



FLORIDA FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY-BASED ADVISORY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Florida Faith Based and Community Based Advisory Council (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. (F.S. 14.31)

To achieve this, the Council will *facilitate connections to strengthen communities and families* by:

- Actively participating in scheduled Council meetings and suggesting topics for discussion that add value and purpose to the meetings;
- Working together with other members to share ideas and strategies to advance the work of the Council;
- Increasing public awareness and presence of the Council through outreach and participation in events and activities that support state initiatives and priorities;
- Serving as a point of contact for local circuits throughout the state;
- Encouraging participation and collaboration with government and providers to achieve state initiatives and priorities;
- Identifying needs or challenges within communities or areas and connecting leaders to appropriate state agencies who may assist in addressing needs or challenges;
- Bringing local, regional and state leaders together to identify strategies and initiate action to address needs and challenges;
- Showcasing and highlighting innovative programs, services and best practices during events and activities to include regional summits and annual conferences; and
- Providing recommendations on legislative and policy concerns, ideas and options to eliminate bureaucratic barriers.

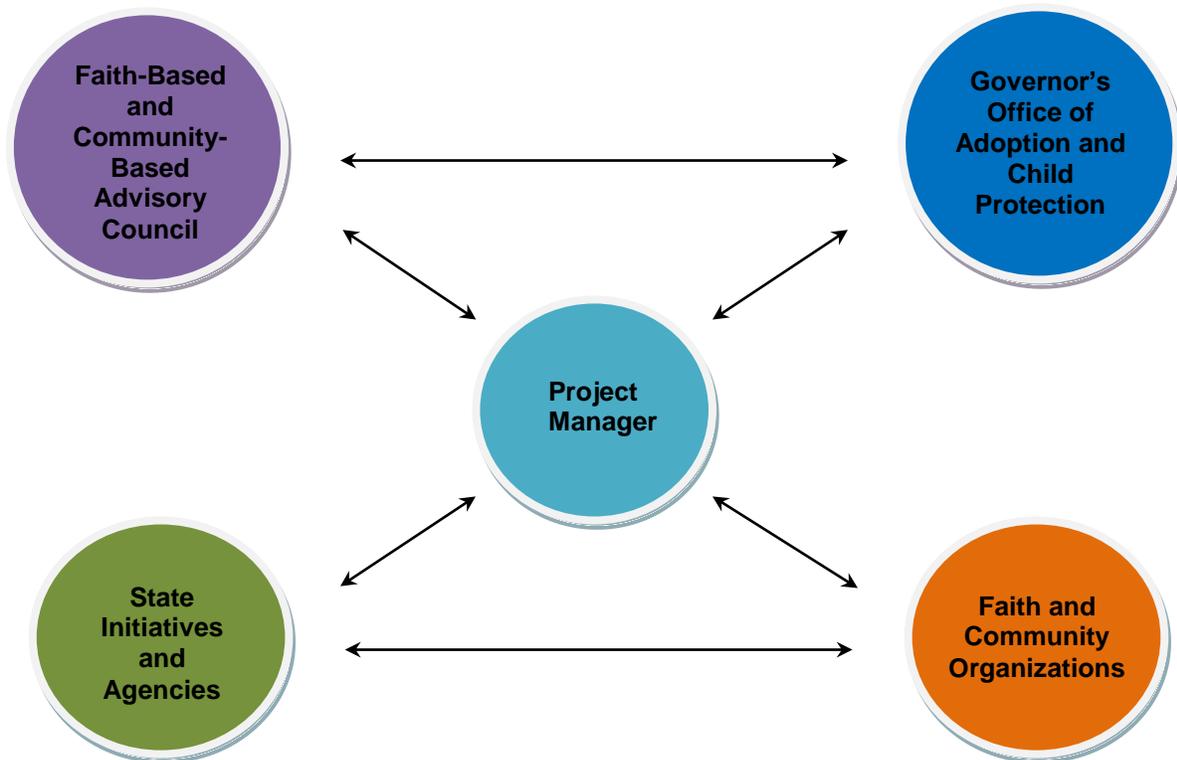
OBJECTIVES

1. Increase the number of faith and community organizations committing to and providing services in support of state initiatives and priorities.
2. Increase the number of participants at regional summits and annual conference.
3. Showcase and highlight innovative and best practices of faith-based and community-based organizations and initiatives to increase public awareness and support.
4. Recommend improvements or adjustments to legislation and policies that allow for effective faith-based and community-based efforts to address social problems and achieve state initiatives and priorities.



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ACTION FRAMEWORK



ACTION STEPS

- Council members to select a circuit based on the Judicial Circuit Map to serve as the main point of contact for that circuit (*Note- due to where Council members are located throughout the state, it may be necessary for some members to serve as a point of contact for a circuit that is beyond where they are located and/or partner with another member due to the size of the circuit*).
- Establish Workgroups to advance the work of the Council to achieve its goals:
 - **Regional Summits Workgroup**- a total of six (6) regional summits will be hosted to invite faith and community leaders to share information on challenges/barriers to working with government, recommendations for improvement on legislation and state policies, needs within their communities or areas, effective strategies and how government and organizations can work together to strengthen communities and families. In the event an existing summit is being provided by a state agency, the Council will look to partner with that agency.
 - State agency staff and providers will be invited to assist in planning and participating during each summit.
 - One to two Council members will serve as the lead/co-leads for a summit that includes their circuit(s).



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- ***Annual Conference Workgroup***- a team of Council members will participate with state agency staff in the planning of an annual statewide conference that brings together faith and community organizations. In addition, other Council members will be asked to serve in the following capacities:
 - Conference presenters- delivering information and strategies to improve the work between government and faith and community organizations.
 - Program/Service Reviewers- will review submitted programs and/or services based on review criteria to select organizations to be showcased or highlighted during the conference and future regional summits.

- ***Legislative Review Workgroup***- a team of Council members will collect information shared during the regional summits, annual conference, and through individual communication to identify recommendations to refine, improve or strengthen legislation and state policies that advance the efforts of faith and community organizations to address social problems and assist in the achievement of state initiatives and priorities. Recommendations will be shared with state agency contacts for additional input and support.

- ***Best Practices Workgroup***- a team of Council members will collect information shared during the regional summits, annual conference, and recommendations provided by state agencies and providers to identify and promote best practices across state government relating to the delivery of services by faith and community organizations. Participants within this workgroup will inform or participate as a Program/Service Reviewer for the Annual Conference Workgroup.

- ***Annual Report Workgroup***- a team of Council members will work collaboratively with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council, and with the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, to develop an annual report that captures the Council's accomplishments, achievements and progress towards addressing expectation outline in Florida Statue 14.31 to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.