



3rd Quarterly Meeting
August 27, 2019

9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Idlewild Baptist Church
Hall 2 (Student's Building)
18333 Exciting Idlewild Blvd.
Lutz, Florida 33548

Note: The following is a summary of the highlights of the proceedings and is not intended to be construed as a transcript. Please contact Frenchie Yon at Frenchie.Yon@eog.myflorida.com to obtain meeting materials or visit www.flgov.com/fbcb.

Attendance Summary

Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council Members in attendance:

- Dr. Jerry Haag
- Ms. Nancy Acevedo
- Richard Albertson
- Pastor Kirt Anderson
- Mr. Wallace Brown
- Reverend Perry Davis
- Pastor Scott George
- Dr. Rosby Glover
- Mr. Rolando Gonzalez
- Mr. Calvin Martin
- Ms. Pam Olsen
- Pastor Reno Zunz
- Pastor Carl Reeves (via phone)
- Ms. Pat Smith (via phone)
- Pastor Marcus Smith (via phone)

Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council Members unable to attend:

- Ms. Trenia Cox
- Pastor Gerard Duncan
- Dr. Gretchen Kerr
- Rabbi Pinchas Taylor
- Mr. Gary Tester
- Mr. Barry Webster
- Rabbi Joseph Weinstock
- Pastor Blaine Whitt



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Proceedings

I. Call to Order and Welcome

- Vice-Chair Jerry Haag welcomed the Council members and called the meeting to order.
- Vice-Chair Jerry Haag thanked Senior Pastor, Ken Whitten, Council Member Reno Zunz and Idlewild Baptist Church for their support in hosting the meeting. 
- Vice-Chair Jerry Haag thanked Mr. Keith Babb and Mr. Phillip Whitten for hosting us for our site visit to Hope Street and the Bartholomew Center.
- Vice-Chair Jerry Haag highlighted the Heart Gallery of Tampa Bay for sharing the beautiful photos of children displayed at the meeting. 
- The roll was called by Ms. Frenchie Yon, Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, and a quorum was confirmed.
- Dr. Mondonico Williams, the local missions pastor with Idlewild, was scheduled to provide the welcome, but he has a family emergency.
- Council member Reno Zunz and also the minister of the caring ministry of Idlewild provided the invocation and welcome.
- Dr. Rosby Glover made a motion to approve the previous meeting summary for the second quarterly meeting, and it was seconded by Ms. Nancy Acevedo, and it was approved.
- Mr. Zackary Gibson shared a new initiative from Volunteer Florida called [Volunteer Connect](#). It is an online platform for eligible non-profits and government entities to highlight the needs within the state and communities where volunteers can sign up to help meet those needs.
- Mr. Gibson shared that on September 4th-6th, the Department of Children and Families will host their 2019 Child Protection Summit at the JW Marriott Grand Lakes in Orlando.



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- This year Suicide Prevention Week is September 8 – 14.
- Mr. Gibson highlighted that on September 30th, Attorney General Ashley Moody and the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking would host their Human Trafficking Summit at the Hyatt Regency in Orlando.
- Mr. Gibson stated as we look ahead to October, please be advised of the following public awareness topics: Safe Sleep Awareness Month, Bullying Prevention Month, Disability Employment Awareness Month, and Domestic Violence Prevention Month.
- Mr. Gibson shared that on October 29th-30th, the Department of Juvenile Justice will host the 2019 Restoring Hope Training Summit at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando.
- Mr. Zackary Gibson shared that on November 6th-8th, the 4th Annual “Healing Neen” Trauma-Informed Care Conference will take place at the Omni Resort at Championsgate.
- Mr. Gibson shared that on November 18th-20th, the Department of Education will be hosting its Educational Strategies and Student Engagement Institute at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando.

