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Faith-Based & Community Initiatives, White House Office of
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Folder Title:

Kirbyjon Caldwell

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Card	The White House	1	N.D.	b6;
002	Email	FW: problem... [1 PAGE RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 10/05/2023 MAC] - To: Christopher Bayer, et al. - From: Emily L. Kropp	1	09/11/2003	
003	Report	Grantee Narratives [page 1]	1	N.D.	b6;
004	Email	RE: 9/12 Power Center... [1 PAGE RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 10/05/2023 MAC] - To: Jim Towey - From: Dennis Grace	1	09/11/2003	
005	Speech	Remarks at the Power Center ... [page 5]	1	09/12/2003	b6;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, White House Office of

SERIES:

Hein, Jay - Outreach Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Kirbyjon Caldwell

FRC ID:

9182

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
006	Letter	[Letter] [with attachment] - To: POTUS - From: Kirbyjon Caldwell	2	01/06/2003	b6;
007	Card	The White House	1	N.D.	b6;
008	Card	The White House [2 PAGES RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 10/05/2023 MAC]	2	N.D.	
009	Handwritten Note	[Handwritten Notes]	4	N.D.	b6;
010	Speech	Remarks at the Power Center ... [page 5]	1	09/12/2003	b6;
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Benjamin Erulkar
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development

Benjamin Erulkar has served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development since December, 2005. In this capacity, Mr. Erulkar directs and coordinates all operations of the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Mr. Erulkar also directs strategic planning efforts to fulfill EDA's mission: to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

Prior to his appointment as Deputy Assistant Secretary, Mr. Erulkar served as EDA's Chief Counsel where he led and managed all aspects of EDA's legal practice and policy – including working to secure EDA's 2004 reauthorization legislation and promulgating a comprehensive revision of EDA's regulations. More recently, Mr. Erulkar served as Co-Chair of the Economic Development Working Group in the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Gulf Coast Rebuilding.

Mr. Erulkar holds a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, an M.A. with Distinction in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, and an A.B. magna cum laude in Government from Harvard University.

Before joining EDA in 2003, Mr. Erulkar was an Associate with Vinson & Elkins L.L.P in Washington, D.C. from 1996-2003; an Associate with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P in Washington, D.C. from 1992-1996; and an Insurance Officer with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation in Washington, D.C. from June 1985-June 1989.

Mr. Erulkar holds bar memberships with the District of Columbia (Active) and the State of Pennsylvania (inactive since 1994).



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Deputy Assistant Secretary Ben Erulkar Delivers Remarks at the University Economic Development Association 2007 Summit "Policy, Practice & Partnership: Strategically Fostering Economic Development" in Portland, OR: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ben Erulkar will deliver remarks focused on 21st century economic development and the importance of free trade agreements at the University Economic Development Association 2007 Summit "Policy, Practice & Partnership: Strategically Fostering Economic Development" in Portland, OR. Open press. **(November 5, 2007)**

Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah will participate in the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Roundtable on Corporate Citizenship in Washington, DC: Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah will join Jay F. Hein, Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and Henrietta Fore, Acting Administrator, USAID, in a White House roundtable on corporate citizenship Open Press. **(November 7, 2007)**

Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah Delivers Remarks at the China Chamber of Commerce in U.S.A., Inc., 10th Anniversary Gala Dinner in New York, NY: Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah will deliver remarks on the importance of free trade agreements at the China Chamber of Commerce in U.S.A. Inc., 10th Anniversary Gala Dinner in New York, NY. Open press. **(November 7, 2007)**

Deputy Assistant Secretary Ben Erulkar and Director of The White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Jay Hein Present the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Award for Community and Faith-based Social Entrepreneurship to the Pyramid Community Development Corporation in Houston, TX: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ben Erulkar and Director of The White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Jay Hein will present the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Award for Community and Faith-based Social Entrepreneurship to the Pyramid Community Development Corporation in Houston, TX. Open press. **(November 16, 2007)**

Deputy Assistant Secretary Ben Erulkar will participate in an Economic Roundtable with U.S. Senator Sununu in Groveton, NH: Deputy Assistant Secretary Ben Erulkar will participate in a roundtable meeting to discuss the upcoming closure of the Wausau Paper Mill and the impact of the plant closure on workforce and the economy, with local, state, and union officials. Senator Sununu will moderate the meeting at the Groveton United Methodist Church in Groveton,

NH. Open press. (November 19, 2007)

Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah Delivers Remarks at an Economic Development Summit Being Hosted by U.S. Senator Richard Burr in Kannapolis, NC: Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah will deliver remarks at an event being hosted by Senator Burr (R-NC) for North Carolina's universities on the topic of the emerging millennial campuses founded by several of North Carolina's institutes of higher education. The millennial campuses, of which there are ten proposed or in existence within North Carolina, are public and private joint ventures serving to bridge the gap between research and business. The event is part of a series of workshops, roundtables, and conferences the Senator hosts to bolster jobs, industrial growth, and expand the economy in North Carolina. Open press. (November 27, 2007)

Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah Presents the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Award for Urban or Suburban Economic Development to Gateway Park, LLC in Worcester, MA: Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah will present the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Award for Urban or Suburban Economic Development to Gateway Park, LLC in Worcester, MA. Open press. (November 29, 2007)

Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah Presents the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Award for Technology-led Economic Development to the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition in Pensacola, FL: Assistant Secretary Sandy K. Baruah will present the EDA Excellence in Economic Development Award for Technology-led Economic Development to the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition in Pensacola, FL. Open press. (November 30, 2007)

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Towey, Jim

From: Ryun, Catharine A.
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2003 4:47 PM
To: Towey, Jim
Subject: FW: REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE POWER CENTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

-----Original Message-----

From: Godfrey Press Releases, Georgia D
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2003 7:59 PM
Subject: REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE POWER CENTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Houston, Texas)

For Immediate Release

September 12, 2003

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE POWER CENTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Power Center
Houston, Texas

5:49 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Kirbyjon can tell it. (Laughter.) Heck, I might sound inarticulate compared to him. (Laughter.)

REVEREND CALDWELL: No, no.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Let's see how to start here. First, it's glad to be back -- I'm glad to be back to Texas. It's good to see some of my buddies. I'm looking at a man right here on the front row I went to the 7th grade with in Houston, Texas. I see my friend, Big Tuna, I used to play basketball with at the Y. I never forget my friends, and I've got a lot of friends here in Texas and I'm thrilled to be with you. Thank you all for coming tonight.

But thank you for coming to support this wonderful program. You'll hear me say this a couple of times in what's going to be a short address. Pastor Caldwell said, speak all you want, but don't exceed seven minutes. (Laughter.)

I think the fact that people are willing to contribute money to save lives is a powerful testimony to the strength of America. I think that when people are willing to support a social entrepreneur like Kirbyjon Caldwell and the others at the Windsor Village Church who have heard a call and are

out to save any life they can find that needs to be saved -- the fact that you support them speaks to your heart, as well.

And so today I first want to say thanks -- thanks for contributing hard-earned money to make Houston, Texas the best place it can be. And I'm proud to be up here with my friend. Sometimes it's not easy to be the friend of George W. Bush -- I know that. (Laughter.) If you know what I mean. (Laughter.) But let me tell you something -- it's good to have a friend that I can call before a debate, and say, do you mind saying a prayer? It's good to have a friend to go with you to Ground Zero. He's not a political friend, he's a friend. He rises above that, that friendship. And it's good for this community to lift up a man like Kirbyjon Caldwell who acts for the best interests of all the citizens of this community. And I'm proud to call him, friend. (Applause.)

And we both married above ourselves. (Applause.)

MR. CALDWELL: Amen.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, sir. Well, you don't need to amen it that loud. (Laughter.) Laura sends her love to Kirbyjon and Suzette and to all our buddies here. She is a fantastic First Lady, by the way. I really lucked out. (Applause.) And she's doing great, she really is.

Suzette is a unique person. I just had had my picture taken with a group of Prayer Warriors organized by Suzette Caldwell. You know, it's a unique country, when you think about it, that people would pray for me. People I'll never know, people I'll never have a chance to say thank you to, pray for me. Suzette organized such a group, and I had a chance to say thank you to the group. But it shows the kind of person Suzette is. And I want to thank you for your friendship, as well.

I want to thank you for your prayers. I feel them. And it means a lot, it means a lot. And so, Suzette, I want to thank you for your friendship, as well. It's great seeing your kids. They're little live-wires, little -- one of them is like a little Kirbyjon, you know -- (laughter) -- hard to control. (Laughter.)

It's great to see Booker and Jean Caldwell, as well. Kirbyjon and I both lucked out, we've got good, strong mothers. I hope you're still listening to yours, Kirbyjon. (Laughter.) I'm listening to mine, I can assure you. (Laughter.)

I'm traveling today with a great friend of Houston, Texas, a friend of mine, a man who has agreed to serve our community, communities all across the country as the Secretary of Education, Mr. Rod Paige. (Applause.) I like to remind people that when picking the Cabinet, I wanted for the education man, somebody that had actually been an educator. We had enough theory in Washington, we wanted somebody that had actually done the job. And as you know, he did a great job as the Superintendent of the Houston Independent School District. What I love about Rod is he is willing to challenge the soft bigotry of low expectations. He raises the bar. And he's not afraid to measure to determine whether or not we're meeting those standards.

We passed a really important piece of legislation called the No Child Left Behind Act. And the way you make sure no child is left behind is you raise standards, you hold people accountable, you correct problems before -- early, before they're too late. I am absolutely convinced that under Rod's

leadership at the Department of Education, it is less likely a child is going to be left behind in America. And I want to thank you for your service. (Applause.)

I know some of my running buddies from the state government are here -- Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, and Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams, I want to thank you all for coming. I'm proud you're here. (Applause.) I know Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is here, and I'm -- there she is -- and I'm honored that you're here. Thank you for coming, Congresswoman, I appreciate it. (Applause.) One thing about Sheila Jackson Lee is when I see her, she's never afraid to offer up any advise. (Laughter.) It's become a habit of ours, hasn't it? (Laughter.)

I appreciate the fact that we've got two former Secretaries of Commerce here -- one Houstonian, Bob Mosbacher; and new Texan, Bill Daley. And I want to thank them both for coming. I appreciate them being here. (Applause.) I appreciate my friend, Oxford. He's actually making a pretty good hand. Thanks for putting on this event.

It's great to see you. Genora Boykins, who's the chairperson of the CDC, I want to thank her for opening this event up. Thank my friend, Jody Jiles, who's the treasurer of the Community Development Corporation. I've known Jody for a long time.

You know, I have had the chance to hear Kirbyjon preach, and he's a pretty darn good preacher. He reminds of the preacher that got going one day and about three-quarters of the way through the sermon a guy was so moved, on about pew three that he popped up and screamed, "Use me, Lord, use me!" The preacher plowed on through and finished up and didn't think anything of it, until the next Sunday. About the same time in his sermon, this guy gets so moved -- I'm sure some of you have been so moved by Kirbyjon that you think about popping up. This guy popped up again and he screamed, "Use me, Lord, use me." After the service was over, the preacher sought the fellow out. He said, "Fine, I appreciate your willingness to help, and therefore, I suggest and would like for you to scrape and paint all the pews." The next Sunday the preacher is up there letting it go. The guy pops up and he says, "Use me, Lord, use me, but in an advisory capacity."

I'm at the Power Center today because this place is full of doers, not advisors. This was once an empty K-Mart building. It is now a building full of love. It was used to sell goods, and now it provides incredibly important services to help save lives.

I find it interesting that they named the center the Power Center. This -- we're not talking about electricity in this power. We're talking about a higher power that caused this center to be. I find it also interesting that in the midst of this -- or at least the last time I came, Suzette showed me the prayer facility, right in the middle of the center. You've got a bank, you've got a school, and you've got a women and children's clinic, the WIC program -- it's a government program. You've got some job-training, you've got the Houston Community Center -- community college facility, I mean. But in the midst, there's a prayer center. People should realize that the reason why this program is successful is because the power in the Power Center comes from a higher calling, a higher source of power. (Applause.)

And the reason why I came to see the Power Center in the first place was twofold. One, I felt I had an obligation as the governor of the state to support programs that were changing people's lives in a positive way. And secondly, I had heard that, beyond good intentions, there were good results

here, and that the Power Center was a unique faith-based program. And it helped me develop a philosophy of government that I want to explain right quick to you.

And part of my reason I'm doing this is because I'm sending a message to the Congress at the same time. (Laughter.) They might not be here -- except for one very distinguished Congresswoman, but the TV cameras are here. It gives me a chance too speak directly to good social policy in America.

I saw people's lives changed because of faith. Right here at the Power Center is a good example. I saw the fact that with the proper application of the call to love a neighbor like you'd like -- love yourself, with resources and social entrepreneurship, souls could change. And I recognized that at the time in Texas, and now nationally, that the absolute best way to make sure that the promise of America extends its reach into every neighborhood, the best way to help heal those who hurt, is to bring all the resources of our country to bear. And the most powerful resource of all is the ability to transform lives through faith. (Applause.)

I don't talk about a particular faith. I believe the Lord can work through many faiths, whether it be the Christian faith, the Jewish faith, Muslim faith, Hindu faith. When I speak of faith, I speak of all faiths, because there is a universal call, and that main universal call is to love your neighbor. It extends throughout all faith.

That's what the Power Center says to me. It's a living example of what is possible not only in Houston, but in communities all around our country, because there are faith-based communities all around our country. There are churches on every corner, there are synagogues in every town, there are people of faith who have heard a call. It seems like to me, this society of ours must rally the people of faith. Amongst our plenty, there are people who hurt, there's addiction and loneliness, social problems that can only be cured by love.

I've been searching for that bill, by the way, every since I've been in government -- the bill that says you'll love somebody. Sheila Jackson will sponsor it, and I'll sign it. (Laughter and applause.)

But there is no such bill. People don't get their inspiration to help a neighbor in need from government. They get their inspiration from a higher being. And yet, government has thwarted faith to be involved in our communities because of what they call the doctrine of separation of church and state. And that's a noble doctrine; the church should never be the state, and the state certainly should never be the church. But our government must not fear the application of faith into solving social problems. We must not worry about people of faith receiving taxpayers' money to help people in need.

In my judgment, that doesn't obscure the line of church and state; it enhances the capacity of state to save lives, by tapping into this fundamental powerful resource of ours, the heart and soul of the American people.

And yet in Washington, D.C., there is an attitude that we should not welcome faith-based programs into the budgets of our government. As a matter of fact, there are regulations that specifically prohibit faith-based programs from job-training, for example, or Head Start, or some housing programs. There is a fear that funding faith will somehow change

the doctrine of church and state.

I completely disagree. The discrimination against faith-based programs at the federal level prevents us from using all our resources to save lives. And for those who hurt, we need to use every resource we have. For those who are lonely, we need to use every resource. For those who are hungry, we need to use every resource. For those who look for housing, we need to use every resource. And so one of my missions is to work with people to end the discrimination in Washington, D.C. against faith-based programs. (Applause.)

The other problem we have, besides just outright regulations saying that you cannot use money for housing or Head Start or job-training programs, is the fact that oftentimes groups that try to access federal money -- by the way, the purpose of the money is to save lives, in many cases -- the groups that apply have to change their board of directors in order to access the money, or have to take the cross off the wall, in the case of the Christian faith-based program. But it's hard to be a faith-based program if you can't practice faith. If the effectiveness of the program is based upon faith, our government must allow that program to practice its faith. (Applause.)

You see, up to now, the question has been, what is the process? My question is, what are the results? If we're saving lives, if the Salvation Army is doing what it does so very well, we ought to welcome programs that succeed. We ought to say, you're welcome into the fabric, the social fabric of America in changing lives.

So that's what we're off to do. And I have signed an executive order -- Presidents sign executive orders. (Laughter.) It says that we'll have a level playing field for faith-based programs when they apply for federal money. I've got offices in each Cabinet set up to make sure that the faith-based programs have a friendly ear when they come to apply; that they're not facing the same old bureaucratic morass, that they get a welcoming ear. Rod has got one in his office. HUD has got one. Social -- cabinets have got them in their offices, because I want people who have got a good idea about how to change somebody's life to have a sympathetic ear in Washington, D.C.

I want people to know that you ought to come. Not only are people allowed to come and make their case and to get help on grant-making, but we also assure them that, in reverse, the government is not going to force them to change their habits and change their ways and change their basic reason for existing.

And we're beginning to make some progress. Slowly but surely, we're changing the culture. We'll finalize new regulations later this month that will open up a lot of money available to faith-based programs. And that's important, because it means that we'll do a better job of encouraging the neighborhood healers to fulfill their mission.

Obviously, not all money will be federal money. That would be bad for the fabric of America. That's why you're here, see. That's why I came. I want to encourage private foundations not to discriminate against faith-based programs. I want to encourage individuals to give. But what I'm also telling you is that the federal government needs to take an active role, in my judgment.

Let me tell you some of the kinds of things that are taking place, and hopefully this will stimulate other thought for others who may want to try to compete for taxpayers' money to help save lives. The Department of

Health and Human Services recently awarded \$7 million of grants to 15 faith-based groups who support abstinence education. One of the grants, for nearly \$500,000, a new grant went to a women's concern. It's a group of faith-based health centers in the Boston area. It seems like it makes sense to me that when you're trying to help people make right choices, that you ask people of faith to be included in the process. This won't be a punitive -- it wouldn't be punitive education. It would be education done out of the kindness of somebody's heart. Faith-based programs work.

We've got a -- the Department of Labor has awarded \$21 million to faith-based groups for job-training. I asked Kirbyjon on the way in from Ellington Field, I said, are you able to access federal money for your job training program. He said, I didn't know we were able to. Well, you -- you will be able to. What's wrong with having faith-based programs? What's wrong with having a church be able to reach out to a prisoner, somebody who just got out of prison, somebody who's desperate for love? What's wrong with a church, a place of love, surrounding that soul, and at the same time having a job-training program to help them? I'll tell you what's wrong with it. Nothing's wrong with it. And the federal government ought to welcome faith-based programs to help save lives. (Applause.)

In East Harlem, the Exodus Transitional Community is using grants from Labor and Justice to help released prisoners get a job. That's the kind of thing I'm talking about. Exodus helped 252 people last year. This year, with the new grant, they'll help 375. And that may not sound like a lot because there's a lot of prisoners. But think about if there was Exodus programs, or Exodus-type programs all over. Instead of 375, we'll be talking about 375 times thousands. And all of a sudden, souls who were once lost are then found; people who thought they didn't have hope can find hope.

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There's program after program that have started -- that were just started, is my point to you. Congress needs to hear the call. Congress needs to not thwart efforts. You see, my attitude is, if a faith-based program provides help to anybody in need, regardless of their religion, we should not fear that program. My view is, is that the program ought to stand on its own. The money won't go for proselytizing. The money will go to the social service intended for that program.

