



Florida Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council

Annual Report
1-1-2023

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INTRODUCTION

The Florida Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council was created in 2006 under s. 14.31, F.S. The Council is comprised of 25 members serving 4-year terms, appointed by the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House. Moreover, the Council serves as a formal advisory council to the Executive Office of the Governor and the Legislature which conducts business at least once per quarter.

STAFF

The Florida Faith-Based and Community Based Advisory Council is staffed by the Governor's Faith and Community Based Initiative Office. Lead staff from that office include:



Dylan Fisher
Director



Erin Kraeft
Special Projects Coordinator

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP



Erik Dellenback
Chairman
Jacksonville, FL



Calvin Martin
Vice Chairman
Palatka, FL



Lori Bontell
Orlando, FL



Mario Bramnick
Cooper City, FL



Chaplain
Wallace Brown
Tallahassee, FL



Pastor
Jason Cullum
Jacksonville, FL



Reverend
James Drake
Miami, FL



Pastor
Gerard Duncan
Gainesville, FL



Jeff Ford
Trinity, FL



Chad Garmon
Longwood, FL



Pastor
Scott George
Maitland, FL



Dr. Jerry Haag
Lakeland, FL



Denise Harle
Tallahassee, FL



Mami Kisner
West Palm Beach, FL



Pastor
Pam Olsen
Tallahassee, FL



Commissioner
Mel Ponder
Destin, FL



Chad Poppell
Tallahassee, FL



Michael Sheedy
Tallahassee, FL



Senator
Kelli Stargel
Lakeland, FL



Stephan Tchividjian
Fort Lauderdale, FL



Anthony Verdugo
Miami, FL



Adam Voran
Palm Harbor, FL



Rabbi
Yosef Weinstock
Hollywood, FL





Pastor Reno Zunz
Lutz, FL

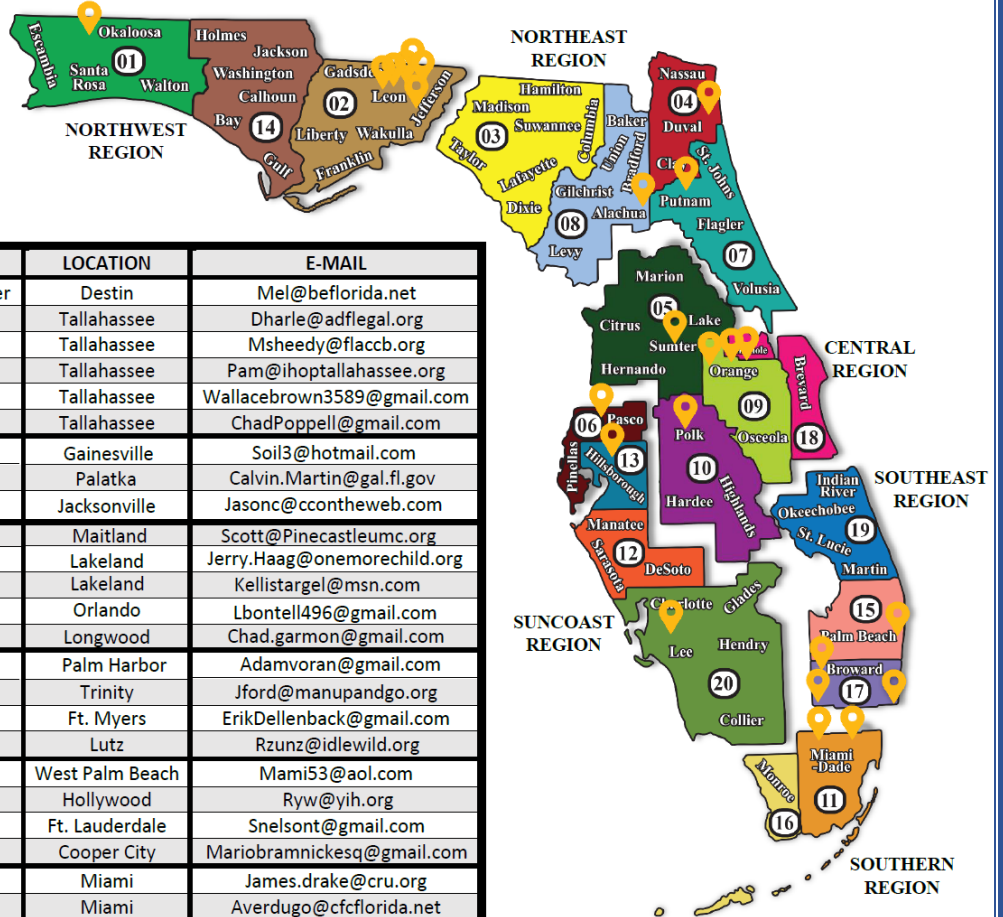
REGIONAL COUNCIL MAP



KEY

 Estimated location of Council Members

 Judicial Circuits in Florida



As of December 2022

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Q1 Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council Meeting

