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here you go.

## **THE WHITE HOUSE**

WASHINGTON

### **MEETING WITH FAITH-BASED PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND REMARKS AT THE 11<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Los Angeles Convention Center

Los Angeles, California

Margaret Spellings / Karl Rove

#### **I. PURPOSE**

To meet with individuals who have been helped by Faith-Based organizations and to deliver remarks highlighting your vision of compassion in action and the importance of Faith-Based and community organizations in helping Americans in need.

#### **II. BACKGROUND**

This event will highlight the progress your Administration has made in leveling the playing field so that Faith-Based organizations can compete fairly for Federal grants and help more Americans in need. You will announce new data showing substantial increases in grant funding of Faith-Based organizations from 2002 to 2003 in programs at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). These funding increases demonstrate that your regulatory approach toward the Faith-Based initiative has helped remove the barriers many Faith-Based and community organizations faced when you took office.

Across seven Federal agencies, the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives has guided six final regulatory changes and three proposed regulations, and you will propose another four changes in your speech today. These actions were in response to your December 2002 Executive Order that mandated equal treatment for Faith-Based organizations in the Federal grants process.

Prior to your remarks, you will meet with success stories and providers from Beit T'Shuvah, Union Rescue Mission, Celebrate Recovery, and Welcome Home Ministries. These programs help addicts and newly released inmates. They highlight the progress your Faith-Based Initiative has made and the work that remains to be done.

##### Access to Recovery

Nationwide programs like Teen Challenge and local Faith-Based programs like Beit T'Shuvah cannot receive Federal funding. You proposed the Access to Recovery (ATR) program in your 2003 State of the Union Address, and Congress appropriated \$100 million in January 2004 for ATR. This drug treatment voucher program is designed to help addicted Americans find treatment from the most effective programs, even if the content of the program is religious. HHS is making \$100 million available for up to 15

states to extend drug treatment to 50,000 more Americans. When States are awarded these funds this summer and institute their programs, for the first time addicts will be allowed to use vouchers to choose a recovery program that works best for them, including Faith-Based programs. Your FY 2005 budget requested an additional \$200 million for ATR so it can be expanded to other states.

#### Prisoner Re-entry Initiative

In your 2004 State of the Union address, you proposed a four-year, \$300 million prisoner re-entry initiative to reduce recidivism and the societal costs of re-incarceration by helping inmates find work and transitional housing when they return to their communities. The initiative, contained in your FY 2005 budget, will harness the resources and experience of Faith-Based and community organizations like Welcome Home Ministries in helping returning inmates contribute to society.

**Note:** You delivered remarks at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional White House Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on December 12, 2002. Today's event is in Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard's (D, CA-43) district, but she will not attend.

### III. PARTICIPANTS

#### Meeting Participants

Acting Secretary Alphonso Jackson, Department of Housing and Urban Development  
(will introduce you for remarks)

John Walters, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy

Charles "Charlie" Curie, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services

Harriet Rossetto [roh-ZEH-toh], CEO/President, Beit T'Shuvah [BATE SHUH-vah]

Rabbi Mark Borovitz [BORE-oh-vitz], success story, Beit T'Shuvah

Harold Rothstein [Roth-STEEN], success story, Beit T'Shuvah

Dr. Ralph Plumb, President/CEO, Union Rescue Mission and Co-founder, Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative

John Baker, Associate Pastor, Saddleback Church and Founder, Celebrate Recovery

Leticia Chavez [La-TEE-SEE-uh SHAH-vez], success story, Celebrate Recovery

Reverend Carmen Warner-Robbins, Founder and Director, Welcome Home Ministries

#### VIPs in Audience

##### Meeting Participants

Mayor James "Jim" Hahn, City of Los Angeles (non-partisan position)

Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., Pastor, West Angeles Church of God in Christ; and First Vice President, The Presidium of the Church of God in Christ, Inc.