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Our society must not fear the use of faith to solve life's problems. We

must welcome faith, and Congress must not block these important initiatives. There are lives to be saved; there are soldiers in the army of compassion ready to save them. And the federal government ought to be on the side of the soldiers in the armies of compassion. (Applause.)

We'll continue working on the Compassionate Capital Fund. I've asked for \$100 million this year. It's a way to help start-up social entrepreneurs learn how to apply for grants. It gets people ways to fulfill their mission, to realize their dreams. I believe we ought to have a national mentoring program, particularly for children whose mom and dad may be in a prison, for junior high students. I've asked for \$450 million. I hope Congress funds it.

I just told you about my view on drug rehabilitation. Look, when we find suffering in our society today, we can't turn away. And just as an aside, we can't turn away overseas, either. I'm proud of the United States of America. This great nation is going to spend \$15 billion over the next five years in the important work of human rescue by providing medicine and help to millions and millions of men, women, and children suffering from AIDS on the continent of Africa. (Applause.)

I'm incredibly proud of our country. We're a really strong nation. We need to be strong. We're at war with people who hate America. And I'll keep us strong, militarily. We'll be strong to meet the challenges. We'll continue to push for freedom and peace overseas. The world is going to be peaceful, thanks to the United States of America. America will be more secure, thanks to the focus and strength of the American people.

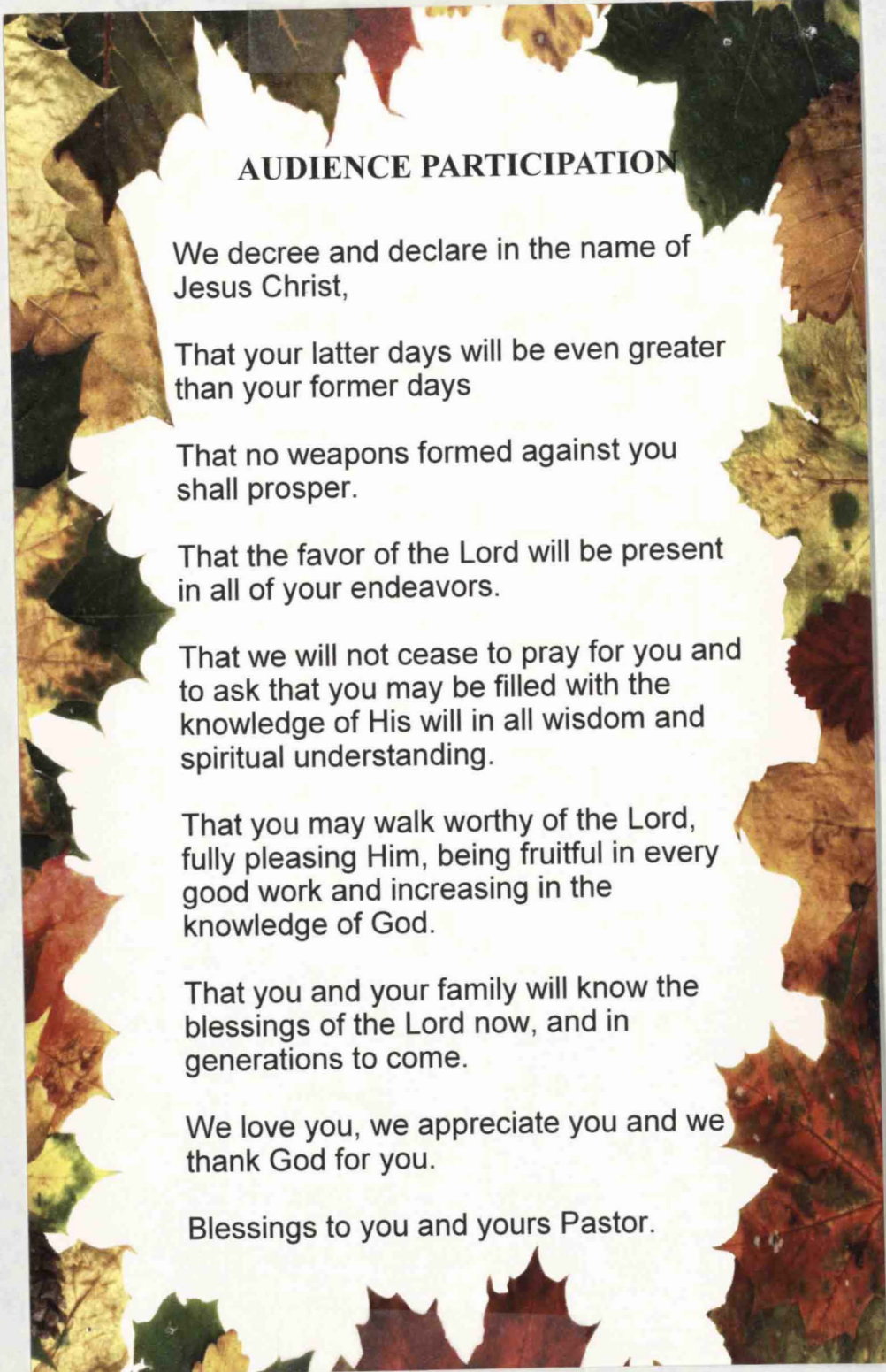
But at home, we need to work to save lives, as well. A secure America is a hopeful America. A secure America is an educated America. A secure America is a place where people realize the American Dream is meant for them as much as it is meant for me.

People say, well, your country's strong. I say, yes, we are, but you don't really understand the strength of America. It's the hearts and souls of our citizens. That's the true strength of this country. The Power Center tapped into that strength. Your contributions tonight recognize that strength and support it. And our government must stand side-by-side with that strength, as well.

I'm incredibly optimistic about our country and its future. I've seen firsthand the great character of the American people. And it's that character, it's that determination, it is that optimism that allows me to boldly predict, America will overcome any problem she faces, abroad, and here at home.

Thank you all for coming. May God bless you, and may God bless our country. (Applause.)

END 6:18 P.M. CDT



AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

We decree and declare in the name of
Jesus Christ,

That your latter days will be even greater
than your former days

That no weapons formed against you
shall prosper.

That the favor of the Lord will be present
in all of your endeavors.

That we will not cease to pray for you and
to ask that you may be filled with the
knowledge of His will in all wisdom and
spiritual understanding.

That you may walk worthy of the Lord,
fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every
good work and increasing in the
knowledge of God.

That you and your family will know the
blessings of the Lord now, and in
generations to come.

We love you, we appreciate you and we
thank God for you.

Blessings to you and yours Pastor.

TX lunches
- w/ FBCI
rotates

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- w/ FBCI
rotates

\$13.5m / yr
240 jobs

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240 jobs

Honorees 2007

Kujichagulia

Toni Williams 15 years

Ujima

Patricia Chew 1 year

LaToya Del 1 year

Brooke Giles 1 year

LaToya Shields 1 year

Pyramid CDC

Adrian Brooks 10 years

Marcos Flores 10 years

Jaime Hernandez 10 years

Joseph Hopkins 10 years

Clementine Matthews 10 years

The Imani School

Tamiko Hamilton 1 year

Tanya Lee 5 years

Nikki Moore 5 years

Patricia Williams 20 years

Windsor Village UMC

Shannon Criddle 1 year

Adrian B. Harris 1 year

Georgetta Scott 1 year

Karen Stewart 1 year

Nekia Williams 1 year

Toni Williams 1 year

Dr. Alta Harvey 5 years

Charles Richard 5 years

William R. Givens 5 years

Pastor Velosia Kibe 10 years

Barbara A. Hicks 10 years

Racquel McKee 10 years

Pastor Kirbyjon H. Caldwell 25 years

Thanksgiving Celebration & Employee Recognition Luncheon

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007

11:30 A.M.

THE POWER CENTER



Opening Remarks & Blessing

*Lunch
(Musical Selection)*

Imani School Jazz Band Ensemble

Remarks & Introductions

Genora Boykins
Board Chairperson, Pyramid CDC

Jay Hein
Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of
the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Kirbyjon H. Caldwell
Senior Pastor, Windsor Village UMC

Ben Erulkar
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce
for Economic Development

*Economic Development Administration
Award Presentation*

Remarks

Kirbyjon H. Caldwell
Senior Pastor, Windsor Village UMC

Presentation of Awards

Kujichagulia

Kirbyjon H. Caldwell, Senior Pastor

Ujima

Thelissa Edwards, Executive Director

Pyramid CDC

Genora Boykins, Board Chairperson

The Imani School

Patricia H. Williams, Executive Director
Dr. Edward Lord, Chairman of the Board

Windsor Village UMC

Kirbyjon H. Caldwell, Senior Pastor

Special Presentation

Caryn Ayers, SPRC

Musical Selection

Kathy Taylor

Dramatization

The Imani School



Ryun, Catharine A.

From: Godfrey Press Releases, Georgia D
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2003 7:59 PM
Subject: REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE POWER CENTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Houston, Texas)

For Immediate Release

September 12, 2003

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE POWER CENTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Power Center
Houston, Texas

5:49 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Kirbyjon can tell it. (Laughter.) Heck, I might sound inarticulate compared to him. (Laughter.)

REVEREND CALDWELL: No, no.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Let's see how to start here. First, it's glad to be back -- I'm glad to be back to Texas. It's good to see some of my buddies. I'm looking at a man right here on the front row I went to the 7th grade with in Houston, Texas. I see my friend, Big Tuna, I used to play basketball with at the Y. I never forget my friends, and I've got a lot of friends here in Texas and I'm thrilled to be with you. Thank you all for coming tonight.

But thank you for coming to support this wonderful program. You'll hear me say this a couple of times in what's going to be a short address. Pastor Caldwell said, speak all you want, but don't exceed seven minutes. (Laughter.)

I think the fact that people are willing to contribute money to save lives is a powerful testimony to the strength of America. I think that when people are willing to support a social entrepreneur like Kirbyjon Caldwell and the others at the Windsor Village Church who have heard a call and are out to save any life they can find that needs to be saved -- the fact that you support them speaks to your heart, as well.

And so today I first want to say thanks -- thanks for contributing hard-earned money to make Houston, Texas the best place it can be. And I'm proud to be up here with my friend. Sometimes it's not easy to be the friend of George W. Bush -- I know that. (Laughter.) If you know what I mean.

(Laughter.) But let me tell you something -- it's good to have a friend that I can call before a debate, and say, do you mind saying a prayer? It's good to have a friend to go with you to Ground Zero. He's not a political friend, he's a friend. He rises above that, that friendship. And it's good for this community to lift up a man like Kirbyjon Caldwell who acts for the best interests of all the citizens of this community. And I'm proud to call him, friend. (Applause.)

And we both married above ourselves. (Applause.)

MR. CALDWELL: Amen.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, sir. Well, you don't need to amen it that loud. (Laughter.) Laura sends her love to Kirbyjon and Suzette and to all our buddies here. She is a fantastic First Lady, by the way. I really lucked out. (Applause.) And she's doing great, she really is.

Suzette is a unique person. I just had had my picture taken with a group of Prayer Warriors organized by Suzette Caldwell. You know, it's a unique country, when you think about it, that people would pray for me. People I'll never know, people I'll never have a chance to say thank you to, pray for me. Suzette organized such a group, and I had a chance to say thank you to the group. But it shows the kind of person Suzette is. And I want to thank you for your friendship, as well.

I want to thank you for your prayers. I feel them. And it means a lot, it means a lot. And so, Suzette, I want to thank you for your friendship, as well. It's great seeing your kids. They're little live-wires, little -- one of them is like a little Kirbyjon, you know -- (laughter) -- hard to control. (Laughter.)

It's great to see Booker and Jean Caldwell, as well. Kirbyjon and I both lucked out, we've got good, strong mothers. I hope you're still listening to yours, Kirbyjon. (Laughter.) I'm listening to mine, I can assure you. (Laughter.)

I'm traveling today with a great friend of Houston, Texas, a friend of mine, a man who has agreed to serve our community, communities all across the country as the Secretary of Education, Mr. Rod Paige. (Applause.) I like to remind people that when picking the Cabinet, I wanted for the education man, somebody that had actually been an educator. We had enough theory in Washington, we wanted somebody that had actually done the job. And as you know, he did a great job as the Superintendent of the Houston Independent School District. What I love about Rod is he is willing to challenge the soft bigotry of low expectations. He raises the bar. And he's not afraid to measure to determine whether or not we're meeting those standards.

We passed a really important piece of legislation called the No Child Left Behind Act. And the way you make sure no child is left behind is you raise standards, you hold people accountable, you correct problems before -- early, before they're too late. I am absolutely convinced that under Rod's leadership at the Department of Education, it is less likely a child is going to be left behind in America. And I want to thank you for your service. (Applause.)

I know some of my running buddies from the state government are here -- Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, and Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams, I want

to thank you all for coming. I'm proud you're here. (Applause.) I know Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is here, and I'm -- there she is -- and I'm honored that you're here. Thank you for coming, Congresswoman, I appreciate it. (Applause.) One thing about Sheila Jackson Lee is when I see her, she's never afraid to offer up any advise. (Laughter.) It's become a habit of ours, hasn't it? (Laughter.)

I appreciate the fact that we've got two former Secretaries of Commerce here -- one Houstonian, Bob Mosbacher; and new Texan, Bill Daley. And I want to thank them both for coming. I appreciate them being here. (Applause.) I appreciate my friend, Oxford. He's actually making a pretty good hand. Thanks for putting on this event.

It's great to see you. Genora Boykins, who's the chairperson of the CDC, I want to thank her for opening this event up. Thank my friend, Jody Jiles, who's the treasurer of the Community Development Corporation. I've known Jody for a long time.

You know, I have had the chance to hear Kirbyjon preach, and he's a pretty darn good preacher. He reminds of the preacher that got going one day and about three-quarters of the way through the sermon a guy was so moved, on about pew three that he popped up and screamed, "Use me, Lord, use me!" The preacher plowed on through and finished up and didn't think anything of it, until the next Sunday. About the same time in his sermon, this guy gets so moved -- I'm sure some of you have been so moved by Kirbyjon that you think about popping up. This guy popped up again and he screamed, "Use me, Lord, use me." After the service was over, the preacher sought the fellow out. He said, "Fine, I appreciate your willingness to help, and therefore, I suggest and would like for you to scrape and paint all the pews." The next Sunday the preacher is up there letting it go. The guy pops up and he says, "Use me, Lord, use me, but in an advisory capacity."

I'm at the Power Center today because this place is full of doers, not advisors. This was once an empty K-Mart building. It is now a building full of love. It was used to sell goods, and now it provides incredibly important services to help save lives.

I find it interesting that they named the center the Power Center. This -- we're not talking about electricity in this power. We're talking about a higher power that caused this center to be. I find it also interesting that in the midst of this -- or at least the last time I came, Suzette showed me the prayer facility, right in the middle of the center. You've got a bank, you've got a school, and you've got a women and children's clinic, the WIC program -- it's a government program. You've got some job-training, you've got the Houston Community Center -- community college facility, I mean. But in the midst, there's a prayer center. People should realize that the reason why this program is successful is because the power in the Power Center comes from a higher calling, a higher source of power. (Applause.)

And the reason why I came to see the Power Center in the first place was twofold. One, I felt I had an obligation as the governor of the state to support programs that were changing people's lives in a positive way. And secondly, I had heard that, beyond good intentions, there were good results here, and that the Power Center was a unique faith-based program. And it helped me develop a philosophy of government that I want to explain right quick to you.

And part of my reason I'm doing this is because I'm sending a message to

the Congress at the same time. (Laughter.) They might not be here -- except for one very distinguished Congresswoman, but the TV cameras are here. It gives me a chance too speak directly to good social policy in America.

I saw people's lives changed because of faith. Right here at the Power Center is a good example. I saw the fact that with the proper application of the call to love a neighbor like you'd like -- love yourself, with resources and social entrepreneurship, souls could change. And I recognized that at the time in Texas, and now nationally, that the absolute best way to make sure that the promise of America extends its reach into every neighborhood, the best way to help heal those who hurt, is to bring all the resources of our country to bear. And the most powerful resource of all is the ability to transform lives through faith. (Applause.)

I don't talk about a particular faith. I believe the Lord can work through many faiths, whether it be the Christian faith, the Jewish faith, Muslim faith, Hindu faith. When I speak of faith, I speak of all faiths, because there is a universal call, and that main universal call is to love your neighbor. It extends throughout all faith.

That's what the Power Center says to me. It's a living example of what is possible not only in Houston, but in communities all around our country, because there are faith-based communities all around our country. There are churches on every corner, there are synagogues in every town, there are people of faith who have heard a call. It seems like to me, this society of ours must rally the people of faith. Amongst our plenty, there are people who hurt, there's addiction and loneliness, social problems that can only be cured by love.

I've been searching for that bill, by the way, every since I've been in government -- the bill that says you'll love somebody. Sheila Jackson will sponsor it, and I'll sign it. (Laughter and applause.)

But there is no such bill. People don't get their inspiration to help a neighbor in need from government. They get their inspiration from a higher being. And yet, government has thwarted faith to be involved in our communities because of what they call the doctrine of separation of church and state. And that's a noble doctrine; the church should never be the state, and the state certainly should never be the church. But our government must not fear the application of faith into solving social problems. We must not worry about people of faith receiving taxpayers' money to help people in need.

In my judgment, that doesn't obscure the line of church and state; it enhances the capacity of state to save lives, by tapping into this fundamental powerful resource of ours, the heart and soul of the American people.

And yet in Washington, D.C., there is an attitude that we should not welcome faith-based programs into the budgets of our government. As a matter of fact, there are regulations that specifically prohibit faith-based programs from job-training, for example, or Head Start, or some housing programs. There is a fear that funding faith will somehow change the doctrine of church and state.

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I'm incredibly proud of our country. We're a really strong nation. We need to be strong. We're at war with people who hate America. And I'll keep us strong, militarily. We'll be strong to meet the challenges. We'll continue to push for freedom and peace overseas. The world is going to be peaceful, thanks to the United States of America. America will be more secure, thanks to the focus and strength of the American people.

But at home, we need to work to save lives, as well. A secure America is a hopeful America. A secure America is an educated America. A secure America is a place where people realize the American Dream is meant for them as much as it is meant for me.

People say, well, your country's strong. I say, yes, we are, but you don't really understand the strength of America. It's the hearts and souls of our citizens. That's the true strength of this country. The Power Center tapped into that strength. Your contributions tonight recognize that strength and support it. And our government must stand side-by-side with that strength, as well.

I'm incredibly optimistic about our country and its future. I've seen firsthand the great character of the American people. And it's that character, it's that determination, it is that optimism that allows me to boldly predict, America will overcome any problem she faces, abroad, and here at home.

Thank you all for coming. May God bless you, and may God bless our country. (Applause.)

END 6:18 P.M. CDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Federal Project

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Los Angeles Times
2003

September 12,

Politics, Faith And Race Intersect At Fund-Raiser; President Bush's Close Friendship With A Black Houston Minister Is Seen By Some Insiders As The Inspiration For His 'Faith-Based Initiative'
By Maura Reynolds

The Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell will boast a guest at his church fund-raiser in Houston tonight that perhaps no other United Methodist minister could summon: George W. Bush.

The president has known Caldwell since his days as governor of Texas, and the two have formed a close alliance that both men claim is not political. Caldwell, after all, has acknowledged that he has generally voted Democratic.

But it's an alliance that has certainly helped both men in their endeavors, political or otherwise.

Caldwell is an African American minister whose church, with more than 13,000 members, is the largest United Methodist congregation in the country. He is renowned for his work to revitalize the disadvantaged community around his church and promote homeownership among blacks.

He and Bush have a personal relationship and sometimes pray together. They have also served each other in important public ceremonial roles.

As governor of Texas, Bush spoke at the opening of Caldwell's centerpiece project, the Power Center -- a 104,000-square-foot building that provides 276 jobs and houses community and government services for 11,000 families in Houston's troubled 5th Ward.

In return, Caldwell -- one of the president's few close allies in the African American community -- introduced Bush at the 2000 Republican convention and gave the benediction at the president's inauguration. He also endorsed Bush's decision to use force against Iraq.

Getting Bush as the headliner for his event is a coup: Caldwell says he believes the lamb chop and beef tenderloin dinner will be the first time that a sitting president has attended a fund-raiser for a local community development corporation.

Several dinner sponsors are close Bush associates, including the head of the president's fund-raising team in Houston. Organizers hope the 800 guests will raise \$1 million from tickets that cost \$250 a person and up to \$50,000 for a table.

Caldwell is careful not to exaggerate his influence with the president. But he says he believes that Bush's contact with the Power Center, and the community development corporation behind it, convinced him of the power of **faith-based** organizations.

"I'm told it was at that moment that he realized the impact that a community development organization can have on a community, and that cemented his views on the subject," Caldwell said Thursday in a telephone interview.

In his remarks tonight, Bush is expected to praise the center as a model of the kind of project he hopes to promote through his **"faith-based"** initiative -- a key piece of his "compassionate conservative" agenda that has nearly petered out in Congress because of opposition on both sides of the aisle.

"The president knows that faith is a very powerful tool for changing lives and he wants to make sure that we are ... reaching out to help programs that reach people in need," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan.

A stripped-down version of Bush's original bill has been passed in the Senate and is pending in the House of Representatives. Even if that is approved, differences between the two chambers must be ironed out before legislation can be sent to the White House.

Bush often promotes the initiative in appearances with black church groups. One reason, African American leaders grumble, is that such events are one way Bush tries to make inroads into the black community while bypassing elected African American leaders, who are largely Democrats, and traditional organizations, such as the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, that generally promote Democrats.

The Congressional Black Caucus says its members have asked for a meeting with Bush since he was elected and contends the White House has rebuffed them.

But, McClellan said, "the president meets with African American leaders all the time," adding that Bush addressed the National Urban League convention this summer.

Some local elected leaders in Houston are miffed that they were not invited to the Power Center dinner. Usually when Bush visits cities and towns across the nation, he invites local officials from both parties to appear with him -- members of Congress, mayors and even state senators.

But for this event, many local elected officials were skipped or invited as paying guests. Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, a Democrat and the only African American among Houston's seven representatives in Congress, received a ticket as a donation from someone who had been invited. Democratic Rep. Chris Bell, in whose district the Power Center is located, was not invited.

Caldwell said the dinner is a fund-raiser, not a political event: "We weren't looking for glitz and glamour. We were looking for bucks, to be honest."

But with the political season in full swing, very little that Bush does is not infused with politics. And many do see political calculations behind Bush's decision to make a foray to Houston.

For instance, critics say, on issues such as race relations and the environment, on which Bush is perceived as weak, the White House has been organizing events that look good as photo opportunities while avoiding the substance of controversy.

In other words, by being seen with Caldwell, Bush can be seen as friendly to the African American community without being challenged about his policies, such as his opposition to affirmative action.

"The Power Center is fantastic and Kirbyjon has done great things for the community, but the Bush administration is running him up the flagpole," said a Texas congressional source, who asked not to be identified.

Caldwell said he has heard such criticism and intended to raise the issue with the president.

"I think I have a pretty good feel for where his head and his heart is, but sometimes it's not reflected in his public policy," Caldwell said. "I think I'll leave it at that."

Caldwell is a strong supporter of the **faith-based** initiative, and the White House promotes it as a boon for urban churches.

But Rep. Robert C. Scott (D-Va.) said African Americans should be leery of it. For one thing, he said, it will provide no new federal funding. Instead, he said, it will simply suspend antidiscrimination hiring laws for existing federal programs, allowing churches to use religion as a consideration in personnel decisions.

While that might seem to help churches hire their own members, it could backfire, Scott argues. Because many churches are racially homogeneous, it would enforce segregation and give church-based organizations a free hand to bypass better-qualified candidates of other faiths.

"Where I come from, it's offensive to say, 'We don't hire Catholics and Jews.' They dress it up and sugarcoat it, but that's what they're talking about," Scott said. "How can you sell that to the African American community?"

Caldwell says he is less concerned with Bush's political calculations than with his own fund-raising calculations: "I don't know enough about the political dynamics in Washington to comment on it," he said.

But Scott, a prominent member of the Congressional Black Caucus, urged those attending the dinner to do more than just listen to Bush's speech.

"There's a disconnect between the speeches and the policy," Scott said. "You should compare the speech he gives to the policy."

The Associated Press

Friday, September 12, 2003

Bush Praises Houston Center For Its Faith-Based Work By Juan A. Lozano

President Bush praised a Houston community center Friday as a successful example of how **faith-based** organizations can improve the country and called on federal lawmakers to embrace such initiatives.

Bush spoke at a fund-raiser celebrating the 10th anniversary of The Power Center, a huge multi-use complex that offers an array of social services at one location to residents in southwest Houston. The center was started by a good friend of the president's, the Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell.

"I'm at The Power Center today because this place is full of doers, not advisers," Bush told a crowd of about 800 people, including Houston Mayor Lee Brown and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. The fund-raiser was expected to raise \$1 million with the proceeds used by the center and two other community organizations.

"This was once an empty Kmart building. It is now a building full of love," Bush said. "It was used to sell goods. Now it provides incredibly important services that help save lives. I find it interesting they named the center 'The Power Center.' We're not talking about electricity. We're talking about a higher power that caused this center to be."

The 104,000 square-foot facility houses a University of Texas Hermann Medical Clinic, a private Christian school for students in prekindergarten through eighth grade, an office of the Women, Infants and Children program, a hair salon, a small branch of Houston Community College, 27 executive suites and a conference center.

"We don't gather here as Democrats or Republicans ... we gather as citizens concerned about improving the community," said Caldwell, who is pastor at Windsor Village United Methodist Church, the denomination's largest church in the United States. He introduced Bush at the 2000 Republican National Convention and the following year gave the benediction at the president's inauguration.

Bush said when he was governor of Texas he visited the center and it helped him develop his philosophy of how the government needs to support **faith-based** initiatives.

"The best way to help heal those who hurt is to bring all the resources of our country to bear and the most powerful resource of all is the ability to transform lives through faith," he said during a 25-minute speech, indicating that all religions should be included in this effort.

Bush said there is nothing more vital in America than efforts that will allow **faith-based** programs to play an integral part in helping somebody end an addiction to drugs or alcohol.

"I say that because I know firsthand what it takes to quit drinking," Bush said. "It takes something other than a textbook or a manual to change a person's heart. Our society must not fear the use of faith to solve life's problems. Congress must not block these important initiatives. Congress needs to hear the call."

Darryal Williams, who attended the fund-raiser, said he was impressed with Bush's call to offer more support to **faith-based** initiatives.

"If ever there was a need to do something like this, the time is now," said Williams, who runs a drug awareness program.

Bush's visit to Houston concluded a day when he had also traveled to Fort Stewart, Ga., to salute the Army's 3rd Infantry that stormed Baghdad and to Mississippi, where he attended a fund-raiser for a GOP gubernatorial candidate.

**Bush Touts Faith-based Plan;
President Visits Community Center Here
By Bennett Roth**

Visiting a community center in a converted southwest side Kmart, President Bush on Friday passionately defended his proposals for federally supported **faith-based** programs that have run into stiff resistance in Congress.

"We must not worry about people of faith receiving tax dollars to help people in need," said Bush, as he spoke at a fund-raiser at the Power Center, a multi-service center founded by Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell, the pastor of Windsor Village United Methodist Church.

The president's visit to Houston was unusual in that it was not primarily for a political fund-raiser. The money raised was to go to three social service organizations.

But the president has felt an allegiance to Caldwell, who has been far more supportive of Bush than many black leaders.

Caldwell delivered the benediction at Bush's presidential inauguration and has worked with other Republicans to raise money for the Power Center, including Nancy Kinder, a former aide to ex-Enron chief Ken Lay who is heading Bush's re-election fund-raising effort in the area.

The visit afforded Bush another opportunity to plug his **faith-based** initiatives, a top priority in his agenda. Since his presidential campaign, Bush has promoted the idea that the federal government should encourage, through funding and tax breaks, religious groups that perform a variety of social services, such as drug counseling.

The measure has been blocked in the Senate, where Democrats have objected to a provision that would free organizations that receive federal funding from rules against restrictive hiring.

The White House views its support of **faith-based** programs as a way of making inroads among Minorities - many of whom are served by many of these church-run programs. In 2000, Bush received 9 percent of the black vote, a margin his advisers hope to increase in next year's presidential election.

Bush told the crowd that objections raised by opponents to **faith-based** programs were unreasonable.

"The groups that apply have to change their board of directors in order to access the money or have to take the cross off the wall in the case of the Christian **faith-based**

programs, but it is hard to be **faith-based** if you can't practice your faith."

He also alluded to a controversy over the administration's proposals that groups such as the Salvation Army should be exempt from local and state laws banning discrimination against gays.

"If we are saving lives - if the Salvation Army is doing what it does so very well - we ought to welcome programs that succeed," he said.

Houston Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, who was in the audience, said she supports **faith-based** organizations. But she said any legislation providing them with tax dollars should make it clear that they cannot discriminate against people who are not of the same faith.

"I don't think there is any disagreement in the United States Congress on the value of **faith-based** organizations," Jackson Lee said. "But Congress has oversight responsibilities, and we have to make sure that any law that is passed is free of discrimination."

Bush embraced Caldwell as a good friend who often joined him in prayer. But the president suggested he understood the heat the pastor took for being an ally of a Republican president.

"It's not easy being a friend of George W. Bush. I know that, if you know what I mean," Bush said.

In introducing Bush, Caldwell said: "He is a good man. And I am glad he is here."

The audience represented a mix of Democrats and Republicans, as well as corporate executives and community activists who paid a minimum of \$ 250 a seat and from \$ 10,000 to \$ 50,000 a table to attend.

The Houston stop capped a daylong southern swing in which the president focused on his Iraq policy and fund-raising.

In the morning, Bush visited Fort Stewart in Georgia to commend the 3rd Infantry Division, which stormed Baghdad during the spring war in Iraq.

More than 16,000 troops from Fort Stewart were sent to the Persian Gulf, and more than 40 died in the fighting there. Bush met privately with 11 families of fallen soldiers. The 3rd Infantry is expected to return home in its entirety in the coming weeks.

From Georgia, Bush flew to Jackson, Miss., to attend a fund-raiser for GOP gubernatorial candidate Haley Barbour, a former Washington lobbyist who served as chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1993 to 1997.

Towey, Jim

From: Kropp, Emily L.
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2003 10:19 AM
To: Bayer, Christopher; Towey, Jim
Subject: FW: problem w/ Exodus example

Colleen asked that I contact one of you for help with the bullet on DoL grant money and the Exodus example (see below). This appears on page 3 of the Power Center remarks (draft #3).

-----Original Message-----

From: Kropp, Emily L.
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2003 10:13 AM
To: Carroll, Colleen M.
Subject: problem w/ Exodus example

Colleen,

I spoke with the head of Labor's Faith-Based office. He explained that the Exodus example actually falls under a different grant system - the Ready for Work program (a total of \$22.5 million; Exodus is receiving \$1 million over 3 years). The \$21 million that goes to training people for work - 1 Stop - isn't all for faith-based groups. Some goes to faith-based groups and some goes to states for them to pass out.

Apparently, Brent Orrell at DoL sent over a total of 3 examples for the speech - Exodus, which falls under the other program, and two examples that would fall under the \$21 million. The two options to fix this, as I understand from Brent, are to either explain the Ready for Work grant system and include \$22.5 million or to use an example that falls under the \$21 million program. Maybe Chris Bayer or Dennis Grace has the other two examples.

Grantee Narratives

HOPE Community Development Corporation

Matthew I. Watts, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

Date of Award: July 2003

HOPE Community Development Corporation received a \$350,000 Employment and Training Administration (ETA) grant to serve as an intermediary between the WORK4WV Career Center One-Stop and smaller faith-based and community-based organizations (FBCOs). With these funds, HOPE and its FBO/CBO sub-grantees will work to connect small FBCOs in Kanawha County and Charleston, West Virginia, to the One-Stop system. These activities will include: increasing FBO/CBO understanding of the One-Stop delivery system; establishing formal partnerships between FBCOs and the local One-Stop Center; increasing access to the One-Stop system for needy populations; registering and serving at least 500 people through One-Stop Centers; and training and employing at least 100 people.

East Harlem Employment Services/STRIVE

Lizzette Hill Barcelona, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

Date of Award: July 2003

East Harlem Employment Services/STRIVE received a \$500,000 ETA grant to help the unemployed and underemployed in low-income communities in New York City achieve financial independence. With these funds, STRIVE will provide soft skills training—punctuality, self-confidence, courtesy—and long-term job placement. In addition, STRIVE will provide housing assistance, substance abuse counseling, ex-offender specific services and domestic violence counseling. The grant will also be used to help small FBCOs form linkages with the One-Stop Delivery System currently being established in the New York Metropolitan area.

Richmond County Community Support Center

Gladys D. Broome, [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

P.O. Box 1023

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

Date of Award: July 2002 and July 2003

Richmond County Community Support Center received a \$500,000 ETA grant to serve as an intermediary to small, local FBCO to provide employment related services, and an additional \$100,000 in July 2003. With these funds, Richmond County sub-granted almost \$300,000 to small, local FBCO in a five-county region. Some of the programs funded through this project include: \$10,000 to Womenfolk Unlimited to assist victims of domestic violence with employment related services; \$7,500 to Wayman Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church for life-skills employment training; and \$10,000 to the Richmond County Literacy Council for its

Family Focused ESL program. The balance of the grant was used to provide technical assistance, administrative support and capacity building for the small FBCOs that received the subgrants.

The Budget:

The initial *Ready4Work* funding (\$22.5 million) is made available through a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor (\$7.5 million), a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (\$7.5 million), and Public/Private Ventures and its foundation partners (\$7.5 million). Average expenditures in the adult sites including administration will be approximately \$3,000 per participant per year. Again, the proposed \$350 million expansion of *Ready4Work* will allow faith-based and community organizations to serve 120,000 ex-offenders over the next three years.

Towey, Jim

From: Grace, Dennis
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2003 10:56 AM
To: Towey, Jim
Subject: RE: 9/12 Power Center, Houston, TX Remarks - for staffing

Just heard that the abstinence education grant total for FBOs is a bit higher than what we had said. The draft remarks say "nearly seven million dollars in new grants to 14 faith-based groups", but the amount of funding for faith-based organizations for these grants in '03 is \$7,662,111. Thus, we could change to "more than seven and a half million dollars."

A Woman's Concern received \$488,434.

-----Original Message-----

From: Towey, Jim
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2003 9:43 AM
To: Kuo, David; Grace, Dennis; Rees, Rebecca
Subject: FW: 9/12 Power Center, Houston, TX Remarks - for staffing

Pls read these remarks for factual accuracy (the parts where specific funding of FB groups are cited) and let me know by 11 if there are any inaccuracies. This draft is a tight hold - Harriet was nice enough to share it with us, but please be discrete as you fact check with agencies so that they don't know if the President is or isn't going to mention a particular program - only that he might. Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Miers, Harriet
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2003 7:56 PM
To: Towey, Jim
Subject: FW: 9/12 Power Center, Houston, TX Remarks - for staffing

You were not staffed but you and your folks need to read this carefully. Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Steen, Gretchen P.
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2003 5:42 PM
To: Staff Secretary
Cc: Hernandez, Israel; Goergen, Barbara J.; Ritacco, Krista L.; Carroll, Colleen M.; Kropp, Emily L.; Michel, Christopher G.; Miers, Harriet; Campbell, Anne E.
Subject: 9/12 Power Center, Houston, TX Remarks - for staffing

With the Staff Secretary - for staffing. Comments due back tomorrow (9/11) by 12 pm.
Thank you.

Remarks at the Power Center in Houston, Texas
September 12, 2003
Draft #3

Df edits

(more from DK)

Thank you for welcoming me to this special place. It's great to be back in Texas. And it's an honor to join my friend, Kirbyjon Caldwell, here at the Power Center. About 2,000 men, women and children come through these doors each day for college classes, and job training, and medical care, and help in buying a home. At the same time, they are seeing something important: They are seeing God's love at work in God's people. Thank you for putting your faith into action by caring for your neighbors.

Acknowledgments

- Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell (will introduce the President)
- Others TBD
- Windsor Village United Methodist Church is a place where God is worshipped – you can probably hear it for miles. It is also a place where God is served – by serving the people of Southwest Houston. Kirbyjon likes to say that the church must take the sanctuary to the streets. By supporting the Power Center, all of you are making that happen. You are building hope at the heart of this city – one life, one soul, at a time.
- You are also part of a great movement. People of faith are reaching out and transforming communities across our country. They are serving their neighbor – because every person in need is a worthy child of God. People of faith are feeding the hungry, and caring for the sick, and housing the homeless – because faith without works is dead. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. used to say that God has promised a New Jerusalem – but it is our job to build a new Los Angeles, and a new Atlanta, and a new Houston. It is our job – through acts of faith and service – to build a new America.
- These efforts are needed, because there are pockets of despair in America. There are people who face the struggles of illness and old age with no one to help them or pray for them. There are men and women who fight every minute of the day against terrible addictions. There are boys with no family but a gang, and teenage moms who are abandoned

and alone. And then there are the children who wonder if anyone loves them.