| 2022 Q1 Meeting | |
|------------------------|--|
| Date and Location | Feb 20 th – The Florida Capitol |
| Themes | Pro-Life Policy and the Legislative Environment; Foundations of Public Process |
| Special Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governor Ron DeSantis• Pro-Life Briefing: Alliance Defending Freedom• Current Life Legislation: Sen. Kelli Stargel and Rep. Erin Grall• State policy and budgeting: Chris Spencer, Governor's Office of Policy and Budget Director• The Constitution, the Judiciary, and Law in Florida: Supreme Court Justice Alan Lawson |
| Resources | |
| Additional Activities | Tour of the Florida Supreme Court; Tour at Florida State University |

Q2 Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council Meeting

| 2022 Q2 Meeting | |
|------------------------|---|
| Date and Location | Feb 20 th – Duval County Emergency Operations Center; Christ’s Church Jacksonville; Camp Blanding Joint Operations Training Center |
| Themes | Impact of Faith and Community Organizations in Times of Crisis and Disaster Response |
| Special Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Panel:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Kevin Guthrie, Florida Division of Emergency Management○ David Coggins, Florida Baptist Disaster Relief○ Michael Sheedy, Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops• Life legislative and judicial update – Alliance Defending Freedom• National Guard disaster response briefing – Florida National Guard• Effective Faith and Community Partnerships panel:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Levin Smith, Duval County Emergency Management Director○ Jacksonville Fire Rescue○ Kirby Wedekind, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency |
| Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• List of all county emergency manager contacts• Primary contact for National Guard Armory support and base philanthropy |
| Additional Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tour of the Duval County Emergency Operations Center• Tour of Camp Blanding Joint Operations Training Center |

Q3 Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council Meeting

| 2022 Q3 Meeting | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Date and Location | Sept 15 th – One More Child HQ in Lakeland, FL; Polk Correctional Institution |
| Themes | Redemption and Restoration Through Faith and Community Involvement in the Justice System |
| Special Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Panel: <i>Supporting Those Who Serve and the Programs that Restore in Florida's Corrections System</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Erica Averion, Florida Foundation for Correctional Excellence○ Chris Akins, Florida Corrections Foundation• Special Address from Secretary Eric Hall – Department of Juvenile Justice• DJJ Community Diversion and Prevention Program by Keith Babb – Executive Director of Family Support at One More Child• Panel Discussion: <i>Law Enforcement and Restoration – Human Trafficking Survivors</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Human Trafficking Survivor Mentors○ Maj. Britt Williams, Polk County SHERRIFS Office○ Jodi Domangue – Executive Director of Human Trafficking Prevention at One More Child |
| Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• List of all FDC correctional facility chaplains• DJJ Faith and Community contacts |
| Additional Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facility tour and presentations – Polk Correctional Facility |

Q4 Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council Meeting

| 2022 Q4 Meeting | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Date and Location | Dec 8 th – Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Ft. Lauderdale; Jewish Adoption and Family Care Options of South Florida (JAFCO) |
| Themes | Faith Network Collaboration for Child Welfare, Strong Families, and Community Connection |
| Special Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Address: Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez • Fighting for Strong Families: Secretary Shevaun Harris, Department of Children and Families • Panel: <i>Putting Faith and Community Networks Back at the Center</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Panos Kourtesis – One More Child; CarePortal ○ Kevin Enders – 4KIDS ○ Dawn Murray – Hope Florida and the Department of Children and Families • Panel: <i>The Power of “Together” – Using Faith Networks to Multiply Impact and Results</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eddie Copeland – Church United ○ Local faith leaders • Council Guest Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Councilmember Anthony Verdugo: State Attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle ○ Councilmember Stephan Tchividjian: EMA Founder, Charlee Tchividjian ○ Councilmember Jerry Haag: Rise for Life |
| Resources | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CarePortal info sheet • Individualized, region based child welfare snapshot one-pagers • Anti-Trafficking resources and contacts |
| Additional Activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility tour and presentations at JAFCO headquarters |

