special holiday outreach to poor families.

CALIFORNIA

Gregory Fisher – The Fisher Foundation

With a background of addiction coupled with street smarts, Gregory Fisher has approached the tragedy of drug addiction with a passion rarely seen – not as a clinician or sociologist, though, but as one who loves helping people who suffer. For the past eight years Fisher and his wife, Lorna, using their own monies, have devoted themselves to helping those whose lives have been devastated by drug addiction and alcoholism and many who were simply addicted to a criminal lifestyle. Starting with a small rented house and now running a 65-bed facility, Fisher has never stopped providing for all who need a helping hand, including those no one else wanted to take a chance on. Finding food, bedding, a television – all the things usually taken for granted – were challenges that called for great prayer and faith. He finds his reward when he can positively alter the life of each drug addict.

COLORADO

Bob Coté – Step 13

Bob Coté is the founder and director of Step 13, a 100-bed facility for the homeless in Denver. A spirited maverick committed to making a long-term difference in the lives of the people he serves, Coté has goals that are fundamentally different from those of conventional shelters, which measure success in terms of nightly counts of "heads in beds." Step 13 was founded on the premise that "any system or program that takes responsibility away from a capable person dehumanizes that person." Targeting one of the most common causes of homelessness – drug and alcohol addiction –

Coté uses a no-nonsense approach that demands personal responsibility and reciprocity and provides steppingstones to ultimate self-sufficiency. Since its inception in 1984, Step 13 has reached more than 1,700 drug addicts and alcoholics, many of whom are now free of addiction and leading successful lives.

CONNECTICUT

Bishop Kenneth H. Moales Sr. – Prayer Tabernacle Church of Love

A spirit-filled preacher, educator, lecturer and musical consultant, Bishop Moales is the presiding bishop of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ for Connecticut, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, California, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Maryland. A pastor for 32 years, he also founded the Prayer Tabernacle Church of Love in Bridgeport. Bishop Moales brings a message of redemption and inspiration as a national traveling evangelist and as host of a weekly spirit-filled radio broadcast. In addition, he is on the boards of numerous faith-based and cultural organizations on both a local and national level. In his local community, he served as president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport and vicinity, and as assistant treasurer of the Raliphola Taylor Community Center YMCA of Bridgeport.

DELAWARE

Rev. Dr. Ja-Neair Macklin – Spirit and Truth Fellowship Ministries

Using skills she acquired as community development manager for Core States Bank and director of Urban and City Development of Wilmington, Rev. Dr. Macklin has created a program of training, goal setting, and personal development that has empowered homeless men, women, and children to take steps toward a productive, fulfilling future. Central to this program are life-skills and values-clarification sessions that are rooted in faith-based character development. Her training program, part of the Spirit and Truth Fellowship Ministries she founded, has established one of the highest success rates in the state in helping the homeless and substance abusers to overcome their personal challenges and become contributing members of their community, securing employment, furthering their education, and taking responsibility for their families. Her outreach is infused with optimism. The Maximized Manhood program, for example, which is offered at the Sunday Breakfast Mission shelter for homeless men, uses scriptural principles to guide its participants to develop the skills they need to cope with their problems.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Pastor Shirley Holloway – Holy Ministries House of Help

With a promising career with the U.S. Postal Service and her family settled in a Maryland suburb of Washington, Pastor Shirley Holloway could have lived a comfortable, peaceful life. Yet knowing that just miles away there were hundreds of men and women who did not have such comforts – some of whom were homeless, addicted to drugs and alcohol, or victims of domestic violence and street crime – she could not rest. Using her own resources and whatever time she had between work shifts, she ventured into one of the most crime-ridden, devastated areas of the District, responding to her heart's call to serve those who were in need. Pastor Holloway's informal outreach developed into the Holy Ministries House of Help, a faith-based 501-c-3 with a 24-hour ministry that provides assistance to children of families, single men and women, single parents, and children who need help to make their lives whole. As well as meeting the needs for such necessities as food, clothing, shelter and medical care, House of Help provides Bible study, internal guidance, career counseling and Narcotics Anonymous meetings.

FLORIDA

Edward "Jay" Joseph – Hialeah Adult Community Education Center

Jay Joseph has been a community educator since he became a school administrator in 1969. Upon graduating from the University of Miami, he was inspired by U.S. Rep. Claude Pepper to join the National Teachers' Corps. There he focused on mobilizing community resources to improve the quality of life for others. After the Corps, he returned to South Florida as a teacher, counselor and later an administrator with the public schools. Here he became involved in a broad array of organizations in both the public and private sectors, all of which contributed to community revitalization. His investment in the community, as well as his position as a school principal, helped him mobilize resources to implement programs for the elderly in congregate living facilities and address teenage delinquency issues through dropout prevention programs for at-risk students and alternative high-school completion programs. Joseph also opened schools on Saturdays to better to meet the community's needs and arranged for the high school's athletic facilities to be used for the physical rehabilitation of those with neuro-muscular conditions.

GEORGIA

Rev. Dr. Harris Travis – Zion Baptist Church

A nationally and internationally recognized man of God, Gospel preacher, leader in education, engineer, and public servant, Rev. Dr. Travis has been a minister for 30 years and has served the Baptist Church in numerous capacities throughout the past 54 years — as a Sunday school instructor, Bible class teacher, deacon, trustee, associate minister, and associate pastor. In 1992 he came to the Zion Baptist Church of Marietta, where he has been pastor for nearly 10 years. In this capacity, Reverend Travis established the Family Life Center at Zion, with a goal of helping young people make wise and healthy life choices and guiding couples to build strong and lasting marriages. For exceptional accomplishments in the engineering profession as well as for his ministerial work, Reverend Travis has received numerous awards at both the local and national levels.

