

Overview
Delaware Council of Faith-Based Partnerships
January 2015

Created by Executive Order January 2012

Ten members appointed (by Governor and Lt. Governor). Currently nine members and liaison from Governor's office. First meeting June 2012. Over twenty meetings, at various houses of worship and State agencies. Officers elected. By-laws created. Council members serve as interfaith volunteers. The Council operates without State funding.

Four Areas of Focus Selected

Emergency Preparedness and Response
Foster Care and Transitioning for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care
Incarceration, Re-Entry and Recidivism
After School and Summer Programs for Youth

Duties and Functions of the Council

Develop partnerships between faith-based groups and executive branch agencies; promote volunteerism and community service; provide forum for exchange of ideas on improving delivery and efficiency of services in community; encourage innovation and share best practices.

Council Accomplishments

Active support of the Lt. Governor Denn's *Faith, Family and Foster Care* initiative.

Database of Delaware faith-based institutions created and used to survey faith leaders on the State's public health emergency preparedness, in cooperation with Division of Public Health and University of Delaware's Center for Community Research and Service.

Partnered with Delaware State Parks and Mormon Helping Hands for *Saturday in the Park: A Day of Service*, during State's April 2013 Week of Service.

Provided direction for a \$20,000 Nemours Community Transformation Grant to connect faith communities and public schools in educating children on healthy food choices.

Partnered with Delaware Emergency Management Agency for *Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshop for Faith Leaders*, June 2014. Over forty attendees. Governor Markell and The Reverend David L. Myers, Senior Advisor to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator, addressed participants. Workshop featured in Governor's weekly message.

Hosting "Lunch and Learn" series in 2015, five one-hour sessions, connecting faith leaders with State agencies and programs.

Faiths Represented (as of January 2015)

African Methodist Episcopal, Baptist, Episcopalian, Jewish, Latter-day Saints (Mormon), Muslim, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic.