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"A Vital Christian Presence in Social Work"

**BLACK PASTORS AND GOVERNMENT FUNDING: RESULTS OF
A SURVEY**

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Black Pastors and Government Funding: Results of a Survey



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Presentation Outline

The Presentation

- Study Motivation
- Overview of the Study
- Summarize the Major Findings
- Limitations
- Implications for Social Work
- Questions/Answers

Study Motivation

“Rallying the Armies of Compassion”: A Call To Do More

- *“Faith in Action”*
- Faith community called to help fight poverty and other social issues
- New laws enacted to increase partnerships
- How can Black churches in Northeastern NC take advantage of new opportunities?



Overview of the Study

The Problem

- *Lack of published research regarding the pursuit of government funding*

(Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, 2006)

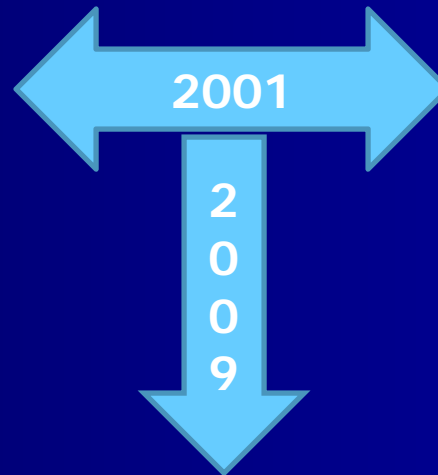


New Laws Enacted

- Charitable Choice



- Faith-Based Initiative



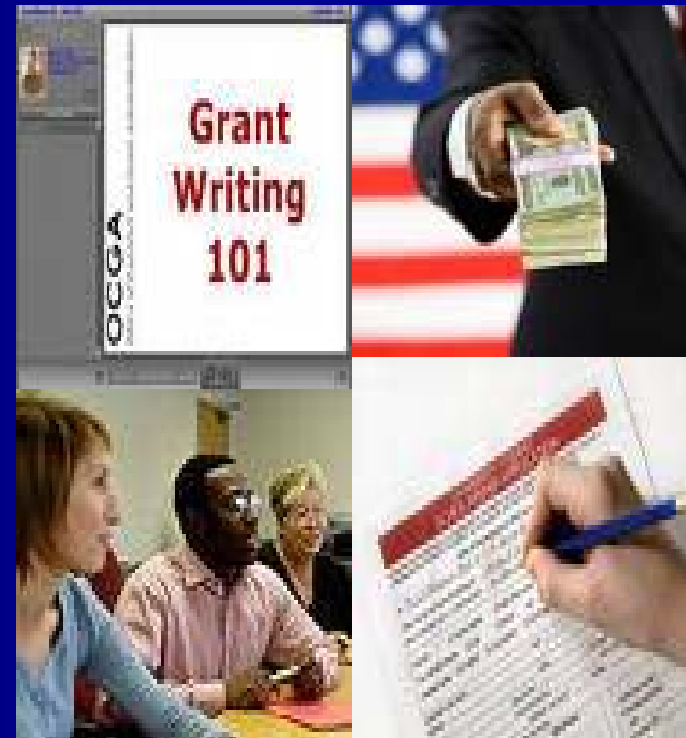
Charitable Choice

- *“Level playing field”*
- Houses of worship would have **equal opportunities** to compete for government funding



Faith-Based Initiative

- Help houses of worship *compete more effectively* for government funding



Purpose of the Study

- 1) Explore factors predicting willingness to apply for and accept government funding
- 2) Identify willing Black pastors

Studies on Charitable Choice and Faith-Based Initiatives

- Long history of caring for poor
- Viewed by Policymakers as Potential Partners, often underutilized
- Congregations lack awareness of or knowledge about Charitable Choice

Research Methods

- Quantitative
- Cross-Sectional Survey Research Design

The Research Question

- Is there a relationship between knowledge of Charitable Choice, formal education and training, church resources (e.g., money and space), and attitudes toward church-state partnership **AND** willingness to apply for and accept government funding for the provision of public social services among Black pastors in Black churches in Northeastern North Carolina?