Mae Blake, wife of Bishop Blake (T)

Bishop Gabino Zavala, Saint Gabriel Pastoral Region, Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Reverend Cecil "Chip" Murray, Sr., Minister, First African Methodist Episcopal Church

John Bryant, Founder, Chairman and CEO, Operation Hope

Sheila Kennedy Bryant, wife of John Bryant

Robert Paulette, husband of Leticia Chavez

Isaac Chavez, son of Leticia Chavez

Cheryl Baker, wife of John Baker



John Robins, husband of Reverend Carmen Warner-Robbins  
State, County, and Local Officials (see attached list)  
Charlotte Van Fleet, USA Freedom Corps Greeter  
Hillel Hebrew Academy Choir (will perform prior to your remarks)

1,200 participants at the regional White House Conference on Faith-Based and  
Community Initiatives and invited guests from the Faith-Based community

White House Staff

Karl Rove, Senior Advisor

Jim Towey, Director, Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

IV. PRESS PLAN

Meeting: Closed  
Remarks: Open

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- You arrive Los Angeles Convention Center and are greeted by Mayor Hahn, Bishop Blake, Bishop Zavala, Reverend Murray, and John Bryant.  
**Note:** In April 2002, you met with Reverend Murray and John Bryant in a roundtable discussion with community leaders at First African Methodist Episcopal Renaissance Center in Los Angeles on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the L.A. Riots. In October 2003, Bishop Blake attended the Kenya State Dinner with his wife Mae.
- You and Acting Secretary Jackson proceed to Meeting.
- You begin participation in the Meeting with success stories and Faith-Based providers.
- You conclude Meeting and proceed to Concourse Hall for offstage announce with Acting Secretary Jackson.  
**Note:** Prior to your remarks, the Hillel Hebrew Academy Choir will perform.
- Acting Secretary Jackson is announced on to stage.
- You are announced on to stage.
- Acting Secretary Jackson delivers welcoming remarks and introduces you.  
**Note:** During your remarks, Acting Secretary Jackson will remain seated on stage and Meeting participants will be seated in the front of the audience.
- You deliver remarks.
- You conclude remarks, work rope line, and depart.

VI. REMARKS

Remarks Provided by Speechwriting

## VII. ATTACHMENTS

Remarks

Background on Meeting Participants

Background on Organizations Represented in Meeting

List of State, County, and Local Officials in Attendance

Charts on Agency Funding of Faith-Based Organizations

Political Briefing

## **BACKGROUND ON MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

### Harriet Rossetto [roh-ZEH-toh], CEO/President, Beit T'Shuvah (Culver City, CA)

- Harriet Rossetto is the CEO/President of Beit T'Shuvah, a Jewish recovery program. Harriet works with men and women suffering from various addictions.
- Harriet joined the staff of Jewish Committee for Personal Service (JCPS) in 1984. The original mission of JCPS was to provide comfort to the "forgotten Jews" in California mental hospitals and prisons, to assist them in gaining release, and to help them become self-reliant and self-respecting individuals.
- Beit T'Shuvah is a prime example of the Faith-Based and Community Initiative and would greatly benefit from Access to Recovery.
- Harriet is married to Rabbi Mark Borovitz. They have one daughter, Heather, who is a doctor in Baltimore, and two grandchildren.

### Rabbi Mark Borovitz [BORE-oh-vitz], success story, Beit T'Shuvah (Culver City, CA)

- Rabbi Mark Borovitz serves as Beit T'Shuvah's Rabbi, teaching daily Torah lessons and working with addicts on their journey to recovery.
- When Rabbi Borovitz was 16, he was the president of his Temple's youth group. By age 36, he was in prison for the second time. While serving time, the prison Rabbi helped him reconnect with his faith. He has been out of prison for over 15 years and has since reunited with family.
- Rabbi Borovitz works with individuals who would benefit from your Access To Recovery initiative.
- Rabbi Borovitz is married to Harriet Rossetto.

### Harold Rothstein [Roth-STEEN], success story, Beit T'Shuvah (Marina Del Rey, CA)

- Harold Rothstein has completed a course in Drug and Alcohol studies at UCLA. He is employed at Beit T'Shuvah and is studying for his counseling certification with the California Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors.
- b(6)
- Harold's life was changed because of his time at the faith-based organization, Beit T'Shuvah. Also, Access to Recovery could have benefited Harold and would benefit others that Harold works with at Beit T'Shuvah.
- Harold is single.