II. Eckerd Connects and Foster Parent Recruitment

- Dr. Chris Card, Chief of Community Based Care Lead Agency, highlighted that Eckerd Connects provides the lead agency services to Circuit’s 6 & 13, which is Pasco, Pinellas, and Hillsborough counties.
- Dr. Card highlighted the needs of children and families in Eckerd Connects service area, especially around foster home recruitment.
- Dr. Card shared that Eckerd Connects has the follow faith-based initiatives: Florida 127, One Prayer One Child One





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Champion, Calvary Church, Quarterly Breakfast Convenings, Ministerial Alliances, Professional Parenting Training Classes, and Faith Forums.

- Council Member Pam Olsen thanked Dr. Card for his work around foster care and adoption.
- Council Member Reno Zunz also thanked Dr. Card for the connection between Eckerd Connects and his church, Idlewild Baptist.
- Council Member Rosby Glover asked a question about Eckerd Connect reducing the number of children in foster care and wanted to know if Dr. Card felt that the collaboration between faith-based organizations and his agency was helpful? Dr. Card stated, absolutely! We look to the faith community to embrace or foster kids and their families.

III. School Partnerships

- Pasco County School Superintendent Kurt Browning shared how his district collaborates with faith and community partners to support schools and their students.
- Superintendent Browning stated that faith-based and community partners bring resources and ability to the school district and the children they serve.
- Superintendent Browning said, for example, there are many churches in the area that collect school supplies for the ABC (Assist, Believe and Care) program, facilitate Christmas gifts for families, food drives, Summer feeding programs, volunteer on campus, meals and snacks for staff, copying for schools, tutoring, hygiene kits for homeless kids, and many other resources and abilities.
- Superintendent Browning spoke about the idea that some schools and districts hesitate to engage the faith community because they may feel like they may get in trouble if they have church people on a school campus. He feels like that idea is





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the wrong idea to have; it is about relationships and building them for students.

IV. Hope Street and Bartholomew Center

- The Council had the opportunity to participate in a site visit to learn how faith and community partnerships are supporting the Sulpher Springs K-8 school, and the Hope Street and Bartholomew Center.
- Mr. Keith Babb, director of programs, and Mr. Phillip Whitten, the director of engagement from One More Child-Hope Street, explained how the community center is making a positive difference in the Sulpher Springs community.
- Mr. Babb shared alarming statistics about children in the Sulpher Springs community to emphasize that the need is there.
- Mr. Babb also explained the “backpack feeding program” and how they utilize volunteers to pick up the backpacks from the school, refill them with a breakfast, lunch, and dinner option, and then return the full backpacks to the school for distribution on Friday afternoons.
- Mr. Whitten spoke about his role as director of engagement and explained more about how they use volunteers and shared data around how much is saved by using volunteers to meet the needs.
- Mr. Whitten shared a program called Loft 181, which is a beautiful clothing store that teenage girls in foster care shop for new and gently used clothing for free!
- Council Member Richard Albertson asked how much were the shirts for the children at the school, and Mr. Babb stated that they were \$6 each, Richard stated that he would be collecting money to send them the school to buy shirts.
- Council Member Reeves commented about how he would like to bring what they are doing in central Florida and the Tampa area to Pensacola.





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V. Champions for Change

- Ms. Linda Alexionok, President of Voices for Florida, shared an idea and concept called Champions for Change.
- Ms. Alexionok spoke about a report that she read in preparation for her presentation called “Does Faith Matter” from the World Economic Forum that shared finding that faith plays a crucial role in issues related to human rights, peace-making, and values.
- Ms. Alexionok shared that faith-based communities have been champions for change since the beginning of time and are great partners in this work of human trafficking.
- Voices for Florida is creating the change, and they state the following as to how to create the change:
 1. Accelerate and sustain innovations that solve complex problems.
 2. Develop networks of networks to leverage capacity and create impactful outcomes.
 3. Build the brand, public trust, and investor confidence through model fidelity, coordinated connectivity, and measuring meaningful outcomes.
 4. Create impact funding opportunities for investors and donors.
 5. Establish continued training & education of promising best practices and process improvement principles.
- Ms. Alexionok shared about the Open Doors Outreach Network and the network approach. The network approach standardized service delivery, avoid duplication of services by leveraging existing resources, collaboration through community partnerships, funding follows the survivor and provides consistent training & education
- Text CHAMPION4CHANGE to 22828 for updates about Open Doors and Champions for Change