GEORGIA

Hon. Donzella James – Georgia State Senate

Sen. Donzella James represents State Senate District 35 in the Georgia Senate, where she champions faith-based measures on several important committees. A woman of great faith, she treats her public service as a ministry. One of her interests is helping and protecting young people. Having suffered the loss of a son to a drunk driver, she was instrumental in legislating stiffer penalties for drivers convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. This year she authored legislation making it a greater crime for people to lead the young into prostitution. Since 1996 she has annually sponsored a Youth Legislature and “Listen Up” program, both of which help children learn how to make positive changes in society. Proud of her country’s religious roots, she helped add the slogan “In God We Trust” to the new state flag of Georgia, and she also introduced a bill that would exempt churches from sales tax on intangibles. She and her husband, Elmo James, have been married for 32 years and have two sons.

IDAHO

Jesse Berain – Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Jesse Berain has worked throughout his thirty-year career to promote human rights and to ensure that all people, regardless of race, color or creed, have the chance to develop their talents to their fullest. Most recently Mr. Berain directed the Idaho Governor’s Hispanic Initiative. Other positions he held include director of the Idaho Commission on Aging, equal opportunity officer for the Bureau of Land Management, director of the Idaho Department of Housing and Urban Development, and deputy director of the Idaho Human Rights Commission. In addition, he served as state representative from 1992 through 1996. His civic contributions include service as a PTA president, commissioner for the Idaho Youth Commission, executive board member for the North West Coalition Against Malicious Harassment, founding member of the Interagency Council on Hispanic Employment, commissioner for the Commission on Spanish Affairs, and member of the board of directors of the Hispanic Leadership Caucus. Among the numerous awards he has received are the Idaho Statesmen’s Distinguished Citizen award and the President’s Points of Light award from President George W. Bush, who proclaimed that Jesse Berain’s service is “an example to us all.”

ILLINOIS

Earlean Lindsey – Westside Association for Community Action

A model of grassroots leadership, Earlean Lindsey rose from picking cotton in Alabama to helping urban communities deal with health and housing problems. Today she is recognized as one of the most effective community activists in the country. She and some neighbors helped to found the Mile Square Community Health Center, which became known as the flagship of the community health movement. Originally on its advisory board, she became a patients’ advocate there. She also became known nationally through involvement in health organizations such as the American Public Health Association. In Chicago she was founder and president of the Westside Health Planning Organization and the Westside Association for Community Action. Over the years, Mrs. Lindsey has been a mentor for hundreds of teachers, social workers, and urban planners. She is a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who still serves as president of the Westside Association for Community Action, as well as teaching Sunday school.

INDIANA

Dennis Tooley – “Faith in Our Kids” / Indiana Youth Institute

Dennis Tooley has a passion for equipping others with the tools to impact young people in a positive way. He views his role as a great opportunity to practice “servant leadership.” After college he served as youth pastor for two years, then spent 11 years focusing on youth programs with the Salvation Army. He helped them open a group home for children of dysfunctional families in Indiana, then later helped strengthen their youth programs in Savannah, Georgia. After

four years there, he was invited to work with the Youth Department at their Indianapolis headquarters. In 1994 he was ordained as a minister and served in several states in that capacity. Tooley joined the staff of the Indiana Youth Institute in 1999 to direct the "Faith in Our Kids" program, and since then he has been encouraging, empowering and equipping youth-based organizations to have a greater impact on their communities. He is also endeavoring to develop a new fatherhood initiative, and he founded and serves as president of Powerhouse Ministries and Consulting.

IOWA

Dr. Michael Hartwig – Iowa Family Policy Center

Alarmed by the rising rate of family breakdown in even conservative communities of Iowa, Dr. Michael Hartwig launched the Iowa Family Policy Center with a goal of reducing the divorce rate in his state. One project of the center, designed to address the problem on the "front end," is called Marriage Matters. Through it, ministers in a number of communities have made a commitment to require prospective brides and grooms to participate in preparatory classes before taking their marriage vows. Marriage Matters also helps to strengthen existing marriages and minister to troubled marriages. In his capacity as a program "advocate," Dr. Hartwig provides instruction for engaged couples on scriptural direction regarding the respective roles of husbands and wives, moral commitments, and the impact of divorce. In addition to this counsel, Dr. Hartwig spreads the message of the value and sanctity of marriage through daily radio broadcasts. Just two years in existence, Marriage Matters has already had a measurable impact in one of the communities it serves – the divorce rate there has dropped by 20 percent.

KANSAS

Pastor LeRoy Sullivan Sr. – Bread of Life Outreach Ministry

As senior pastor of Bread of Life Outreach Ministry, Pastor Sullivan has implemented a broad outreach in public schools, nursing homes, and prisons and on the street. Program care includes emergency assistance, feeding the hungry, and most especially, marriage preparation and intervention. He is also active in the Citywide Prayer Movement, Vibrant Men's Ministry, National Association of Evangelicals, Midwest Minister's Fellowship, Community Marriage Covenant, and Marriage Savers. In 1996, Pastor Sullivan and Rev. Jeffrey Meyers, of Christ Lutheran Church, organized a Community Marriage Covenant that was originally signed by 40 Kansas pastors and subsequently by many others. An essential component of the covenant program is mentoring, wherein married couples who have a firm foundation of God-centered faith and stability in their own married life are given training and then take under their wings couples whose marriages are being challenged. A dramatic reduction in the community's divorce rate was achieved.

