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The Face  
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# The Challenge of Intersecting Health Service Agencies to Faith-Based Communities

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# Let the Gates Open

## Movie Clip



# Session Agenda

Introduction

Defining the Challenge

Snap Shot of Church Culture

**Intersecting Strategies**

How to Enter (**Relationship**)

How to Stay (**Respect**)

How to Depart (**Revelation**)



# Snap Shot of Faith-Based Organizations (Churches )

## Survey by: Pew Forum's On Religion and Public Life

- ▶ These are some of the key findings of the Pew Forum's U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, which draws primarily on a new nationwide survey conducted from May 8 to Aug. 13, 2007, among a representative sample of more than 35,000 adults in the U.S., with additional over-samples of Eastern Orthodox Christians, Buddhists and Hindus. The study also takes advantage of the 2007 survey of American Muslims ("Muslim Americans: Middle Class and Mostly Mainstream"), which was conducted by the Forum in partnership with its sister projects, the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, the Pew Hispanic Center and the Pew Global Attitudes Project. In total, these surveys included interviews with more than 36,000 Americans.

<http://religions.pewforum.org/portraits>



# Snap Shot of Faith-Based Communities (Religious Institutions/Churches)

- ▶ Evangelical Protestant Churches
- ▶ Mainline Protestant Churches
- ▶ Historically Black Churches
- ▶ Catholic
- ▶ Mormon
- ▶ Jehovah's Witness
- ▶ Orthodox
- ▶ Jewish
- ▶ Buddhist
- ▶ Muslim
- ▶ Hindu
- ▶ Unitarians and Liberal faiths
- ▶ New Age



# Snap Shot of Faith-Based Communities (Religious Institutions / Churches) con't.

- ▶ Men are significantly more likely than women to claim no religious affiliation. Nearly one-in-five men say they have no formal religious affiliation, compared with roughly 13% of women.
- ▶ Among people who are married, nearly four-in-ten (37%) are married to a spouse with a different religious affiliation. (This figure includes Protestants who are married to another Protestant from a different denominational family, such as a Baptist who is married to a Methodist.) Hindus and Mormons are the most likely to be married (78% and 71%, respectively) and to be married to someone of the same religion (90% and 83%, respectively).
- ▶ Mormons and Muslims are the groups with the largest families; more than one-in-five Mormon adults and 15% of Muslim adults in the U.S. have three or more children living at home.



# Snap Shot of Faith-Based Communities (Religious Institutions / Churches) con't.

- ▶ The Midwest most closely resembles the religious makeup of the overall population. The South, by a wide margin, has the heaviest concentration of members of evangelical Protestant churches. The Northeast has the greatest concentration of Catholics, and the West has the largest proportion of unaffiliated people, including the largest proportion of atheists and agnostics.
- ▶ Of all the major racial and ethnic groups in the United States, black Americans are the most likely to report a formal religious affiliation. Even among those blacks who are unaffiliated, three-in-four belong to the "religious unaffiliated" category (that is, they say that religion is either somewhat or very important in their lives), compared with slightly more than one-third of the unaffiliated population overall.
- ▶ Nearly half of Hindus in the U.S., one-third of Jews and a quarter of Buddhists have obtained post-graduate education, compared with only about one-in-ten of the adult population overall. Hindus and Jews are also much more likely than other groups to report high income levels.





# Snap Shot of Faith-Based Communities (Religious Institutions/Churches) con't.

- ▶ By contrast, members of mainline Protestant churches and Jews are older, on average, than members of other groups. Roughly half of Jews and members of mainline churches are age 50 and older, compared with approximately four-in-ten American adults overall.
- ▶ In sharp contrast to Islam and Hinduism, Buddhism in the U.S. is primarily made up of native-born adherents, whites and converts. Only one-in-three American Buddhists describe their race as Asian, while nearly three-in-four Buddhists say they are converts to Buddhism.



