

# THE FACTS ABOUT...

**The Challenge:** To spread the message of *No Child Left Behind* to the vast network of parents and community members who are actively involved in faith-based and community activities.

**The Solution:** Rally the armies of compassion in our country to make sure that people of all faiths in every community will hear a new message of hope for educating every child in America.

## HOW FAITH AND COMMUNITY LEADERS PARTNER TO LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND

***No Child Left Behind* recognizes the important role faith-based organizations and leaders play in America's communities**

- A week after he was inaugurated, President Bush declared that the federal government would play a new role as a supporter, enabler, catalyst and collaborator with faith-based and community organizations because he recognized that these quiet heroes bring hope and opportunity to people's lives in ways that are beyond the federal government's ability.
- Whether through tutoring, after-school programs, mentoring or parent training, faith-based and community organizations have worked for years to leave no child behind.
- Often these groups are the only ones active in communities where the needs are the greatest. It's important that they are supported, not undermined or shut out, by Washington.

**The new law gives communities and parents increased local control and more opportunities for faith-based and community organizations to aid in improving student academic achievement**

- President Bush and Secretary Paige recognize that it is only in partnership with these community leaders that we can truly ensure that no child is left behind.

**President Bush is working with community leadership to spread the promise and message of reform**

- Community leaders can help transform the culture of expectations in education by calling upon local officials to fully implement *No Child Left Behind*.
- Community leaders can encourage their local officials to take advantage of all the opportunities the act offers.
- Faith-based and community organizations can inform and educate parents about the new opportunities available for their children.

***No Child Left Behind* gives new freedom to faith-based organizations**

- Faith-based and community organizations are eligible to apply for certain grants from the Department of Education and their local schools.
- Faith-based and community organizations can provide supplemental educational services to children who attend "persistently failing" schools. Faith-based and community organizations also can compete for funds to provide after-school and mentoring programs.

FAITH-BASED EFFORTS