

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER # 158**

**Relating to the Creation of the  
Office on Community and Faith-Based Partnerships**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin benefits from a rich diversity of community and faith-based organizations that provide critical aid to many Wisconsin residents, including assistance to children, families, and neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, committed volunteers in community and faith-based organizations bring unique skills, services, and resources to bear in assisting Wisconsin residents; and

**WHEREAS**, many community and faith-based organizations can assist the State of Wisconsin in addressing unmet human services needs, and in enhancing the quality of life for Wisconsin residents; and

**WHEREAS**, it is beneficial to encourage communication between governmental entities and community and faith-based organizations, recognizing the importance of sharing information about, and encouraging the best practices of, community and faith-based organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many opportunities for community and faith-based organizations to partner with governmental entities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the State of Wisconsin's best interest to maximize financial support it receives from the federal government by working with the network of programs authorized under the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 related to services provided by charitable, religious, or private organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 authorizes state governments to contract with faith-based organizations and allows faith-based organizations to accept government assistance provided under the Act on the same basis as secular organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin residents can benefit from a comprehensive and coordinated effort to improve and strengthen community and faith-based organizations in our state; and

**WHEREAS**, the effort to support community and faith-based organizations in Wisconsin should be facilitated by having an office with a direct relationship with the Governor's Office;

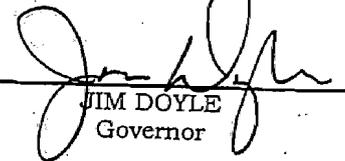
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM DOYLE**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested to me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, including Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Create the Wisconsin Office of Community and Faith-Based Partnerships; and

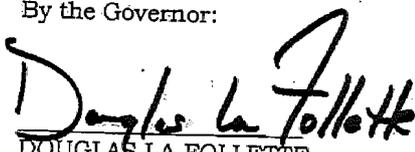
2. Direct that the Office shall:
- a. Facilitate coordination of state government efforts relating to community and faith-based initiatives, expand opportunities for community and faith-based organizations to address social needs in Wisconsin, and identify obstacles to effective and efficient collaboration; and
  - b. Provide a single point of contact for community and faith-based organizations to receive information, assistance, and referrals related to community and faith-based programs within state government; and
  - c. Work with community and faith-based organizations to promote service activities and assist the organizations in identifying and applying for federal grants; and
  - d. Identify, promote, and share innovative and model community and faith-based programs, initiatives and best practices among community and faith-based organizations; and
  - e. Provide technical assistance, education, information and other support to community and faith-based organizations; and
  - f. In collaboration with state agencies, monitor the effectiveness of service provision using funds distributed to community and faith-based organizations; and
  - g. Identify, promote and share innovative and model community and faith-based programs, initiatives and best practices with peers throughout the state; and
3. Direct the Department of Health and Family Services to provide basic staff support to the Office, and all state agencies to provide information and assistance to the Office at its request.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this fifteenth day of June, in the year two thousand six.

  
JIM DOYLE  
Governor

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State