- We've reformed welfare in America to help many – yet welfare policy will not solve the deepest problems of the spirit. Our economy is growing – yet there are some needs that prosperity can never fill. We arrest and convict dangerous criminals – yet building more prisons is no substitute for responsibility and order in our souls.
- No government policy can put help in people's hearts, or a sense of purpose in people's lives. That can happen when someone – some good soul – puts an arm around a neighbor and says: "God loves, and I love you, and you can count on us both."
- Faith-based groups are working daily miracles – and they deserve the support of the rest of us. They deserve the support of individual donors. They deserve the support of foundations. They deserve the support of the business community. And they deserve, when appropriate, the support of the federal government.
- Faith-based groups will never replace government when it comes to helping those in need. And government has no business endorsing a creed, or funding religious worship. Yet government can and should support social services provided by religious people, so long as those services go to anyone in need. And when government gives that support, charities and faith-based programs should not be forced to change their character or compromise their mission.
- My Administration has taken up this cause. I have issued an executive order banning discrimination against faith-based charities by federal agencies. We have created special offices in key Cabinet departments to speak up for faith-based groups and help them access government funding. In the funding process, we are changing the focus: Instead of focusing on the religion a program practices, we are focusing on the results they deliver.
- We are challenging decades of government discrimination against religious groups – and we are seeing results. This year, the Department of Health and Human Services awarded nearly seven million dollars in

The Government

new grants to 14 faith-based groups to support abstinence education for children and teenagers. One of those grants, for nearly half a million dollars, went to A Woman's Concern, a group of four faith-based health centers in the Boston area that received federal funding for this first time through this program, to help neighborhood children learn how to make good choices and prevent unwanted pregnancies.

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~~Also~~ Also Awarded

- Over the last two years, the Department of Labor has awarded 21 million dollars to faith-based groups that help people train for work and find jobs. In East Harlem, the Exodus Transitional Community will be using one of those grants to help released prisoners get sober, get housing, and get a fresh start in life. Last year, Exodus helped 252 people. Now, thanks to the Ready4Work grant that will double its resources, this faith-based program will be able to help 375 ex-offenders.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development is now supporting faith-based groups like Uplift Fourth Ward, a community development corporation that is affiliated with Rose of Sharon Missionary Baptist Church here in Houston. Through Uplift Fourth Ward, the folks in that church are working to revitalize the city's Fourth Ward, rehabilitate historic buildings, and provide safe, affordable housing to low-income seniors.
- Our government also has a new program called the Compassion Capital Fund. This fund give resources to community groups – like Catholic Charities, or universities – which provide grants to faith based and community organizations. Last year, we gave out 24 million dollars in grant money – and some of that money went to Project MOVE here in Houston. Project MOVE sends mobile clinics to area schools and churches and provides free basic and preventive health and dental care to needy children. With this new federal funding, the program is doubling the number of days it operates ... expanding immunizations ... and reaching 1,300 children this year.
- Through the Compassion Capital Fund, we are supporting the good works of 50 small faith-based and community groups this year. But that is a fraction of the need. In my budget for next year, I have asked Congress for 100 million dollars to expand the Compassion Capital Fund. We must bring the hope and healing of faith-based services to more and more Americans.

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- And we need to concentrate our efforts on children who are facing terrible obstacles. A mentor – a role model – can make all the difference in the life of a child, replacing anger and bitterness with confidence and hope. America needs more mentors. So I am calling on Congress to spend 450 million dollars over three years, to bring mentors to more than a million disadvantaged children. We will focus these efforts on junior high students, who are making important life decisions. And we will also bring mentors to the children of prisoners, who face so many challenges through no fault of their own. No child in America is a problem or a burden. Every child is a priority and a blessing, and with mentors, we can make sure they know it.
- One of the Power Center programs that this dinner is raising funds for tonight is the Fifth Ward Enrichment Program, which reaches boys at a critical age and helps them grow into responsible, productive men. In the life of Kirbyjon, we see that boys from the Fifth Ward can grow up to do great things. But they need the help of caring adults, and faith communities like this one can be a source of mentors for children in need. More Americans volunteer through their houses of worship than through any other type of organization. We need to support faith-based mentoring programs in cities across America, and build on the compassion that already exists in the hearts of our people.
- We also need to spread the compassion of America – not only down the block, but around the world.
- This summer, I traveled to Africa and saw for myself that continent's great possibilities, as well as its great needs. I saw the courage and compassion of men and women across Africa who are fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS. I saw that courage and compassion at the TASO clinic in Uganda, where heroic people are caring for the sick, providing treatment, and extending lives. These efforts are encouraging – but their scale across the continent is not large enough. In the face of the preventable death and suffering caused by AIDS, we have a moral duty to act. So America is acting. Over the next five years, the United States has pledged 15 billion dollars to fight AIDS around the world, with a special focus on 14 nations in Africa and the Caribbean. We are working with governments, and private groups, and faith-based

organizations. And we are determined to turn the tide against AIDS in Africa.

- America is a great Nation – not only because we are strong and wealthy – but because the people of our country are compassionate and good. We sacrifice for the lives and freedom of people across the world. And we serve our neighbors in need, right across town. In the work of compassion, it is not the people in government who are the experts, it is the people at the Power Center who are the experts. And by supporting them, you are helping lead America to a better day. There is a saying: “Nobody can teach you how to be a good servant of God, you have to learn it on the job.” And you are doing that job so incredibly well. Thank you, and may God bless our country.

Drafted by Colleen Carroll, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-0399
Cell: (b)(6)

Withdrawal Marker

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Letter	[Letter] [with attachment] - To: POTUS - From: Kirbyjon Caldwell	2	01/06/2003	P5; P6/b6;

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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(b)(6)

THE WHITE HOUSE

KIRBYSON Caldwell -

Florida - Texas

Charlie's list

Pass in town / I.V. Hilliard
talked about 102's 1/2 day
11.5m Elderly Housing / New Light
THU THU - Chairman
Chick Horton

We may have to sell
VOH ASSET - Some of
Texas was going to sell,
Then froze new SS programs.

may have to sell. VOH no
income.

Still need 1/2 of some of
Texas. Never operational

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Handwritten Note	[Handwritten Notes]	4	N.D.	P5; P6/b6;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
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COLLECTION:

Faith-Based & Community Initiatives, White House Office of

SERIES:

Hein, Jay - Outreach Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Kirbyjon Caldwell

FRC ID:

9182

OA Num.:

10358

NARA Num.:

10294

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2014-0072-F

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Imani - for Karl/B3/p

Remarks at the Power Center in Houston, Texas

September 12, 2003

Draft #5

- 11
- Thank you for welcoming me to this special place. It's great to be back in Texas. And it's an honor to join my friend, Kirbyjon Caldwell, here at the Power Center. Kirbyjon likes to say that the church must take the sanctuary to the streets. He doesn't just say that – he goes out and does it.

Acknowledgments

- Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell (will introduce the President)
- Secretary Rod Paige, Department of Education
- Others TBD
- I first met Kirbyjon about seven years ago, back when I had a different job. I was impressed by his faith, and his decency, and his vision for this community. And I'm still impressed. I spoke at the opening of this Jesse H. Jones Conference Center in 1997. Back then, the Power Center was just getting started. Today, the Power Center serves about 2,000 men, women, and children each day, and this center has pumped more than 20 million dollars into the neighborhood economy. The success of this place is a testament to the faith of this community, to the support of people like you, and to the vision of Kirbyjon.
- This Power Center – which once was an abandoned K-Mart – is now the hub for a revitalization effort that is renewing Southwest Houston. It's a one-stop shop for neighborhood folks who can visit a branch of Houston Community College on site, do their banking, fill prescriptions, get health care, get federal assistance, and even go to work here. And you have a fine Christian school, which gives students a good foundation of knowledge and character. Every child and adult who comes here is seeing something more important: They are seeing God's love at work in God's people. Thank you for putting your faith into action by caring for your neighbors, and sharing the blessings of the Good Lord with your community.
- I thank every person who gives financial support, and prayerful support, to the Power Center. You are serving God by serving the people of

Contributing money to save lives –

southwest Houston. You are building hope at the heart of this city – because you believe, and you know, that every person in need is a worthy child of God.

- During my time as Governor, visiting the Power Center helped shape my approach to faith-based policy. I saw more than good intentions – I saw good results. I saw that the way to change a community is to change hearts. I carried that belief to the Capitol in Austin, and to the White House. You and I know that no government policy can put hope in people's hearts, or a sense of purpose in people's lives. That can happen when someone – some good soul – puts an arm around a neighbor and says: "God loves you, and I love you, and you can count on us both."

Heal those
w/ob
Hurt

All of
our
Resources

Ability
to
Reason

Address
Inequities

- The federal government should take the side of America's neighborhood healers, not discriminate against them. We are fighting a mindset in Washington – one that says when it comes to government money to help others, people of faith need not apply. Many programs like Head Start, or housing programs, or job training have regulations that have prevented faith-based groups from applying for grants. In other cases, groups are told to change their boards of directors ... or are told whom they can hire ... or told to take down the cross on the wall. This has caused many faith-based groups to become suspicious, and fear that they have to compromise their convictions to work with government.
- We are changing that culture of discrimination in Washington. We are adopting a new mindset. Government can and should support social services provided by religious people, so long as those services go to anyone in need. And when government gives that support, charities and faith-based programs should not be forced to change their character or compromise their mission.
- We are taking steps to make sure that faith-based groups can compete for public funds on a level playing field. We have created special offices in key Cabinet departments to speak up for faith-based groups and make sure they get fair access to government funding. Last December I issued an executive order banning discrimination against faith-based charities by Federal agencies. Since then, departments have sent out guidance and published new regulations, informing the whole bureaucracy that they cannot discriminate against a group because of its

profit

name, or the composition of its board, or its religious identification. Later this month, we will finalize some of those regulations. The barriers to faith-based groups are coming down. In the funding process, we are changing the focus: Instead of looking at the religion a program practices, we are looking at the results they deliver.

- We are seeing results already. Let me give you some examples. This year, the Department of Health and Human Services awarded more than seven million dollars in new grants to 14 faith-based groups to support abstinence education for children and teenagers. One of those grants, for nearly half a million dollars, went to A Woman's Concern, a group of five faith-based health centers in the Boston area that received Federal funding for the first time through this program, to help neighborhood children learn how to make good choices and prevent unwanted pregnancies.
- Over the last two years, the Department of Labor has awarded 21 million dollars to faith-based groups, states, and other organizations to help people train for work and find jobs. And the Federal government's new 22.5 million-dollar Ready4Work initiative, which combines resources from the Department of Labor, the Department of Justice, and the private sector, is helping prisoners re-enter society. In East Harlem, the Exodus Transitional Community will be using one of those grants to help released prisoners get job training and find work. Last year, Exodus helped 252 people. Now, thanks to a Ready4Work grant for 1 million dollars over three years, this faith-based program will be able to help more than 375 ex-offenders.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development is now supporting faith-based groups like Uplift 4th Ward, a community development corporation that is affiliated with the Rose of Sharon Missionary Baptist Church here in Houston. Through Uplift 4th Ward, the folks in that church are working to revitalize the city's 4th Ward, rehabilitate historic buildings, and provide safe, affordable housing to low-income seniors.
- Our government also has a new Compassion Capital Fund. This fund gives resources to organizations – like Catholic Charities, or Associated Black Charities in Baltimore, or universities – that help faith-based and community groups with funding, as well as helping them improve and expand their services, so they can serve more people and access other

Congress needs to be called.

funds. Last year, we gave out more than 24 million dollars in grant money – and some of that money went to Project MOVE here in Houston. Project MOVE sends mobile clinics to area schools and churches and provides free health and dental care to needy children. With this new Federal funding, the program is doubling the number of days its health clinic operates ... expanding immunizations ... and reaching more than 1,300 children this year.

- In my budget for next year, I have asked Congress for 100 million dollars to expand the Compassion Capital Fund. We must bring the hope and healing of faith-based services to more and more Americans.
- And we need to concentrate our efforts on children who are facing terrible obstacles. A mentor – a role model – can make all the difference in the life of a child, replacing anger and bitterness with confidence and hope. America needs more mentors – and, as part of my USA Freedom Corps, we want to mobilize them. So I am calling on Congress to spend 450 million dollars over three years, to bring mentors to more than a million disadvantaged children. We will focus these efforts on junior high students, who are making important life decisions. And we will also bring mentors to the children of prisoners, who face so many challenges through no fault of their own. No child in America is a problem or a burden. Every child is a priority and a blessing, and with mentors, we can make sure they know it.
- Faith communities like this one can be a source of mentors for children in need. More Americans volunteer through their houses of worship than through any other type of organization. We need to support faith-based mentoring programs in cities across America, and build on the compassion that already exists in the hearts of our people.
- America is a great Nation – not only because we are strong and wealthy – but because the people of our country are compassionate and good. We sacrifice for the lives and freedom of people across the world. And we serve our neighbors in need, right across town. In the work of compassion, it is not the people in government who are the experts, it is groups like the Power Center that are the experts. And by supporting them, you are helping lead America to a better day. There is a saying: “Nobody can teach you how to be a good servant of God, you have to

learn it on the job." And you are doing that job so incredibly well. Thank you, and may God bless our country.

Drafted by Colleen Carroll, Office of Speechwriting

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(b)(6)

Sent to Colleen
SS
Allison

Remarks at the Power Center in Houston, Texas
September 12, 2003
Draft #3

Thank you for welcoming me to this special place. It's great to be back in Texas. And it's an honor to join my friend, Kirbyjon Caldwell, here at the Power Center. About 2,000 men, women and children come through these doors each day for college classes, and job training, and medical care, and help in buying a home. At the same time, they are seeing something important: They are seeing God's love at work in God's people. Thank you for putting your faith into action by caring for your neighbors.

Acknowledgments

- Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell (will introduce the President)
- Others TBD
- Windsor Village United Methodist Church is a place where God is worshipped – you can probably hear it for miles. It is also a place where God is served – by serving the people of Southwest Houston. Kirbyjon likes to say that the church must take the sanctuary to the streets. By supporting the Power Center, all of you are making that happen. You are building hope at the heart of this city – one life, one soul, at a time.
- You are also part of a great movement. People of faith are reaching out and transforming communities across our country. They are serving their neighbor – because every person in need is a worthy child of God. People of faith are feeding the hungry, and caring for the sick, and housing the homeless – because faith without works is dead. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. used to say that God has promised a New Jerusalem – but it is our job to build a new Los Angeles, and a new Atlanta, and a new Houston. It is our job – through acts of faith and service – to build a new America.
- These efforts are needed, because there are pockets of despair in America. There are people who face the struggles of illness and old age with no one to help them or pray for them. There are men and women who fight every minute of the day against terrible addictions. There are boys with no family but a gang, and teenage moms who are abandoned

and alone. And then there are the children who wonder if anyone loves them.

- We've reformed welfare in America to help many – yet welfare policy will not solve the deepest problems of the spirit. Our economy is growing – yet there are some needs that prosperity can never fill. We arrest and convict dangerous criminals – yet building more prisons is no substitute for responsibility and order in our souls.
- No government policy can put help in people's hearts, or a sense of purpose in people's lives. That can happen when someone – some good soul – puts an arm around a neighbor and says: "God loves, and I love you, and you can count on us both." *You*
- Faith-based groups are working daily miracles – and they deserve the support of the rest of us. They deserve the support of individual donors. They deserve the support of foundations. They deserve the support of the business community. And they deserve, when appropriate, the support of the federal government.
- Faith-based groups will never replace government when it comes to helping those in need. And government has no business endorsing a creed, or funding religious worship. Yet government can and should support social services provided by religious people, so long as those services go to anyone in need. And when government gives that support, charities and faith-based programs should not be forced to change their character or compromise their mission.
- My Administration has taken up this cause. I have issued an executive order banning discrimination against faith-based charities by federal agencies. We have created special offices in key Cabinet departments to speak up for faith-based groups and help them access government funding. In the funding process, we are changing the focus: Instead of focusing on the religion a program practices, we are focusing on the results they deliver.
- We are challenging decades of government discrimination against religious groups – and we are seeing results. This year, the Department of Health and Human Services awarded ~~nearly~~ *MORE THAN* seven million dollars in

- And we need to concentrate our efforts on children who are facing terrible obstacles. A mentor – a role model – can make all the difference in the life of a child, replacing anger and bitterness with confidence and hope. America needs more mentors. So I am calling on Congress to spend 450 million dollars over three years, to bring mentors to more than a million disadvantaged children. We will focus these efforts on junior high students, who are making important life decisions. And we will also bring mentors to the children of prisoners, who face so many challenges through no fault of their own. No child in America is a problem or a burden. Every child is a priority and a blessing, and with mentors, we can make sure they know it.
- One of the Power Center programs that this dinner is raising funds for tonight is the Fifth Ward Enrichment Program, which reaches boys at a critical age and helps them grow into responsible, productive men. In the life of Kirbyjon, we see that boys from the Fifth Ward can grow up to do great things. But they need the help of caring adults, and faith communities like this one can be a source of mentors for children in need. More Americans volunteer through their houses of worship than through any other type of organization. We need to support faith-based mentoring programs in cities across America, and build on the compassion that already exists in the hearts of our people.
- We also need to spread the compassion of America – not only down the block, but around the world.
- This summer, I traveled to Africa and saw for myself that continent's great possibilities, as well as its great needs. I saw the courage and compassion of men and women across Africa who are fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS. I saw that courage and compassion at the TASO clinic in Uganda, where heroic people are caring for the sick, providing treatment, and extending lives. These efforts are encouraging – but their scale across the continent is not large enough. In the face of the preventable death and suffering caused by AIDS, we have a moral duty to act. So America is acting. Over the next five years, the United States has pledged 15 billion dollars to fight AIDS around the world, with a special focus on 14 nations in Africa and the Caribbean. We are working with governments, and private groups, and faith-based

THE government also has ~~awarded 22 million dollars to~~
awarded grants as part of a \$22 million effort to
WOMAN'S Help prisoners Re-enter Society.

new grants to 14 faith-based groups to support abstinence education for children and teenagers. One of those grants, for nearly half a million dollars, went to A Woman's Concern, a group of four faith-based health centers in the Boston area that received federal funding for this first time through this program, to help neighborhood children learn how to make good choices and prevent unwanted pregnancies.

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- Our government also has a new program called the Compassion Capital Fund. This fund give resources to community groups – like Catholic Charities, or universities – which provide grants to faith based and community organizations. Last year, we gave out 24 million dollars in grant money – and some of that money went to Project MOVE here in Houston. Project MOVE sends mobile clinics to area schools and churches and provides free health and dental care to needy children. With this new federal funding, the program is doubling the number of days it operates ... expanding immunizations ... and reaching 1,300 ~~additional~~ children this year.
- Through the Compassion Capital Fund, we are supporting the good ~~words~~ works of 50 small faith-based and community groups this year. But that is a fraction of the need. In my budget for next year, I have asked Congress for 100 million dollars to expand the Compassion Capital Fund. We must bring the hope and healing of faith-based services to more and more Americans.

organizations. And we are determined to turn the tide against AIDS in Africa.

- America is a great Nation – not only because we are strong and wealthy – but because the people of our country are compassionate and good. We sacrifice for the lives and freedom of people across the world. And we serve our neighbors in need, right across town. In the work of compassion, it is not the people in government who are the experts, it is the people at the Power Center who are the experts. And by supporting them, you are helping lead America to a better day. There is a saying: “Nobody can teach you how to be a good servant of God, you have to learn it on the job.” And you are doing that job so incredibly well. Thank you, and may God bless our country.

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