

LIVING WATER

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III CORD FOUNDATION

III CORD FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES JANUARY 2006 FUNDING AWARDS

*He who believes in me,
as the Scripture has said,
from with him will flow
rivers of Living waters.*

- John 7:38

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he III Cord Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the approval of our January 2006 cycle of fund awards. Funds are provided to local and international ministries and agencies. The following agencies received funding for the amounts identified:

AGENCY	AMOUNT	LOCATION
Community Empowerment Program - Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)	\$10,000	Phoenix Metro Area
Congo Initiative	\$20,790	Democratic Republic of Congo
End Time Army Global Ministries	\$480	Uganda
Faith Family Church	\$7,600	Phoenix
Mission Times	\$2,400	Uganda
Servant of the Master	\$1,440	Phoenix
Smile Africa Ministries	\$5,040	Uganda
Spirit Song Ministries	\$1,200	Uganda
Soroti Bethel Pentecostal Church COGIC	\$1,200	Uganda
Streets of Destiny Church	\$1,200	Phoenix
Valley Christian Centers, Inc.	\$2,000	Phoenix

AFRICAN-AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE DAYS

On February 8 and 9, 2006, III Cord Foundation participated in the 4th Annual-African American Legislative Days event.

This event highlighted important African-American issues in the state of Arizona.

Speakers included an address from Governor Janet Napolitano and Rep Leah Landrum-Taylor who gave the "State of Arizona African-Americans" address.



Ms. Monica Scott and Rev. Donald Taylor (Executive Director) participated.

2007 FEDERAL BUDGET REFLECTS MAJOR REDUCTIONS

President Bush recently released his FY2007 budget. It is very unclear what the President's proposal for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) would do to Arizona. To view a summary of this budget visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2007/>

The following are the major highlights of this budget:

Community Development Block Grant

- This budget will consolidate "duplicative" programs and targeting funding to communities most in need through the *Strengthening America's Communities Initiative (SACI)*. This initiative will eliminate CDBG along with 17 other federal community and economic development programs and reduce total funding by 27%.

Home - While the Administration continues to strongly emphasize homeownership, this year's request is the lowest in the previous four years.

Homeless Assistance Grants - While the budget proposes 15.6% increase over the FY 2006 appropriated level. However, this increase includes a \$25 million transfer to the Department of Labor for a proposed faith-based prisoner re-entry initiative and \$200 million for the Samaritan Homeless Initiative (has yet to be authorized). This leaves \$1.31 billion for the existing homeless assistance programs, a reduction of \$16 million compared to the FY2006 appropriated level.

SECTION 8 - The budget proposes increases for Voucher (tenant-based) program and the Section 8 Project Based Rental Assistance program.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)- The budget proposes an increase \$14 million over the FY2006 level.

- The **Youth Build Program** is proposed for transfer to the Department of Labor.

- The budget proposes \$115 million for **lead-based paint programs**, a reduction of \$35 million from the FY2006 level.

- The budget cuts the **Section 811 Housing for the Disabled** program in half, proposing \$119 million compared to the FY 2006 level of \$237 million

- **Section 202 Housing for the Elderly** is cut from \$735 million in FY2006 to \$545 million.

- \$39.7 million is proposed for the **Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program**, a decrease of \$21 million.

- For the fourth consecutive year, the budget proposes no new funding for the **HOPE VI** program.

In lieu of reduced federal financial support, local support is needed to supplement basic services for low and moderate income individuals and families.

In face of these and other major funding reductions in federal, state and private sources, increasingly organizations are turning to organizations like III Cord Foundations to bridge the financial gap. Through our assistance we are able to support many small non profit and faith-based ministries who serve the "least among us".

Increasingly, the burden of supporting the poor is being turned over to faith organizations (such as III Cord Foundation), without governmental financial support.

MISSION PARTNER NEWS

Valley Christian Centers, Inc.

Welcome "MISSIONARIES FROM THE EAST"

Last fall we received a call from National Ministries asking if we could utilize a couple who wanted to give their time and talent to a short term mission within the United States.

As the Lord leads, Charles and Marietta Farrell came to sunny Phoenix, AZ and spent 7 wonderfully blessed weeks at VCC. They tutored our youth, setup a give away "clothing store", painted, fixed plumbing problems, etc. There is not enough space in this article to show all the blessings given during their stay.