KENTUCKY

Rev. Charles Elliott Jr. – King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church / Jesus and a Job

A pioneer in the civil rights movement who walked and worked with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rev. Charles Elliott Jr. founded the Christian Benevolent Association over 25 years ago. This group has done major work to empower the poor through job training, feeding and educational programs. Currently pastor of King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church of Louisville, Reverend Elliott in 1999 founded Jesus and a Job, an organization that helps recovering drug addicts, alcoholics and felons to develop trade skills and eventually become homeowners and productive citizens. After the recent riots in Cincinnati, the mayor and several leading pastors there asked Reverend Elliott to bring Jesus and a Job to their city.

KENTUCKY

Bishop Dan Johnson – Heart of Fire Ministries

Founder of the Heart of Fire Ministries, Bishop Johnson has traveled extensively speaking in schools for "Say No to Drugs" and "Stop the Violence" crusades. He worked as part of the peacekeeping force in Los Angeles to stop the riots, by setting up "safe zones," preaching and singing in the most violent areas. On one occasion he was able to enter an area sealed off by police and restore tranquility after a crowd of several hundred gathered to listen to him preach the Gospel. Former President Bush called him one of the 50 leading pastors in the United States and honored his Heart of Fire Ministries as "one of the thousand points of light." In 1977 Bishop Johnson spearheaded the "7-Day War," a week-long series of tent meetings in Louisville's inner city in the heat of all the killing in an area formerly known as "Murder Park." Through this many gang members were saved and began to turn their lives around by working with local churches. In 1986 he founded the "Gift-a-Child" program, which provides toys and other items to needy children at Christmas. Over 8,000 children benefited the first year. In 1988 he began sponsoring major outdoor events such as the music concert "Jesus in Theater Square." Their success grew to where several such events are sponsored each year both here and abroad.

LOUISIANA

Dr. Daniel E. Perkins – Faith and Families of Louisiana / Power Source Outreach

A Baptist minister, Dr. Perkins is founder of a non-profit religious education co-op called Power Source Outreach and executive director of Louisiana-based Faith and Families. He has been a longtime proponent of faith-based outreach as a means of effectively addressing society's pressing problems. Through Faith and Families, Dr. Perkins has helped hundreds of families free themselves from welfare dependency and experience the pride and satisfaction of employment and economic self-sufficiency. In addition to his work within the community, Dr. Perkins has emerged as a leading spokesman for the principles of personal responsibility, family unity, and strong moral standards and has reached audiences of thousands as a newspaper columnist, radio commentator, and spirit-filled public speaker.

MAINE

Douglas Taylor – Jesus Party Youth Ministry

Douglas Taylor is an inspiring example of someone who, through faith and perseverance, broke a cycle of failure and drug addiction and committed himself in service to uplift the lives of others. Doug was just 15 when he left his own dysfunctional family and began life on the streets, where he was introduced to drugs and crime. Addiction continued to control his life and threatened to ruin his marriage, but then he underwent a profound religious transformation that gave him the power to reject the lure of drugs and to restore his relationship with his wife. Together, the Taylors made a commitment to serve God by helping others. They sold their home and moved to a crime-ridden, inner-city neighborhood, where they offered counsel and support to families that were in distress. In the process of this outreach, they launched a youth ministry to address the needs of youth from elementary school age through high school. This ministry, which began with weekend gatherings of as many as 130 neighborhood children in their home, has grown to the point where they now have a staff of 12 and a facility for their many activities and programs.

MARYLAND

Jim Dasher – Garden Harvest Inc.

A successful businessman, owner of a fine arts gallery and a home building and restoration company, Jim Dasher has been involved in charitable causes throughout his life. He is the founder of Garden Harvest, a Maryland-based not-for-profit farm incorporated in 1993. Run by four full-time staff and supported by a number of interns and masses of enthusiastic volunteers, the farm grows and distributes fresh, organically grown fruit and vegetables provided to soup kitchens, emergency food pantries, shelters and other not-for-profit organizations that care for the needy. Garden Harvest also works to bring attention to issues of hunger and homelessness, and to train volunteers of all ages and walks of life to improve the lives of others and better their communities. Their current goal is to grow and distribute a million pounds of produce annually. Jim Dasher promotes moral values in his community as an integral component of the spiritual as well as physical needs of the people he serves.

MASSACHUSETTS

Rev. Richard Wright – Emmanuel Baptist Church

In 1973 when Rev. Richard Wright was called to be the minister of the John Street Baptist Church in Worcester, he and his wife, Shirley, embraced the challenges of this new ministry. In 1976 they and their community of faith established a new church, Emmanuel Baptist Church, to serve the residents in the Main Street neighborhoods. They created a thrift shop that grew so quickly that an entire basement was renovated to hold donated clothes, furniture, and household goods. Proceeds were used to support the Martin Luther King Day-Care Center, which provided affordable, quality care for infants, toddlers, and pre-school-aged children. In a unique collaboration with another faith community, Temple Sinai, the church also established an after-school program called Heart, which provides a computer lab for children in grades 4 -6. Awards they have received include the Isaiah Thomas Citizens of the Year Award, the Katherine Erskine Women of the Year Award, and Teacher of the Year award from the Alliance for Education.

