

Collaborations

The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc.

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by Scott Beard

Look What Came Across My Desk!

The Urban Institute releases study on volunteer management. The Urban Institute has released, *Volunteer Management Capacity in America's Charities and Congregations*: This study found that most of the recognized "best practices" for volunteer management, such as recognition activities for volunteers and training and professional development opportunities for volunteers, have not been adopted to a large degree by charities or congregations. The report includes a discussion of the challenges in volunteer management reported by charities and congregations, as well as capacity-building options for such organizations. To download the report, visit www.nationalservice.org/research/vol_capacity_brief.pdf.

Religious Movements (sponsored by The University of Virginia)

Religions and human cultures are constantly being renewed and invigorated. This Religious Movements site provides a foundation for understanding how religious groups emerge, grow, stagnate, reinvigorate themselves, and sometimes die. (Especially see the alphabetical descriptions of religions) <http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu/home.htm> (cont. p. 2)



Highlighted Program: The New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault received a VAWA grant to reach out to faith communities throughout the state of New Jersey. The program plans to provide training, resources and referrals to faith communities concerning sexual assault issues. If you would like more information about this program contact Ericha Davis by phone at (609) 631-4450 ext. 209, or by e-mail at edavis@NJCASA.org.

“One person can make a difference—and every person should try.” Stephanie Roper

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HHS Announces Anti-Trafficking Hotline, Awareness Effort

HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson today announced a major public awareness effort to combat human trafficking and help its victims, including a toll-free hotline.

The new tools include: A toll-free number (888-373-7888) run by the Covenant House, sponsored by HHS in collaboration with the Department of Justice, to allow victims of trafficking to be instantly referred to a pre-screened aid organization in the victim's area. A Web site (www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking) that serves as a clearinghouse on helping victims of human trafficking is also in place. Initially, a three-city public awareness effort was set up (Philadelphia, Atlanta and Phoenix) to educate Americans on the problem of human trafficking and how they can help victims in their community. A public service TV announcement, shared by HHS and the United Nations, is set to air to educate the public, on a national level, on the issue of human trafficking.

The Louisville Institute General Grants Program

The Louisville Institute offers a modest general grant program which supports a limited number of individual and collaborative projects related to the priorities of the Louisville Institute, especially projects that bring pastors and academics together. Such grants, for example, might cover the costs of convening a group of religious leaders and scholars or enable an academic to pursue a research project of interest to the church. <http://www.louisville-institute.org/secondary/generalgrant.asp>

The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) is planning to develop a series of case studies of police agencies that have taken on the issue of elder abuse and have developed a range of working relationships with institutions, clinicians, and advocates as a result. They plan to use the results of the case studies to derive prescriptions for other, less involved, police agencies so the latter can learn the benefits of entering into such collaborations. Contact: Clifford Karchmer, Police Executive Research Forum, Washington, DC. (202) 454-8336 www.policeforum.org.

Kyros Ministry—"Using scriptural wisdom, social research, and extensive experience, Kyros Ministry develops leadership within the religious community to create healthy power relationships within congregations, prevent misuse of power, and prevent those at risk of abuse." Questions regarding Kyros Ministry should be directed to: 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94401. Phone: 650. 343. 3377. All general questions can be emailed to Kibbie Ruth, founder and senior consultant of Kyros Ministry at: kibbie@kyros.org

Value-Based Initiatives.

"*Making the Match: Law Enforcement, the Faith Community and the Value-Based Initiative*" (46 pp.) provides suggestions and guidelines for starting a value-based initiative, with input from successful ventures. Extensive appendices include resources to help communities build or reinforce relationships between law enforcement and the faith community. (COPS)

Access full text at COPS Online: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/mime/open.pdf?Item=1041>

(Views expressed by the authors of the preceding articles and websites do not necessarily reflect the opinions of OVC or MCVRC)

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