

During the Mid Winter Board Meeting, the Faith Based Development Initiative Team (FBDIT) conducted its first orientation sessions with State Presidents and State Directors. Both orientation sessions were very well attended and all were given information that will assist our State Presidents and their State Directors in providing both information and potential services that will benefit all of our constituents. Our desire is for the constituents of National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. to be a well informed people in the beginning of the process in order that we might make informed decisions and act accordingly.

The orientation sessions followed the theme, "Rising to New Challenges - A Call to Solidarity." The team laid out a very elaborate presentation which included the Vision/mission statements, an in depth look at the present state of the church, engaging with the goals and objectives, an in depth discussion of this initiative as was envisioned by our President, Dr. Scruggs, the need for developing partnerships with Faith Based, Civic and other entities and the need to structure an organization that can offer more service value for all of our constituents.

Attached you will find the report of the FBDIT. As a constituent, should you have questions please feel free to contact the designated National Director, your State President, your State Director or the Chairman.

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION USA, INC

Mid-Winter Board Meeting

January 2012

Faith Based Development Initiative Team Report

Born out of a need to address pertinent contemporary causes and issues of concern with relevant services designed to enlighten, encourage and empower Constituent Bodies, our visionary President, Dr Julius R Scruggs, thought it wise to put forth a structure in the form of an organization that would incorporate more people, more constituents working as co-laborers on behalf of the National Baptist Convention USA, Incorporated. This working synergy was conceptualized to create partnerships within the Federal, State and Local Governments in addition to other philanthropic service entities to improve the lives of people in communities all across this nation.

It is to this end that the National Baptist Convention USA, Incorporated has instituted our Faith Based Development Initiative for the expressed purpose of assisting our Network Components, Affiliates and Constituents in becoming “The Resource Reservoir” for information that would enable Pastors and Churches to positively impact communities they serve in an efficient and effective manner.

The Initiative provides for diverse participation at every level of organizational responsibility, i.e. National Directors, State Directors, District Directors and Local Pastors and Churches. We look with great anticipation to the fruit that will

be produced on behalf of whom we believe will be tremendously grateful constituents and communities.

Since our Annual Session, your Faith Based Development Initiative Team (FBDIT) has been working to put legs and feet on the vision of our President in an effort to present the National Baptist Convention as “The Resource Reservoir” for all of our constituents throughout the Nation and indeed the World

At our President’s request the FBDI team was primarily responsible for planning and giving direction to our leadership’s highly visible dialogue at the White House last December. Brothers and sisters to experience the synergy in the room as we both anticipated and engaged in the dialogue was absolutely energizing. All leaders who made an investment of their time and their treasures by coming to the Nation’s Capitol were and are to be commended. Our visit let the leadership of both the Executive and Legislative branches of Government know who National Baptists are and what we are all about. Our President Dr. Julius Scruggs is truly leading us to “Rise to New Challenges.”

To begin addressing these “New Challenges” the FBDI Team is continuing interactive involvement with weekly video conference calls to discuss and plan next steps. During our Mid Winter Board Meeting, at the President’s request we invited all of our State Presidents to our initial orientation session designed to expose State Presidents to the value of this work to their State Convention, to the District Associations, to the local Pastors and to the local Churches. This particular orientation session happened on Tuesday afternoon.

On Wednesday, January 18, 2012 we invited all newly appointed State Directors to their initial orientation session. The State Directors were appointed by their State President to give leadership to this effort on behalf of their State Convention. The session was very much so hands on and all participants were given specific action steps to be communicated to the constituents of our State Conventions that we might engage back in our churches and the communities we serve.

Another very important step in this process is the participation of our Moderators and District Associations. Contact has been made with Dr. Kenneth Lyons and members of his staff at his direction in preparation for the inclusion of District Directors in this process. We will work with our Moderators Auxiliary and State Presidents to obtain their District Director appointments that all might meet for an initial District Director orientation during our Congress setting in June of this year.

To become “The Resource Reservoir” to give the kind of assistance and to make the kind of impact envisioned by our President on behalf of our constituents from the very beginning, we need to take advantage of the opportunities and the resources available for the empowerment of neighborhoods, communities and the people we serve all across this country. It is the Faith Based Development Initiative Team’s belief that the next tremendously important piece of this exciting action is the development of our proposed 501-c-3, the National USA Foundation. It is this proposed 501-c-3 that can and will be used, if approved, to attract resources without undue internal cross scrutiny.

During our Annual Session Board Meeting we approved the idea, the concept and were asked to involve an attorney in the development of the Foundation. We are happy to report that Attorney Tom Morris and His very capable staff at Morris and Associates have been involved in the development of the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws for the National USA Foundation Inc. We are indeed grateful to report that our proposed 501-c-3, The National USA Foundation was approved unanimously by the Board of Directors to be established. Therefore we are moving with dispatch to submit the appropriate documents to the proper authorities to get this new organization functioning in an effort to better serve all of our constituents.

Respectfully Submitted in Solidarity with the Savior

L. B. West, D.R.S.

Chairman