

Faith-Based Organizations Relationships Confidential Survey

Name of CAA Community Action Organization

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Contact Person for this survey Jerralynn Ness, Title Executive Director

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Introduction : As you will see immediately from the questions below, we are gathering details of your CAA's relationships with local religiously-affiliated organizations (like Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, YWCA) and/or faith-based organizations (such as mosques, churches or clergy associations). We refer to them all as Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) for convenience.

We are seeking to understand the relationships of FBOs with CAAs over the past five years through today. We need to know how these relationships will fare if new funds, or CSBG funds, are made available for competition to FBOs and others. And we need to know if you believe the religious organizations in your community will help us in a debate in Congress or the Administration; conversely we need to know whether you can predict who would not be on your side. If we have not asked the right questions to elicit your experience and views, please write us about whatever we need to know.

About your submission to us: we have requested both attachments and written answers. We would appreciate having material in electronic format. The more material you can give us on disk in Word or WordPerfect, the sooner we can have our Congressional presentations ready. This questionnaire is also available in electronic form from either your State Association or from Marci Phillips by e-mail (marciphillips@ncaf.org). Again, without this information we may not be able to avoid a Congressional attack on our current resource base.

Please return this information to us by February 13, 2001.

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I. Your CAA and Your Local Religious Leaders

A.

Please attach a list of your entire board. Please be sure to highlight members who are from FBOs and show their affiliations.

Executive Committee

Ralph Brown, Chair, City of Cornelius Mayor
Dick Stenson, Vice Chair, President & CEO, Tuality Healthcare
Deena Barrett, Secretary, Child Care Provider
Dan Aberg, Treasurer, President & CEO, Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce
Darlene Greene, At-Large, for Mayor Gordon Faber, City of Hillsboro
Margaret Eickmann, At-Large, Community Representative

Board Members

Evelyn Brzezinski, for Mayor Rob Drake, City of Beaverton
Dick Stenson, President & CEO, Tuality Healthcare
Darlene Greene, for Mayor Gordon Faber, City of Hillsboro
Richard Hager, for Mayor Lou Ogden, City of Tualatin
Leroy Bentley, Retired General Manager of GTE
Commissioner Tom Brian, County Board of Commissioners
Margaret Eickmann, Community Representative
Tino Ornelas, for Congressman Wu, Ornelas Enterprises, Inc.
Toni Pavloff, for Head Start Policy Council
Kim Carlson, Adult and Family Services
*Bibianne Scheckla, East County Shelter Council
Alfredo Solares-Vega, Centro Cultural
D. Craig Kinnie, Vice President, Intel Architecture Labs
Mayor Ralph Brown, City of Cornelius
Dan Aberg, President & CEO, Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce
Deena Barrett, Child Care Provider
Katrina Pirkle, Ex-Officio Member
Leslea S. Smith, Legal Aid Services of Oregon

* This is a FBO.

Most CAO Board members are actively involved in local churches and bring their church support to CAO.

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B.

Describe boards, committees, or task forces your agency participates in with FBOs and the nature of the relationships with those FBOs.

Lutheran Family Services – CAO collaborates with LFS to provide transitional housing and support services to formerly homeless women and children, victims of domestic violence and those with alcohol and drug addiction problems. We jointly seek and receive funding for this project, which identifies specific roles for each of the collaborators. CAO serves as a fiscal agent for some of LFS funding.

WESTCO – This is a coalition of 35 churches which raises funds and passes them on to CAO to provide emergency services. The churches have indicated that they do not have the capacity to administer or deliver the service. Furthermore, they desire a system that promotes “one-stop” help and non duplicative services, which we provide. They rely upon CAO to provide needed administrative support and comprehensive services to low income families to prevent destitution and help them achieve levels of stability and self-sufficiency. CAO serves as the fiscal agent.

Hillsboro Ministerial Association - This is a coalition of 40 churches that do the same as WESTCO. CAO provided leadership to bring this group together and to organize them around the need for FBO partnerships to help meet emergency needs. CAO serves as the fiscal agent.

Tigard Christian Ministeries – This is a group of 30 churches that do the same as WESTCO. In addition, they have asked CAO to serve as a clearing-house for the church sponsored food box programs. CAO takes food requests, screens and refers them to the appropriate church. CAO worked with this group to help organize a family shelter home. They partnered with CAO to help establish a CAO satellite office, called Neighborshare, in south county. They feel quite a bit of ownership for it and could be interested in direct funding or competing with CAO for funding. CAO serves as the fiscal agent.

Interfaith Hospitality Network - This is a group of 25 churches that CAO helped to organize and provided technical assistance as they developed a church based sheltering program. CAO coordinates with this organization as referrals are made back and forth of homeless people seeking shelter.

Sheltering Homeless Coalition – This is a group of 12 churches that own houses that they make available to CAO to place formerly homeless families into a transitional housing setting. They maintain the homes and CAO provides case management. CAO serves as the fiscal agent.

Play It Again – After starting a successful free clothing store for low-income families, CAO formed a partnership with a group of churches who now operate the store with volunteers. CAO acts as the fiscal agent for this operation.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon – CAO has collaborated for years with EMO to advocate for policies, legislation and programs that benefit low-income families.

Good Neighbor Center – CAO helped to re-open this shelter home and operated it for a year while creating a new non-profit to take it over. It is a model that involves around 35 churches who volunteer their time. This Center is now operated by the new non-profit which has heavy involvement from local FBOs. CAO contracts with them for services with state homeless funds.

Care to Share – This is a FBO supported service center that utilizes volunteers to provide emergency services. They also do LIEAP intakes for CAO and coordinate with us to provide other emergency services.

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C.

Which, if any of the persons listed in A or B would write Congress supporting a continuation of the current relationships and endorsing your work? please indicate any that are close alliances and indicate which of these leaders might join you in supporting the current arrangement. Would any try to compete for current funding or new funding? If so, which ones?

I believe that all of the above would support the current relationship and endorse our work, with the exception of some of the churches directly involved in operating the Good Neighbor Center and Tigard Christian Ministries. They might feel the need to compete as they feel a great deal of ownership. Also, they were upset that the original non-profit went under and a big, established organization (CAO) had to step in because they weren't in a position to do so.

II. Partnerships with FBO's

(By partnerships we mean arrangements to which each brings important resources. It could be a project mentioned in below, but it could be different ...)

A.

Has your agency been in partnerships with one or more FBO during the past 5 years? If yes, please describe the projects, including whether the CAA provided funds in support of the FBO activities and if so, what type of funds.

Yes, please see IB above. CAO has been involved in these partnerships for years. I have worked at CAO for 28 years and I can't remember a time when we weren't involved with FBOs. In all of the partnerships listed above we each bring resources to the table. CAO contracts some state funding for homelessness services; CSBG is used to provide coordination. CAO succeeded in getting all local shelters included in a County Safety Levy that passed; two of these shelters are operated by FBOs. CAO brings HUD SAFAH funding to the transitional housing programs; some of the FBO's help us get LIEAP services delivered.

The message from our local FBOs has continually been: We can't do what a non-profit social service organizations can do. It isn't our mission. We don't have the infrastructure, the administrative capacity or the skill set. We want to be a part of the solution by raising funds, providing volunteers, serving on advisory boards, providing food boxes, advocating, and helping to organize for needed services. We need a social service agency to play a leadership role in administering the funds. This will support a "one-stop" assistance model and prevent needy families from going from church to church seeking help."

B.

Would any of your partner FBO's help us by supporting the current system with your Congressional delegation?

Yes, I believe that most of them would.

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III. FBOs in your CAA programs (FY1997 - FY2001)

This section seeks information on CAA programs in which FBOs are involved as contributors, subcontractors, grantees, or sources of referrals.

A.

Describe the amount and the purpose of any donations (monetary and in-kind) your agency has received from FBOs.

Over the past five years we have received 709 gifts, totaling \$164,781, from 88 different FBOs. (See attachment) Annually we receive \$40-50,000 for emergency assistance and \$10,000 operational support. This does not include FBO non-profits such as Lutheran Family Services and Salvation Army.

B.

Describe any subcontract agreements your agency has with FBOs, including the amounts and purposes and the type of FBO. How much of these funds are government (federal, state, local)?

No funding contracts, except for \$20,000 state funds for Good Neighbor Center (homeless shelter) which is a non-profit dominated by FBOs involvement. However, several agreements for clothing and food distribution, etc., are in place with FBOs.

C.

Describe the events and circumstances in which your agency has received assistance from FBO volunteers and the FBOs that were involved. Give an estimate of the number of volunteer hours involved.

Over 1,000 volunteers from FBOs have provided over 25,000 hours annually to support our work and services to our clients. Situations include our shelter homes, maintenance of transitional housing, migrant camp food and clothing distributions, food drives, fund drives, clothing drives, putting together baby layettes, etc.

D.

Describe situations when FBOs have referred clients to your agency for assistance and estimate the number of clients involved:

FBOs refer around 8,000 clients annually to receive shelter, energy assistance, pregnancy support, child care, rent assistance to prevent homelessness, Head Start, and so on.

E.

Describe situations or services for which your agency refers clients to FBOs:

For the most part, FBOs have indicated that they do not want us to refer clients to them as they are not in a position to provide service. In addition, the nature of our partnership is such that the FBOs want to be able to refer clients to CAO to relieve them. The few FBOs that are service providers, CAO refers around 2000 families each year for food boxes, clothes, transitional housing and shelter.

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F.

Describe any situation in which your agency has acted as a fiscal agent for joint programs/projects with FBOs:

WESTCO emergency fund, Hillsboro Ministerial Association Emergency Fund, Hopesprings-Transitional Housing with Lutheran Family Services, Play It Again free clothes store, Care to Share, and Tigard Christian Ministries Neighborshare funds.

G.

Trends - How have your relationships with FBOs changed over the last five years? Have alliances, common goals, and/or leadership interactions increased or decreased? Have funding, subcontracts, referrals, and volunteer numbers increased or decreased? Conversely, has competition with FBOs increased or decreased?

Our relationship has grown considerably and expanded into new areas of the county, including FBOs that haven't been involved before. Funding from FBOs has increased. FBOs have not competed for funds available to CAPS or traditionally available to non-profit charitable organizations. We have partnerships with dozens of FBOs and sub-contract with two; we have informal agreements for service delivery with many others. As FBOs become more involved with homelessness, we have seen some competition for homeless funds; but we are still working collaboratively and seeking funds jointly. FBOs have increasingly looked to us for leaderships and partnerships.

H.

Would the leaders of these groups support keeping the status quo? Would they seek independent funding if available?

I believe that the vast majority would support the current arrangement and would not seek independent funding. Moreover, they would support more funding to us, so our joint clients would get more help.

IV. Potential Claimants/Competitors

A.

Which, if any, local FBOs have already been in competition with your CAA and what has been the result? Please describe that situation and include the following information in your response:

- (1) Type of organization and denomination
- (2) Type of resources in competition
- (3) Information on their current programs (News Clippings, etc)

Salvation Army for energy assistance; not a big threat. Good Neighbor Center and InterFaith Hospitality Network for shelter funding; worked out an agreement for joint funding through a county levy.

B.

What FBOs would you expect to find competing for CSBG and other funds in the future?

Lutheran Family Services, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and the Good Neighbor Center, primarily because they are service organizations; but I believe that once they realize the impact on the CAO network and the continued opportunities to collaborate with CAPs and to sub-contract, that they would choose not to.

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C.

Has the CAA had conflicts with these or other FBO's over the sharing of resources? If yes, Please describe and tell us to what extent this may be known to, or have an impact on, your elected officials.

Salvation Army has raised the issue of getting energy assistance funding directly. We have a strong CAP network that demonstrated good collaboration with Salvation Army prevented this from going anywhere. It wasn't visible to elected officials. FBO supported non-profit that went belly up was ready to compete for funds; this is a bit more visible and the new organization. Good Neighbor Center, has some potential for competing. Currently, CAO sub-contracts state homeless funding with them.

V. Model Faith-Based/CAA Partnerships:

A.

If an FBO/CAA partnership has produced a program you are proud of and would like highlighted, please give us as much information as you can, so we can showcase it in our Congressional briefing.

WESTCO:

A group of churches in the west part of Washington County wanted to have a greater impact on the needs of low-income families in their communities. They felt this could be achieved by partnering with Community Action. They organized a coalition of churches who, as members, agreed to raise money for a fund to be administered by CAO. They also agreed, because they lacked the individual capacity to adequately respond to client needs, to refer clients who called the churches directly to CAO. They knew that CAO would be able to provide more comprehensive assistance, stretching their funds to have a greater impact. This partnership has been operational for many years, successfully serving thousands of families in need. It became the model for a second FBO partnership to develop, which is fully operational.

B.

Are there projects in which you would like to have more involvement by faith-based partners? Please describe and indicate whether you would share federal or other public resources with them for the work listed.

Yes, almost every program that we operate would benefit from greater FBO involvement in terms of private fund contributions, volunteers and in-kind donations. CAO provides the FBOs with a place to refer their clientele to obtain needed services that have a far-reaching impact on family stability and achievement of self-sufficiency. CAO would like to provide training on our internet based I & R system so that FBOs are in a position to link people with needed services. Public funds could be shared to defray overhead and provide coordination.

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C.

Specific programs: Among the many initiatives mentioned by the Administration in its FBO initiative are those in the following list. Can you tell us whether your CAA currently (or recently) has such projects and, if so, whether they involve FBOs? (Be sure you have described this thoroughly in one of the items above)

<i>Program</i>	<i>CAA Has One</i>	<i>FBO is Involved</i>	<i>Names/Type Roles of FBOs</i>
AmeriCorps (if yes, please include the number of volunteers)	7	yes	Donations, volunteers
Fatherhood Initiatives			
Gang Violence/Juvenile Justice	yes	yes	Donations, volunteers
Teen Programs, especially abstinence, substance abuse, etc			
Other violence prevention, including domestic violence			
Other Substance abuse treatment and prevention	yes	yes	Donations
Ex-offender and prisoner services			
Children of prisoners services			
Welfare-to-Work	yes	no	
Other Welfare service (specify)			
Literacy	yes	yes	Donations, volunteers
After-School programs, especially 21 st Century Community Learning Centers	yes	yes	donations
>Maternity= group homes			
Homeless Services and/or Shelters	Yes	yes	Funding, volunteers, in-kind

VI. Additional Guidance for NCAF

A.

Have there been discussions of the new Bush initiative by/ for FBO's in your community? Can you give us a sense of which is going on and what it means for support or competition for your CAA.

Not too much although volunteers and board members have begun to inquire; most seem outraged. We encourage them to send their views to the Bush administration. Soon, we will have more in-depth discussions as we see this as a real opportunity to educate the community about CAO's role, the preference of our local FBOs and the productive partnerships that are already in place.

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B.

Charitable Choice opponents argue that FBOs are likely to use federal dollars to promote their religious views to those seeking assistance or to selectively choose clients. However, the President argues that FBOs can provide vital Alove, guidance, and friendship ... and faith@, he also said "The American people ... want to see their federal dollars making a real difference in the lives of the disadvantaged... (we) must find ways to promote healing and renewal. Please give us the best evidence you have on why your CAA can and does meet these important and appealing tests, describe your view of how FBOs can best contribute to local initiatives.

Low-income families who have received services from many organizations, including FBOs, regularly report that CAO has made a real difference in their lives in ways that are unique: with respect, dignity, support that promotes healing, renewal, building of self esteem and empowerment to achieve a better life. CAO provides a broad range of services and is linked to the entire community of resources to offer the most comprehensive assistance to families with multiple needs. Families who need spiritual guidance seek out a spiritual advisor; families who need social service support, including mental health counseling, seek out compassionate community based organizations such as CAPS; families who need income support seek out government agencies. Some clients have reported to us, they will not seek help from FBOs because of the religious agenda. We are their only alternative.

Basic CAA Data Survey

We urgently need basic data about your CAA to present to Members of Congress. In this very challenging political environment, we cannot do our work without better information than we have had in the past. We have tried to make this as simple for you as possible, but we must have the following items.

I CSBG data: Please give us the agency data you provided to your state as part of your FY 2000 (or more recent) CSBG Report. We would prefer an electronic format, if available. (Please label the disk, with your agency name and the data format!)

Agency: Community Action Organization

Address: 1001 SW Baseline Street, Hillsboro, OR 97123

Phone: (503) 693-3251 Fax: (503) 648-4175

E-mail: jness@caowash.org Web site: www.caowash.org

Executive Director: Jerralynn Ness

Person completing this survey: Jerralynn Ness

Title : Executive Director

II The following are items that are not part of the CSBG report. We do need them for our Congressional work. Thank you for understanding why it is so important to have this to NCAF promptly.

- 1) All the counties you serve in whole or in part: Washington County
- 2) Name(s) of the U.S. Representative(s) of the area you serve: David Wu
- 3) Number(s) of the Congressional District(s) you serve: 1st Congressional District

III Your own Reports: please attach:

- 1) A list of your FY 2001 programs and initiatives with some notes to tell us which ones are unique to your state or community. (attached)
- 2) Copies of recent clippings about your agency, if any. (attached)
- 3) Your most recent Annual Report. (attached)

IV A view of your CAA and its community role

Please describe recent activities that are especially innovative, effective and a subject of pride to you (with enough detail so we can tell the story.)

When CAO could no longer staff and fully operate a free clothing store for low-income families, we turned to the faith community to develop an effective partnership. CAO took fiscal and administrative responsibility, provided the non-profit status for donations and referred clients in need of clothes. CAO obtained donated space and a donor to pay for utilities and phone. The faith community took responsibility for recruiting, placing and supporting the

volunteers who run the operation. This includes opening the store, receiving and organizing donations, greeting and assisting shoppers and keeping track of service.

Please describe any negative publicity or even public conflicts related to the CAA, particularly those that will have come to the attention of federal, state, or local public officials, with guidance as to how we can answer any questions.

We had to close down our free clothes closet due to county red tape; volunteers were disappointed and there was some negative press; the situation is now resolved.

Some church leaders didn't like the fact that CAO was called in to save a local shelter and re-open it; they wanted to be able to do it themselves, but knew that they didn't have the capacity to do so; no bad press, but some lingering bad feelings. Local and state elected officials are aware of this and are supportive of CAO.

What are your views on how your U.S. Representative or Senator regards the agency and what we should be sure to include in our conversation with him/her? (Include any recent, or regular visits that the Member or his/her staff have made to your agency or its programs.)

Congressman Wu serves on our board; he attended the 25th anniversary of our shelter home last summer. Senator Wyden is very supportive; Senator Smith is less familiar.

Please give us your best example of how your CAA offers unique solutions relevant to your community and is very different from the "government solutions" the Bush Administration dislikes.

We bring together corporations, FBO's and local government to partner with CAO and provide funding, in-kind donations and volunteers to carry out needed services to the low-income community. The community feels a great deal of ownership of our programs, which is unheard of in the public sector. When schools had an opportunity to bid on state funds to operate Head Start they took a look at what the program entailed and said, "how can we help you be successful? There is no way we could do what you're doing and if we did it would be much more expensive." When a local shelter went belly-up, County government approached CAO and asked if we could rebuild and re-open the shelter as there was no way they had the expertise or could leverage the amount of private support needed. CAO successfully reopened the shelter and also built a new non-profit of local FBO, political and business leaders to take over the operation.

FBO's Donating to CAO - 1996 - 2001

Aid Association for Lutherans #5917
All Saints Episcopal Church
Banks Community United Methodist Church
Bazaar Boosters of Christ the King Lutheran
Beaverton Foursquare Church
Calvary Lutheran Church
Calvin Presbyterian Church
Christ the King Lutheran Church
Christ United Methodist Church
Community Church of Cedar Hills
Community of Christ Church
Cornelius United Methodist Church
Emanuel Lutheran Church
Episcopal Church Women
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Evergreen Christian Center Foursquare
Faith Christian Fellowship
First Baptist Church of Forest Grove
First Christian Church
First Congregational Church
First United Methodist Church
Forest Grove Assembly of God
Grace Community Church
Hillsboro Friends Church
Hillsboro Presbyterian Church
Hillsboro United Methodist Church
Hilltop Church Tualatin United Methodist
Jubilee Christian Fellowship
Living Savior Lutheran Church
Metzger United Methodist Church
Mission of the Atonement
Mountain Home United Methodist Women
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
Our Lady of the Lake Parish
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Saint John the Baptist
Seventh Day Adventist Church
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Sisters Of Social Service - Beaverton
Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon
Sisters of the Holy Names
Society of Jesus Oregon Province
Sonrise Baptist Church
Southminster Presbyterian Church
St. Alexanders Parish
St. Andrew Lutheran Church
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
St. Bede's Episcopal Church
St. Cecilia's Parish
St. Francis Catholic Church
St. Francis Parish

88 Total FBOs
709 Gifts
\$164,781.53 donated

St. James Episcopal Church
St. Luke Lutheran Church
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
St. Peters Lutheran Church
St. Vincent De Paul / St. Anthony's Church
St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Anthony
Tigard Christian Church
Tigard Church of God
Tigard Community Friends Church
Tigard Covenant Church
Tigard Friends Church
Tigard United Methodist Church
Tigard United Methodist Women
Trinity Evangelical Church
Tualatin Foursquare Church
Tualatin Hills Christian Church
Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church
Tualatin Presbyterian Church
Tualatin Seventh Day Adventist Church
Tualatin United Methodist Church
Tualatin Valley Baptist Church
Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Washington County
United Church of Christ
United Methodist Church
United Methodist Church Banks Community
United Methodist Church of Forest Grove
United Methodist Church of Hillsboro
Valley Community Presbyterian Church
Visitation Catholic Church
West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Inc.
West Portland United Methodist Church
Women of Emanuel/Emanuel Lutheran Church
Women's Fellowship/United Church of Christ Congregational
World Heart Ministry Assoc.