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VI. Partnering and Engaging with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

- The Council welcomed Executive Director Ken Lawson from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to speak about partnering and engaging with the faith community.
- Director Lawson shared how DEO uses smart data to make intelligent financial decisions to help small, medium, and large communities across Florida, but more importantly, they help Floridians get a job, buy a home, and start a life.
- Throughout Florida, CareerSources has programs in place to serve local communities as a resource to help assist people in getting jobs and careers.
- Director Lawson spoke about the program and website [Rebuild Florida](#) that was created to help Florida's long-term recovery efforts from recent hurricanes.
- Director Lawson also shared another program called [Florida Community Action Agency](#)



VII. FL Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster

- Vice-Chair Haag shared that we are still in hurricane season and to get prepared before a storm heads our way.
- Ms. Jessica Geib, Chair of the Florida Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster, shared their mission. A forum where organizations share knowledge and resources throughout the disaster cycle-preparation, response, recovery - to help disaster survivors and their communities.
- Ms. Geib shared that the Florida VOAD is a partnership approach to disaster by cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration. These are their guiding principles that all VOAD's throughout the country must follow





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- She stated that VOAD was created in 1970 after hurricane Camille hit the United States after people realized that they were duplicating services.
- During grey sky times, FLVOAD coordinates with Volunteer Florida and local emergency management, daily response communication with membership, and monthly long-term recovery collaboration calls.
- During blue sky times, FLVOAD provides training, exercises, workshops, cooperative local VOAD/COAD working group, long-term recovery working groups, newsletters, and networking.
- Where do you fit? Statewide – Florida VOAD or County – Hillsborough County COAD and Local Emergency Management Agency.

VIII. Member Updates

- Council Members provided information on the following topics:
- Member Wallace Brown shared that he will be retiring from the Florida Senate on October 31st, 2019.
- Member Scott George shared his experience from the event Project Opioid put on in June.
- Member Calvin Martin shared about Trauma-Informed Care and how ACE's impact children.
- Member Pam Olsen shared an update around legislative session. Committee weeks are coming up and are set to begin the week of September 9th, and the 2020 legislative session begins on Tuesday, January 14th. She also stated Thursday Oct. 17 at 4 pm-Sat. Oct 19 at 6pm. We are hosting Tent America at the State Capitol in front of the dolphins fountain. It is 50 hours of non-stop worship and prayer at the heart of our state government. We are praying for our city, state, nation and nations and families in this urgent hour of history.



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- Member Reno Zunz shared that Idlewild would be hosting their annual Hope 5k race and fun walk on Saturday, August 31. All proceeds from the race go to the local schools in need.
- Member Jerry Haag thanked Member Zunz for the prayer. He also shared all of the wonderful things that were apart of the “Back to School Bash” – Hair cuts, school supplies, physicals, uniforms, assistance with forms and paperwork along with other resources.
- Member Rosby Glover talked about collaboration and working together to meet the needs.
- Member Nancy Acevedo stated that she feels blessed to work with Sheriff Lemma of Seminole County around the work being done around the Opioid epidemic.
- Member Richard Albertson shared the “Sequence of Success” and spoke about marriage. He shared the website <http://usmarriage.org/> as a resource.
- Member Rolando Gonzalez shared his appreciation and thanks to the Advisory Council for all of the experiences he has been given while on this council
- Member Kirt Anderson thanked the church for hosting us
- Member Perry Davis promoted the need for volunteers within all of the Florida Department of Corrections facilities and not just faith volunteers, and mentors are also needed.

IX. Public Comment

- Ms. Johnnie Coleman, with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, spoke about how to engage faith and community for supports. More specifically, how the faith community can help the population of persons with disabilities.



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X. Closing

- The next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 7th, in Orlando, FL.
- Benediction was given by Mr. Rolando Gonzalez, Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council Member.
- There being no further business, Member Richard Albertson made a motion to adjourn, and Member Rosby Glover seconds the motion.
- The meeting was adjourned.