You too can be a part of *Fulfilling the Needs of Our Community* by partnering with "Your" Valley Christian Centers, Inc. through funding, volunteering.



Streets of Destiny Church "Community Clean-Up"

The youth and congregation of Streets of Destiny Church, in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity and Community Church of Joy, conducted a community clean up on February 18, 2006 in Central Phoenix.

The purpose of this event was to erect the Resurrection Recreation playground for Destiny Kidz & the Street Unit teen ministry. This project took place at the church located at 3444 East Van Buren Street.

With the help of volunteers from the participating agencies, community youth, church members and others. The backyard of the church was transformed with the erection of a volleyball court, half basketball court and community garden on the undeveloped property.

This project is a critical part of the church's strategic plan to outreach and improve the lives of youth and families along Van Buren. Pastors Martel & Catalina Stevenson will hold a dedication ceremony for the playground on March 26, 2006.

“Overflowing into the Lives of Others”

Dinner and Fundraising Event

On Saturday March 4, 2006, III Cord Foundation hosted its 4th annual “Overflowing into the Lives of Others” dinner and fundraising event.



This event was hosted by Rev. and Mrs. Tracey Goodner (pictured above) at their south Phoenix home.

This event was attended by approximately 50 people, representing a diverse cross-section of the community. Atten-

dees enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres, entrees and desserts courtesy of *Heaven Sent Catering & Personal Chef Services* and *Sweets by Maria*.

After dinner, a silent auction was held, which included many one-of-a-kind items, pictures, clothing and accessory items from Africa and donations contributed by various local organizations, agencies, individuals and businesses.



Table of Silent Auction items



Pictured above (left to right): Rev. Donald Taylor, Rev. Tracey Goodner, and Rev. Doug Copeland (Executive Director, Valley Christian Centers, Inc.)

Earnings obtained from this event will be earmarked for the agency's local and African mission activities. Rev. and Mrs. Goodner have agreed to match each dollar generated through the fundraiser to Foundation mission activities.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the event.

Pictures provided by Michael Flemister



III CORD FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES IDA PROGRAM

III Cord Foundation in partnership with its Community Development Partners announces the establishment of an Individual Development Account (IDA) program.

The IDA program is a match saving program that can be used towards: 1) First Time Home Ownership, 2) Post Secondary Education, 3) Child's Post-Secondary Education and 4) Micro Enterprise (small business) start-up.

Through this program up to \$1,000 in match funds can be provided to enrolled individuals. For additional information please contact our office at 602.252.1175 or one of our program partners.

MISPLACED PRIORITIES?

An index by the Harrison Group shows that materialism is significantly up among young people aged thirteen to twenty-four. A *Bloomberg News* article reports that some are spending up to \$1,500 on a purse. The article does not mention, however, whether these "rich kids" share their resources by giving to charity. Either way, we think this trend suggests a whole new market for non-profits. If these kids are begging their parents to buy them \$900 purses to go with their "socialite" pink cashmere tracksuits, why aren't they begging their parents for \$500 to help homeless or abused children?



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The Crisis of Fatherless Families

Fatherless homes are devastating the social fabric of American society and is the leading cause of increased drug use, school drop out rates and teen pregnancy among youth today. It is not coincidental that:

72% of long term violent prison inmates incarcerated today grew up without a father.

63% of youth who commit suicide grew up without a father.

85% of incarcerated youth grew up without a father.

82% of teen girls who get pregnant grew up without a father.

This "fatherhood development workshop" addresses the real experiences and challenges of young fathers through our 16 week, program which concludes with a Graduation Ceremony. The workshops will provide support, information and motivation in the areas of parenthood, relationships, sexuality, and responsible manhood.

For information contact Father Matters: Fathermatters@hotmail.com

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Church Needs Nursery Supplies

Street of Destiny Church is establishing a nursery ministry. They have need of the following items:

Children DVD's, picture Bibles, educational tools and toys, dry eraser board, diapers (pulls ups and wipes), baby clothing, strollers, changing tables, pacifiers, baby bottles and formula.

If you can assist them please contact 480-580-7294.

Prayer Concerns

Please keep III Cord Foundation Board of Directors, ministry partners and staff in your prayers. In addition, remember the individuals who will be embarking on the mission trip to the Republic of the Congo and Uganda during the month of August.

We are still accepting donations to help purchase Bibles, tools and educational materials to be given to organizations in Africa during the trip.