MICHIGAN

Jerome and Alena Edmondson – Christian Business Network International

After braving the storms of financial hardships, the Edmondsons succeeded in the business arena when they became owners of Denny's and Kentucky Fried Chicken franchises. Yet they set their sites much higher than personal prosperity after a religious experience that resulted in their commitment to help others succeed. Rather than see a dichotomy between faith and business, they view the two as complementary. To spread this message and guide its implementation, the Edmondsons left their successful restaurants and co-founded the Christian Business Network International. Jerome explains how a mutually beneficial dynamic between Christian-based businesses and their surrounding neighborhoods

can spark spiritual and economic revitalization: "The stage is set for a major spiritual revival in our country, especially in the workplace. With God as our authority and the first of our priorities, business people can become change agents in their communities."

MICHIGAN

Pauline J. Linscott – Leaders International Training Embassy

A pastor, counselor and mother of ten, Pauline Linscott believes in looking for the best in others, even when they are at their worst. She is founder and president of Leaders International Training Embassy, which helps young people who struggle with drugs, sexual addictions, depression and destructive attitudes to find the true leader inside and become role models for others. She views her work with the youth as "restoration and training necessary in preparing them to be citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth." As a public speaker, she encourages women everywhere to become leaders for God in a time when "Good and Evil are battling for our children's lives."

MINNESOTA

Carol Watson – Missing Children Minnesota

Carol Watson's work in preventing child abduction and promoting children's safety is fueled with passion and empathy from her firsthand experience of a parent's worst nightmare: Her oldest son was abducted in 1983 and was missing for thirteen months. Watson is executive director of Missing Children Minnesota, an organization that supports parents of missing children, provides education for children and parents on preventing abduction, and dissuades would-be run-aways. Watson has produced books on the content of her programs to reach an even broader audience. In addition, she has become a renowned speaker on these critical topics, appearing on local and national television and radio shows and being interviewed by local, national, and international press. Watson has also served on the Minnesota Governor's Task Force on Missing Children and assisted the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension in developing *Minnesota Guidelines to Missing Children Investigation: A Resource Book*.

MISSISSIPPI

Rev. Stanley and Helen Wachstetter – Bible Tabernacle Church / Apostolic Coalition

Through forty years of ministry, not only here in their home state but also abroad, the Wachstetters have promoted the welfare of children and served families in need. Reverend Wachstetter founded a literacy program, LEAP, for children in Mississippi and served with the Governor's Office for Literacy. He is also state coordinator of the FLEX (Future Leaders Exchange) program, which is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. Through this innovative program, promising youth leaders from Russia travel to the United States, where they can learn about the values that provided a foundation for this nation and see, firsthand, democratic principles in action. Reverend Wachstetter also works with Faith and Families, a public-private partnership that helps churches to identify and "adopt" needy families. In addition, he helped with the state's Fatherhood Initiative and coordinated Mississippi's first Faith-Based Summit. Likewise, Helen Wachstetter has worked with several international humanitarian assistance programs, including Touching Tatarstan (which she founded), the Kindness Foundation (a faith-based partnership with the government of Russia), and Mississippians Reaching Out.

MISSISSIPPI

Charles and Juanita Doty – Lextron

Charles and Juanita Doty have established a model of business ethics based on Christian principles in their thriving electronics firm, the Lextron Corporation. Founded in 1991 as a fledgling company, it quickly gained a reputation for reliability and quality and was awarded major contracts with giants in the telecommunications industry. The high quality of its products is related to the spirit of its workforce. The backbone of the company's operations is the assembly line workers, most of them women, and many of them single mothers. The Dotys established, along with employee profit-sharing, a quality day-care center on site that provides stimulating learning activities for employees' children. This spirit of care and consideration extends beyond the workplace, and the Dotys and their employees are also known for their contribution to the community, including sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity Home in the Midtown area of Jackson. In 1996 Lextron received the Governor's Cup Award for its exemplary human resources and investment in the community. Before leaving her career in the speech, language and hearing profession, Juanita strove to ensure that all people – regardless of race, creed or color – are given a fair opportunity to enter the field of speech-language pathology and to receive the services of professionals who are knowledgeable about the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the individuals they serve. Juanita Doty is a board member of the Corporation for National Service.

MISSOURI

George Eberle Jr. – Grace Hill Neighborhood Services

George Eberle Jr. is well known locally, nationally and internationally as a social advocate for his work on behalf of low-income individuals, minorities, women, and most segments of our society who need “a hand up” – a chance to prove they have wonderful gifts as human beings and can contribute to their families and communities. In 1954 he joined the Grace Hill Neighborhood Services, one of the largest multi-service social agencies in the St. Louis metropolitan area. One outstanding project designed by Eberle is the Members Organized Resource Exchange (MORE) system. MORE’s strategy has been applied in numerous low-income neighborhoods to help motivate, train and empower community residents. With the involvement of thousands of neighbors, he expanded the organization to include two day-care centers, nine neighborhood centers, five community health centers, three public health nursing services, two homeless shelters and transitional housing services, and affordable housing.