### Dr. Ralph Plumb [PLUM], President/CEO, Union Rescue Mission and Co-founder, Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative (Los Angeles, CA)

- Dr. Ralph Plumb is president and chief executive officer of Union Rescue Mission, the largest mission of its kind serving the homeless in America. He has spent over 30 years devoted to this cause. His commitment has taken him to 90 countries as a leader in emergency relief efforts, health care projects, educational programs, and community development projects worldwide.
- Dr. Plumb co-founded the Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative, uniting over a dozen leading community-based service providers.
- Dr. Plumb is expanding the Union Rescue Mission's role as a teaching/mentoring mission, assisting other organizations and service providers in developing effective services for the poor and homeless. Dr. Plumb is committed to finding solutions to child poverty in Los Angeles.



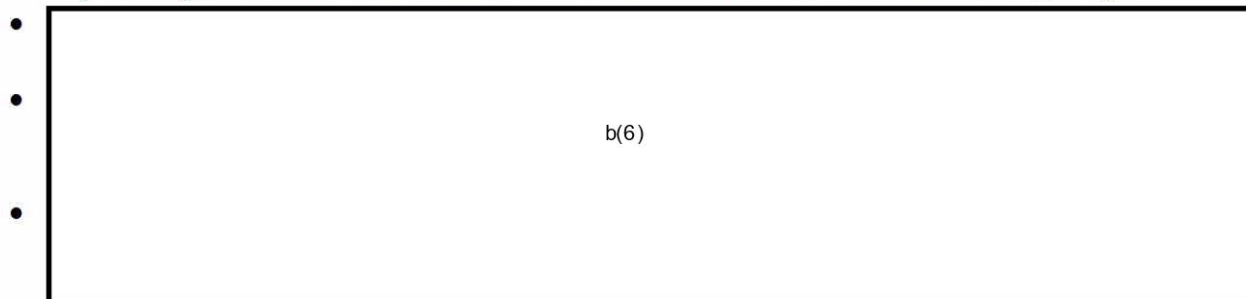
- Dr. Plumb has had three daughters: Chelsea (22), and Misty (19). His oldest child, Bristol, died at age ten.

John Baker, Associate Pastor, Saddleback Christian Church and Founder, Celebrate Recovery (Lake Forest, CA)

- Pastor John Baker describes himself as a “believer that struggles with alcoholism.” Since the creation of Celebrate Recovery in November 1991, over 6,000 people have gone through the program at Saddleback. Pastor Baker has also written the Celebrate Recovery curriculum, which has been published and used in over 2,500 churches for more than 150,000 individuals in the United States and internationally. A Spanish translation was released last year.
- Pastor Baker was a successful businessman and a functional alcoholic for almost 20 years. He started with the Alcoholics Anonymous program and began attending Saddleback Church with his family.
- Celebrate Recovery participants would greatly benefit from Access to Recovery. Celebrate Recovery also works with Welcome Home Ministries.
- Pastor Baker has been married to Cheryl Baker for almost 35 years and has two adult children, Laura (30) and Johnny (27), who is expecting his first child in June.

Leticia Chavez-Paulette [La-TEE-SEE-uh SHAH-vez], success story, Celebrate Recovery (Albuquerque, NM)

- In the late 1980’s and early 1990’s, Leticia Chavez-Paulette had risen from her childhood as a poor migrant worker to become a successful woman with a husband and a good job.



- Six months after her arrival at the New Mexico Women’s Correctional Facility, Leticia became Chaplain Helen Oates’s clerk. She attended Alcoholics Anonymous, substance abuse counseling, relapse prevention, women empowerment groups, Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, and parenting classes.
- In December 2000, the Faith-Based unit was opened in the prison and Leticia lived in the Celebrate Recovery pod for 20 months.
- Now Leticia is working, remarried, and her son Isaac (8) is living with her.