# Snap Shot of Faith-Based Communities (Religious Institutions / Churches) con't.

- ▶ Jehovah's Witnesses have the lowest retention rate of any religious tradition. Only 37% of all those who say they were raised as Jehovah's Witnesses still identify themselves as Jehovah's Witnesses.
- ▶ Members of Baptist churches account for one-third of all Protestants and close to one-fifth of the total U.S. adult population. Baptists also account for nearly two-thirds of members of historically black Protestant churches.



# What are Faith-Based Community Political and Social Views?

## Party Affiliation

- ▶ Republican
- ▶ Lean Republican
- ▶ Independent
- ▶ Lean Democratic
- ▶ Democratic

## Views about Homosexuality

- ▶ Homosexuality should be accepted by society
- ▶ Homosexuality should be discouraged by society
- ▶ Neither/both equally



# Intersecting Strategies



# How Do I Obtain Entrance?

## RELATIONSHIP

- ▶ Meet Leaders of the church (Pastor, Pastors' wife, Secretary or Administrative Assistant, Minister, Deacon, Trustee, Stewardship or Church Leader)
- ▶ Plan to have several interest meetings
- ▶ Send short letter introducing yourself and request appointment
- ▶ Follow up with an email and/or phone call
- ▶ Copy church secretary on correspondence



# How Do I Stay Connected?

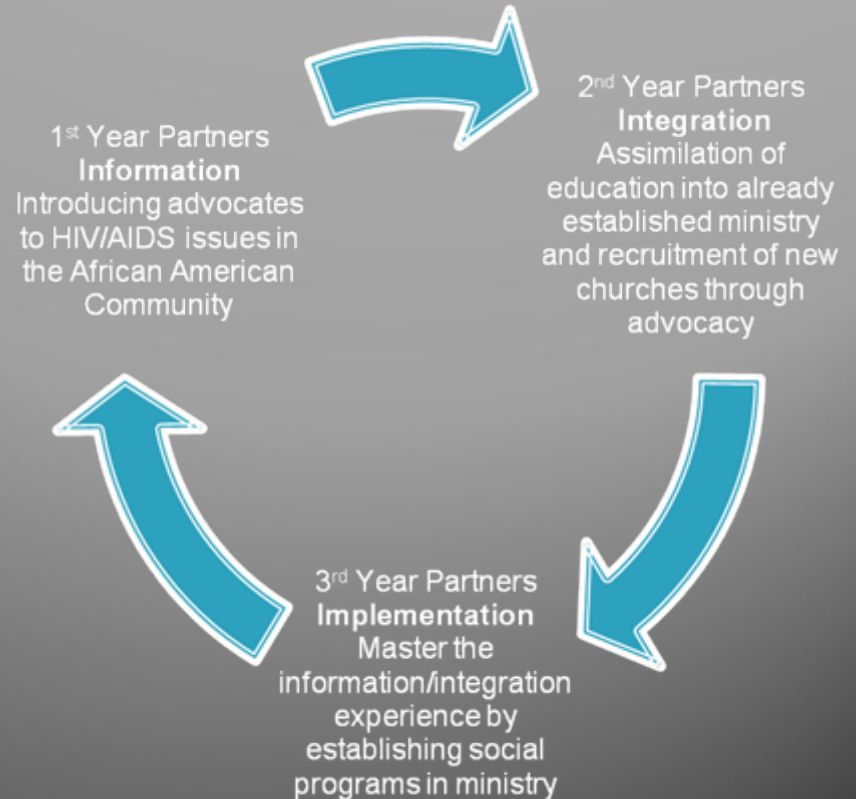
## RESPECT

- ▶ Connect with a well-known and respected host church that will serve as the (FBC) public face of your project.
- ▶ Connect with a church member who can serve as the liaison or the advocate for your cause.
- ▶ Genuinely develop a healthy professional working relationship that values their contribution.



# Sample Strategies

- ▶ A-DVOCATES
- ▶ B-ELIEVERS
- ▶ C-OMMUNITY



# How Do I Exit?

## REVELATION

- ▶ Exit with a **Win-Win**
- ▶ Exit by establishing a **partnership**
- ▶ Exit by providing **resources**
- ▶ Exit with a heart felt **“Thank-You”**





# FEEDBACK



# Contact Information

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