MONTANA

José Chavez – Guadalupe Roman Catholic Church

For more than thirty years José Chavez has been a community activist addressing the needs of young people. In the early 1970s he began to reach out to them through a boxing club he established in a Southside neighborhood of Billings. He believed that those who came to his club could learn, along with physical prowess, the value of sportsmanship, perseverance, goal setting and working hard to achieve one’s dreams. Initially the club was launched through Chavez’s own funds and hard work, but he was also able to attract funding from local corporations that were inspired by his vision. In 1992, he received the United to Serve Award. Since retiring from his job, he and his wife have dedicated their time and energy to the Guadalupe Roman Catholic Church. He serves as the prison ministry chaplain and leading organizer of their church’s semi-annual retreats. He also ministers each week to men at a rescue mission and has done much to promote collaborative initiatives among the local churches.

NEBRASKA

Eddie Staton – MAD DADS Inc.

The year was 1989 and Eddie Staton had seen enough. Children were getting beaten, teenagers had given up hope, and drugs and violence were rampant in his neighborhood. Staton and other concerned fathers decided to take action and founded MAD DADS (Men Against Destruction – Defending Against Drugs and Social Disorder). “We decided to get 50 black men together and take to the streets.” And they did, going on middle-of-the-night street patrols. There they listened to the concerns of the drug dealers, the dropouts and the hopeless. “You are doing to yourselves what 200 years of slavery could not do: that is, killing your soul,” he told them. Since then MAD DADS has spent 87,000 hours talking to children, holding gun amnesty programs, and teaching men to be responsible fathers. The group, which now numbers over 1,000 men of all races, tries to show children there are choices. Because of its success, it has expanded to 52 chapters in 15 states.

NEVADA

Bishop Abner James Thompson – Zion Chapel International

Bishop Thompson is pastor of one of the largest congregations in Las Vegas. For decades he has been a leading force in promoting faith-based solutions for one of the most damaging of societal ills, the breakdown of the family. Bishop Thompson and his wife, Bebe, have established sexual abstinence programs and seminars for thousands of Las Vegas urban youths. In addition, he and the congregation of Zion Chapel International have helped hundreds of Las Vegas’ homeless – many of whom have fallen to the lures of the gambling culture – rebuild their lives and reunite with their families.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Rev. Dr. Arthur Hilson – New Hope Baptist Church

The pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. Hilson has been active in a number of areas, from the ministry and education to health and human relations. His experience includes 22 years as a university administrator, assistant professor, counselor and teacher. He also served as commissioner on the New Hampshire Council for Human Rights. A volunteer hospital chaplain, he is currently involved with several advisory boards concerned with child care, AIDS and diversity, as well as the Rotary and teaching high school social studies. On the national level, he is active in veteran affairs, serving on the board of directors for three organizations. In the field of civil and human rights, he is the founding president of the Amherst (Mass.) Chapter of the NAACP and founder of the Holyoke chapter. He is founding president of the New Hampshire Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He continues to pursue the issue

of civil rights, and helped gain the state's recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Day. A much-sought-after speaker, he is listed in *Who's Who Among African Americans* for his many accomplishments.

NEW JERSEY

Rev. Marion L. Phillips – Church at the Crossroads / Harry Housel People Empowerment Place

Rev. Marion Phillips, associate pastor of the Church at the Crossroads in East Orange, has a passionate concern for the quality of life of the poor in her area. In the 1970s she became troubled by the discouraging lives that many parents and staff of her day-care center were living when a visiting psychologist made the comment: "I can't help these people. They are not sick. They just don't know how to live." That comment pierced her heart and fueled her determination to help empower people to create positive change in their lives. For 18 years her Essex County ministries included providing comprehensive child-care services for over 1,000 children of low-income families, enabling the parents to work, go to school, and improve their lives. At the same time, the children gained a solid education and social foundation, with over 95 percent completing school and leading productive lives today. Reverend Phillips extended her work by co-founding and chairing the New Jersey Statewide Coalition for Child Care. Currently Reverend Phillips is working through the Harry Housel People Empowerment Place to offer after-school care, summer camp, computer training, job training and placement, life skills, counseling, mentoring and specialized workshops.

NEW MEXICO

Rickey and Janis Schnorr – New Mexico Marriage and Parenting Alliance

The Schnorrs knew from national statistics that divorce has a tremendous negative impact – financially, emotionally and spiritually – on the children of broken families. From personal experience as parents of two sons and two daughters between 10 and 15, they were also aware that it takes consistent effort, commitment, and a foundation of faith to maintain a strong family. To address the crisis of family dissolution in America, they co-founded the New Mexico Marriage and Parenting Alliance, which works to prepare couples for the commitment of marriage, strengthen families, and inspire young people with a vision of a fulfilling future as spouses and parents. In October 2000, working closely with trailblazing state Sen. Mark Boitano, the Schnorrs coordinated the Governor's Summit on Marriage and Parenting, which brought together government officials, community leaders and religious leaders throughout the state to develop policy recommendations to promote, strengthen and preserve families.

NEW YORK

Yves Vilus – Erasmus Neighborhood Foundation

Yves Vilus brings a combination of professional skills, networking capacity, and heartfelt concern to the community development initiatives in the neighborhoods he serves. He has been working with the Erasmus Neighborhood Foundation (ENF) since 1988 when he left a career in the insurance industry. He first served the not-for-profit community service organization as a drug-prevention counselor and administrator. After four years, he moved to the position of housing specialist and then executive director, managing the ENF's diverse programs, including housing, counseling, education, child-care training, economic development/commercial revitalization, and senior citizens services. ENF has provided food programs, trained 1,000 child-care providers, and offered personalized after-school care. With broad experience in social services, child development, and organizational management, Vilus acts as a liaison with other community organizations, government and neighborhood businesses, inspiring collaborative efforts toward community revitalization.

NEW YORK

Winnie McCarthy – "Star of the Sea" and "Bright Star" Projects

More than 20 years ago while caring for her parents, who were suffering from lengthy illnesses, Winnie McCarthy became acutely aware of the suffering of those who have no one to care for them. Upon the death of her parents, she made a promise to God that she would give Him a year of service. Twenty years later, she still cares for those who are, too often, rejected by society. McCarthy has founded two projects to address the needs of the forgotten: Star of the Sea and Bright Star. Star of the Sea is a home for women where each resident is encouraged to become a responsible citizen and neighbor. Through hard work, education, housing, faith in God, and a belief in the strength and beauty of each member of the Star of the Sea "family," women have the chance to break the chains of poverty, ignorance, and despair. Bright Star helps low-income mothers to realize the dream of homeownership by providing job training, budget management training, child-rearing classes and computer training. Many participants now own their own homes or have achieved independent living in safe, decent, affordable apartments.

NORTH CAROLINA

Rev. Joshua Haire Jr. – First Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. Joshua Haire is deeply concerned about the lives of young people today, as the father of nine children. The pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in South Pines, North Carolina, since 1990, he and his church are reaching out to the community of Moore County with programs to help ensure a better future for the area's youth. His programs range from the Teens for Christ ministry, an after-school tutorial program, and a church-operated day care to the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program and a drug-free summer mini-camp. It has been said of Reverend Haire that he is a reminder of the North Carolina state motto: To Be, Rather Than To Seem.

NORTH DAKOTA

Hon. Charlie Kourajian – Mayor of Jamestown

Active in city government for more than 26 years, Jamestown Mayor Charlie Kourajian has established a track record of investment in community activities and has promoted an array of youth activities. He has worked closely with the Jamestown Asset Builders, for which he serves as a board member. Asset Builders works through the school system to build character in young men and women, emphasizing the value of the church, community and family. Mayor Kourajian has also been a longtime supporter of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, which often call upon him as a public speaker. In addition, he has worked to empower low-income families and equip parents and their children with the preparation they need to take advantage of opportunities for the future through programs such as Head Start and School-to-Work. While effectively fulfilling his responsibilities as mayor, Kourajian also serves as a board member and volunteers for a host of civic organizations and public-service groups.

OHIO

Rev. Dr. William Craig – Christian Home Ministries International

For the past 23 years, Rev. Dr. William Craig has served as pastor of Christian Home Ministries International (CHMI), which has over 100 branch churches in East and West Africa as well as the United States. Reverend Craig founded the CHMI Industrial School of Columbus, Ohio, where thousands of people, young and old, have received technical training, life-skills information, and faith-based character education. Working with the unemployed, the school provides hands-on training and practicums in electrical wiring, plumbing, drywall installation, painting and masonry. These vocational skills are coupled with guidance and mentoring by "character coaches." Over 86 percent of the school's graduates achieved successful employment. Of those, 35 percent became independent contractors and entrepreneurs, and 26 percent used their skills for community home renovation. CHMI also offers its students child care, free transportation for Empowerment Zone residents, a computer lab, counseling and job placement services. Rev. Dr. Craig has won numerous awards for community service and serves as the Governor's Co-Chair of the African and African-American Relations Commission.

OHIO

Rev. Dr. Damon Lynch Jr. – New Jerusalem Baptist Church

For more than thirty years Rev. Dr. Lynch has been pastor of the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, serving his community with honor, courage, and integrity. Reverend Lynch was in the front lines of the civil rights movement and coordinated the first Martin Luther King march in Cincinnati with a number of other noted civil rights leaders. Currently he is collaborating with several other civic organizations in Cincinnati to help end racial profiling by the police and to establish more opportunities for minorities. Like the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Reverend Lynch believes that, along with civil and political empowerment, it is critical that minorities be empowered economically as well. To that end, he launched the Gideon Project, the only black-owned ambulatory and medical emergency vehicle company in Ohio. The company provides free service to poor people – both black and white – who are without insurance and in need of emergency transportation.

OKLAHOMA

Rev. William "Bill" Everitt – Teen Challenge

Rev. Bill Everitt has provided extraordinary leadership in the Teen Challenge drug-treatment ministry for 22 years. A former program director of Iowa Teen Challenge, he came to Oklahoma in 1988 to pioneer the organization and is executive director there. Teen Challenge of Oklahoma offers three residential programs helping troubled youth and adults, including former drug addicts and alcoholics, and one inner-city prevention center. The faith-based program's newest component is Teen Challenge International Ministry Institute Southwest. In 1999 Reverend Everitt was appointed regional representative for south-central United States for Teen Challenge International. Once a heroin addict and crim-

inal, Everitt was facing 80 years in prison when God sent a minister to his cell with the message of Christ's life-changing power. That was 27 years ago. Now an ordained minister himself, he has traveled nationally with Prison Fellowship, leading in-prison seminars, and trains volunteers for the "We Care" prison ministries. His international work includes helping to birth the first residential Teen Challenge program in Russia, in 1999.