Reverend Carmen Warner-Robbins, Founder and Director, Welcome Home Ministries (Leucadia, CA)

- Carmen is the founder and director of Welcome Home Ministries.
- After receiving her nursing degree in 1974, Reverend Carmen Warner-Robbins edited the first emergency care text, Emergency Care Assessment and Intervention, and initiated national programs in domestic violence and sexual assault. Carmen is also an ordained minister and jail chaplain for women.
- Carmen operates a Faith-Based organization for prisoners, and she has received a grant from the Department of Labor for her work with prisoners. Welcome Home Ministries participants would benefit from the Prisoner Re-entry Initiative.
- Carmen is married to John Robbins and has two children, Ryan (26) and Tracy (24).

## **BACKGROUND ON ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED IN MEETING**

### Beit T'Shuvah [BATE SHUH-vah]

- Beit T'Shuvah, Hebrew for "House of Return," was founded in 1987 as a residential therapeutic community for those recovering from substance abuse. Beit T'Shuvah provides emotional and spiritual healing to Jews with addictive and behavioral disorders. The program integrates psychotherapy and the Torah with the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as the basis of the recovery process.
- The most important component of the Beit T'Shuvah Faith-Based model of recovery is the spiritual community.
- Beit T'Shuvah employs staff therapists and Rabbinic staff and has a volunteer staff of over 20 licensed therapists.

### Union Rescue Mission

- Located in downtown Los Angeles, the Union Rescue Mission (URM) is the largest homeless mission in the United States. On-site programs range from emergency services to full-transition. The URM complex houses dental and health care clinics, a mental health center, intermediate housing, a day center, an educational training center, legal aid, a community bank, and a post office. All services are provided free of charge.
- URM has an annual budget of approximately \$20 million. A majority of funds come from private donors. Although URM is a secular organization, its programmatic philosophy is rooted in Christian biblical teachings.
- URM attracts approximately 5,000 volunteers a year.

### Celebrate Recovery

- Saddleback Church's Celebrate Recovery ministry celebrates God's healing power in daily life through the "Eight Recovery Principles." By applying these Biblical principles, participants begin to grow spiritually and become free from addictive, compulsive, and dysfunctional behaviors.

### Welcome Home Ministries

- Welcome Home Ministries is a Faith-Based prisoner re-entry program designed to assist women as they return to society. Welcome Home services begin in jail, providing chaplaincy and case-management services.
- Prisoners meet with Welcome Home staff to design a release plan and list of needs. Following release, Welcome Home Ministries provides basic needs, such as clothes, food, and living accommodations, as well as education training and other reentry services. Partnering with a One-Stop program, Welcome Home assists former prisoners with job placement and training. The ministry also partners with Celebrate Recovery for those needing substance abuse recovery services.



## **STATE, COUNTY, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE**

State Assemblyman Dennis Lee (R)  
State Assemblyman Robert “Bob” Pacheco (R)  
Mayor Walter Allen, III, City of Covina (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Jon Blickenstaff, City of La Verne (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Edward Cortez, City of Pomona (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Stephen Del Guercio, City of La Canada Flintridge (non-partisan position)  
Mayor David Gutierrez, City of San Gabriel (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Robert Hammond, City of Monrovia (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Steve Herfert, City of West Covina (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Gregory Hill, City of Redondo Beach, California (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Matthew Lin, City of San Marino (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Leonis Malburg, City of Vernon (non-partisan position)  
Mayor John Martins, City of Artesia (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Curtis Morris, City of San Dimas (non-partisan position)  
Mayor Beatrice Proo, City Pico Rivera (non-partisan position) **(T)**  
Mayor Frank Roberts, City of Lancaster (non-partisan position)  
Vice-Mayor Henry Hearn, City of Lancaster (non-partisan position)  
Councilman Richard Loa, City of Palmdale (non-partisan position)  
Councilman Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier (non-partisan position)  
Councilwoman Tonja Torres, City of Sierra Madre (non-partisan position)  
Supervisor Michael Antonovich, Los Angeles County (non-partisan position)  
Supervisor Don Knabe, Los Angeles County (non-partisan position)