APPENDIX

14.31, Florida Faith-based and Community-based Advisory Council. –

(1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. –The Legislature finds that:

- (a) Compassionate groups of individuals have selflessly aided this state in serving our most vulnerable residents and our most debilitated neighborhoods.
- (b) Inspired by faith and civic commitment, these organizations have accomplished much in changing the lives of thousands and resurrecting neighborhoods torn by the strife of crime and poverty.
- (c) It is essential that this state cooperate with these organizations in order to provide an opportunity to participate on an equal basis, regardless of each organization's orientation, whether faith-based or secular.

(2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT. –It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to recognize the contributions of these organizations and to encourage opportunities for faith-based and community-based organizations to work cooperatively with government entities in order to deliver services more effectively. The Legislature further intends that the purpose of the council is to advise the Governor and the Legislature on policies, priorities, and objectives for the state's comprehensive effort to enlist, equip, enable, empower, and expand the work of faith-based, volunteer, and other community organizations to the full extent permitted by law.

(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL. –

(a) The Florida Faith-based and Community-based Advisory Council, an advisory council as defined in s. 20.03, is established and assigned to the Executive Office of the Governor. The council shall be administratively housed within the Executive Office of the Governor.

(b) The council shall consist of 25 members. Council members may include, but need not be limited to, representatives from various faiths, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, foundations, corporations, and municipalities.

(c) The council shall be composed of the following members:

- 1. Seventeen members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor.
- 2. Four members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the President of the Senate.
- 3. Four members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(d) Council members shall serve 4-year terms, except that the initial terms shall be staggered as follows:

- 1. The Governor shall appoint six members for a term of 3 years, six members for a term of 2 years, and five members for a term of 1 year.
- 2. The President of the Senate shall appoint two members for a term of 3 years and two members for a term of 2 years.

3. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members for a term of 3 years and two members for a term of 2 years.

(e) A vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the original appointing authority for the unexpired portion of the term.

(4) MEETINGS; ORGANIZATION. –

(a) The council shall meet at least once per quarter per calendar year. Meetings may be held via teleconference or other electronic means.

(b) The council shall annually elect from its membership one member to serve as chair of the council and one member to serve as vice chair.

(c) Thirteen members of the council shall constitute a quorum.

(d) Members of the council shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses pursuant to s. 112.061.

(5) SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES. –The council shall review and recommend in a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

(a) How faith-based and community-based organizations can best compete with other organizations for the delivery of state services, regardless of an organization's orientation, whether faith-based or secular.

(b) How best to develop and coordinate activities of faith-based and community-based programs and initiatives, enhance such efforts in communities, and seek such resources, legislation, and regulatory relief as may be necessary to accomplish these objectives.

(c) How best to ensure that state policy decisions take into account the capacity of faith-based and other community-based initiatives to assist in the achievement of state priorities.

(d) How best to identify and promote best practices across state government relating to the delivery of services by faith-based and other community-based organizations.

(e) How best to coordinate public awareness of faith-based and community nonprofit initiatives, such as demonstration pilot programs or projects, public-private partnerships, volunteerism, and special projects.

(f) How best to encourage private charitable giving to support faith-based and community-based initiatives.

(g) How best to bring concerns, ideas, and policy options to the Governor and Legislature for assisting, strengthening, and replicating successful faith-based and other community-based programs.

(h) How best to develop and implement strategic initiatives to strengthen the institutions of families and communities in this state.

(i) How best to showcase and herald innovative grassroots nonprofit organizations and civic initiatives.

(j) How best to eliminate unnecessary legislative, regulatory, and other bureaucratic barriers that impede effective faith-based and other community-based efforts to address social problems.

(k) How best to monitor implementation of state policy affecting faith-based and other community-based organizations.

(l) How best to ensure that the efforts of faith-based and other community-based organizations meet objective criteria for performance and accountability.

(6) RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES. —The council may not make any recommendation that conflicts with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or the public funding provision of s. 3, Art. I of the State Constitution.

(7) REPORT.—By February 1 of each year, the council shall prepare a written report for the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives containing an accounting of its activities and recommended policies, priorities, and objectives for the state's comprehensive effort to enlist, equip, enable, empower, and expand the work of faith-based, volunteer, and other community-based organizations to the full extent permitted by law.