OREGON

Rev. Ronald L. Williams – Bethel AME Church

The pastor of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Portland, Reverend Williams has served his community and state as a leader in numerous civic organizations. He is chairman of religious affairs of the Portland NAACP and serves on the boards of the Albina Ministerial Alliance, the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, the Portland Habitat for Humanity, and the Portland Industrialization Opportunity Center. In addition, he co-chairs the task force that addresses the disproportionate number of minorities in the criminal justice system, and he is a member of the Portland Police Blue Ribbon Panel that has focused on the problem of racial profiling. He has also brought awareness to the plight of the homeless and coordinated an "Evening Fast" to raise funds to meet their needs. Currently he is developing a program titled "A More Excellent Way," with a goal of reducing the involvement of minority at-risk youths in the criminal justice system and helping them improve their academic skills and attain a higher educational level.

PENNSYLVANIA

Rev. Marcus W. Harvey – Strength Inc. / St. Paul Baptist Church

A well-known public servant, Reverend Harvey is founder and CEO of Strength Inc., a 501-c-3 that has helped to engender community and economic revitalization in New York, New Jersey, Ohio and Maryland as well as locally, and it is now having national impact. Issues addressed by Strength Inc. include drug and alcohol abuse; problems of at-risk, gang-affiliated, and adjudicated youth; and community and economic development. One substance-abuse prevention program launched by Strength Inc. has served over 1,500 prisoners in the last two years. In addition to his role in Strength Inc., Reverend Harvey is also associate minister of St. Paul Baptist Church and chaplain of the Community Service Provider Network, a network of 23 human-service agencies.

RHODE ISLAND

Dr. Timothy Flanigan – Rhode Islanders Supporting Education (RISE)

Dr. Flanigan's commitment to community service was shaped by his experience helping his sister recover from substance abuse. As director of the joint Miriam Hospital and Brown University Immunology Center, Dr. Flanigan created several treatment and prevention programs to serve those poor, largely minority residents who are HIV positive or at risk for HIV infection. Founded in 1996 by Drs. Flanigan and Kevin Vigilante, RISE is a non-profit organization through which women who have been jailed or are addicted, many HIV-positive, are treated and their children enrolled in well-regarded local private or parochial schools. They know firsthand that the children of these women often follow in their mothers' footsteps. RISE uses educational opportunity to break the cycle of poverty, drug abuse, crime, incarceration and premature death the kids often face. This year RISE supports over 120 children with over 100 sponsors.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Rev. Dr. Willis T. Goodwin – New Francis Brown and Washington United Methodist Churches

Currently pastor of New Francis Brown and Washington United Methodist Churches, Rev. Dr. Goodwin has pastored six other churches in South Carolina and has, during his career, addressed both the spiritual and material needs of the people. He was chief organizer of the South Carolina Commission for Farm Workers and co-founder of the Charleston County Housing Authority. In Johns Island, he founded Rural Missions Inc., the Sea Island Comprehensive Health Care Corporation, Hermena Traeye Nursing Home, the Small Farmers Cooperation, and the Phoebe Taylor Heath Center. He also founded the Wadmalaw Island Community Center and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance that serves the Charleston Tri-County area. Recently he organized a shipment of rice, clothes, and books for the needy of Liberia, West Africa. He has also testified before a congressional committee on the plight of migrant and seasonal farm workers, conducted leadership training in Liberia, and participated in work/study tours in Central America, the Philippines, Appalachia, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Belize, and the Caribbean Islands.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Qadir Aware – Multi-Cultural Center of Sioux Falls

Qadir Aware is not from America, but he loves this country and its democratic freedoms more than many born here. After fleeing Saddam Hussein's political oppression in the early 1970s, he found his way to Sioux Falls to make a life

for his family. He has invested himself totally in his community to serve this adopted homeland as if it were his own. Motivated by his faith and a desire to care for others less fortunate than himself, he rose to become the director of the Multi-Cultural Center in Sioux Falls. In this capacity he mentors immigrants to help them learn how to live and prosper in America. He is also on the board of Character Counts and is a member of several organizations related to safety and crime prevention, the Sheriff's Department, hate crime prevention, and human relations.

TENNESSEE

Rev. Dr. James Campbell – Lois DeBery Special Needs Facility

Rev. Dr. Campbell has had a distinguished career in the arena of education and in the Christian ministry. A professor at Tennessee State University since 1964, for seven years he was acting head of the Department of Biological Sciences. For 34 years he was adjunct professor at the American Baptist College, for 22 years he was director of the Biomedical Research Component of the Research Center for Minority Institutions, and for 37 years he has been a minister. He was senior pastor at the First Baptist Church of East Tennessee for 24 years, following six years of service as associate pastor. Currently Rev. Dr. Campbell is chaplain at the Tennessee Prison for Men at the Lois DeBerry Special Needs Facility, where he has served since 1970. He is also a charter member of the East Nashville Cooperative Ministries, of which he has served as president for four years.

TEXAS

Felix Fraga – Neighborhood Centers Inc.

As a social worker and Houston City Council member, Felix Fraga was a model of faith-inspired leadership with a concern for the needs of others. Today this attitude inspires his volunteer efforts in numerous programs and organizations. He serves on the boards of Houston's Neighborhood Housing Service, the Houston Housing Authority, and the Council of Human Relations, as well as on the boards of several faith-based community organizations, including the Salvation Army, the Open Door Mission, and the Star of Hope Mission. In addition to this public service, he volunteers time daily at Neighborhood Centers Inc. Having broad experiences and relationships with such a vast array of organizations, Fraga has promoted collaborative networking to address the problems of his Houston community. In recognition for his selfless public service, he has received numerous awards from both local and national organizations, but with sincere humility he says that his greatest reward is knowing that people's lives have been uplifted and that the Houston area he has served is now a better place to live and work in.

UTAH

Joyce W. Muhlestein – Utah Family Information and Resource Center

A dedicated leader on family and youth issues, Joyce Muhlestein has directed the Utah Family Information and Resource Center since 1998. The center focuses on encouraging meaningful parental involvement; building networks to serve and support families; supporting children's academic success; fostering partnerships between families, schools and communities; facilitating family literacy; cultivating character education opportunities; and promoting safe and drug-free communities and schools. Among her many other efforts in the areas of family and youth, Muhlestein is also acting administrator of the Utah Federation for Youth, which provides constant support and opportunities for young people to measurably improve hope and skills, and to prevent substance abuse and violent behavior through community action, leadership experiences, peer support, mentor networking, and environmental and societal stewardship.

VIRGINIA

Carolyn Lincoln – Baby Steps Inc.

Carolyn Lincoln is a founding member, CEO and president of Baby Steps Inc., a Virginia Beach non-profit that supports, trains and helps women inmates make the transition into a productive role in their families and society. Many inmates at the Tidewater Detention Facility for Women suffer from drug addiction, and a significant number give birth to babies exposed to drugs. Mrs. Lincoln's work is all non-paid, volunteer service. A retired Navy lieutenant, she is a registered nurse trained in psychiatry and substance-abuse counseling. She is also the first African-American president of the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations, an umbrella group for 92 neighborhood city leagues. Appointed to the Task Force on Faith-Based Community Service Groups by the House of Delegates, she has served on numerous boards of charitable organizations and is a past Virginia co-convener of the American Leadership Conference.

WASHINGTON

LeAnna Benn – Teen-Aid

The national director of Teen-Aid, LeAnna Benn is one of America's leading grassroots promoters of the growing abstinence movement. Under her direction the organization is spreading the abstinence message through its curricula, which she co-edited, not only here in the United States but throughout the world. She also wrote and directed a federal research project for the Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Program. LeAnna Benn is a member of the National Task Force on Character-Based Sex Education, and is on the Advisory Board of Directors of the National Abstinence Clearinghouse. A compelling speaker for Teen-Aid, she has given countless presentations at the National Right to Life Convention, Eagle Forum workshops, the American Family Defense Coalition, the National Abstinence Education Conference, and many others. Mrs. Benn has further extended Teen-Aid's work by helping establish affiliates not only in the United States but in Canada, Hong Kong, South Africa, Venezuela and Colombia.

WEST VIRGINIA

Pastor Matthew J. Watts – Grace Bible Church of Charleston

The senior pastor of Grace Bible Church of Charleston, Pastor Watts founded HOPE Community Development Corporation, a 501-c-3 that empowers inner-city residents through spiritual renewal, education, employment and training, and economic development. Before his ministry began, he spent twenty years in the corporate arena, which gave him the skills and acumen to develop successful community initiatives. Pastor Watts created Kingdom Management Consultants to promote minority-owned businesses. Having a passion for working with youth, he developed a model program titled Empowering At-Risk Youth through Character Development, Leadership and Career Planning. He also developed two model programs for juvenile offenders – Prevention, Intervention, and Diversion for Juveniles, and After-Care and Transitioning for Juveniles – as well as a counterpart program for adults, Alternative Sentencing for Non-Violent Offenders.

WISCONSIN

Rev. Olen Arrington Jr. – People Empowered and Equipped for Maximized Achievement

Rev. Olen Arrington Jr. pastors the Second Baptist Church of Kenosha and has served on the local school board and on the boards of numerous civic organizations. He initiated the celebration of a "Week of Kindness" in Kenosha that has affected the lives of tens of thousands. The programs of greatest pride to Reverend Arrington are the Coalition for Dismantling Racism and PEEMA (People Empowered and Equipped for Maximized Achievement). PEEMA addresses the needs of young people through character education and leadership empowerment. The program provides a model that specializes in religious and educational training for youth and adults alike. Reverend Arrington's creed is: "A Life of Service Is a Life Worth Living," and in his 20-year ministry he has striven to live up to it.

WYOMING

Dr. Anne Zimmerman – Christian Solidarity Worldwide - USA

Anne D. Zimmerman, M.D., serves as the Coordinator for Christian Solidarity Worldwide - USA, a Christian non-denominational, non-profit mission agency working for the liberation of persecuted Christians and oppressed children throughout the world. The organization is committed to "being a voice for those who have no voice," and works to obtain and disseminate firsthand information on the victims of oppression and to meet the needs of those deprived of humanitarian assistance, especially those dying of hunger and treatable diseases. CSW-USA is involved in several causes across the globe, ranging from slave redemption to medical aid to foster care programs. The Moscow "Our Family" project is a foster care program which works to place children whose families can no longer care for them or have abandoned or neglected them into loving homes. Dr. Zimmerman has provided leadership in bringing much needed medical aid to Sudan and supported efforts there to redeem slaves. In Armenia, CSW has set up an Orthopedic Clinic and Rehabilitation Center for those injured as a result of the ethnic cleansing warfare in that country.

SALUTE TO NATIONAL SERVICE HEROES



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