Variables

- *Independent Variables:*

- Knowledge of the Charitable Choice Law
- Formal education and training
- Church resources (e.g., money and space)
- Attitude toward church-state partnerships

- *Dependent Variables:*

- Willingness to apply for and accept government funding for provision of social services

Sample

- Black Pastors (male and female)
- Different Denominational Affiliations
- Counties (rural) in Northeastern North Carolina



Sampling Methods

- Targeted Sampling

Sample Identified:

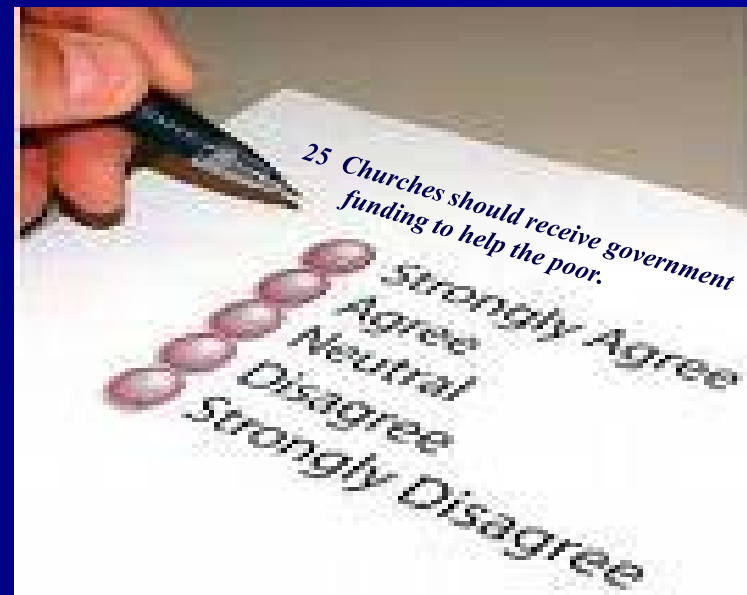
- 1) Conference Church Lists
- 2) Phone Books
- 3) Ministerial Alliances
- 4) Individuals familiar with Black churches



Church Directory

Method of Data Collection

- 72 –Item Questionnaire with several Likert Scales
- Mailed/Hand Delivered
- Cover letters and Self-addressed stamped return envelopes



Analyses

- Descriptive statistics employed to specify demographic characteristics of the sample
- Bivariate and multivariate analysis was conducted to investigate associations between the variables and to test for generalizability

Results

What did this study find?

Sample Demographics

Gender of Pastors

- **Males (83.3%)**
- Females (11.7%)
- n=103 (Respondents in Total)

Age of Pastors

- Ranged from 34 to over 80
- **Median age: 54 years**



Religious Affiliations of Pastors

- **Majority Baptist (50.5%)**
- Second Largest Church of God in Christ (30.1%)
- Third Largest Non-Denominational (9.7 %)



Personal Annual Income of Pastors

- Ranged from: Less than \$20,000 – over \$100,000
- 6.8 % earned less than \$20,000
- 3.9 % earned over \$100,000
- **Median: Ranged from \$40,000 – \$49,999**



Social Service Ministries

Social Service Ministries

- All churches provided some type of social services
- **Most** were *very limited* in the number of services they provide
- **Median number of services provided: 4.00**

Most Commonly Provided Services

Services Provided	Percent Reporting
Counseling	100.0
Groceries	49.5
Utilities	45.0
Clothing	43.7
Transportation	39.8
Rent	38.8

Least Commonly Provided Services

Services Provided	Percent Reporting
After School Care	16.5
Child Care	15.5
Hot Meals	15.5
Housing	8.7
Shelter	7.8
Medical/Health Services	6.8

Social Service Ministries of Interest

(8 Major Program Areas)

Program Area 1: (Counseling/Programs for Families)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting		Least Interested/Percent Reporting	
Marriage Counseling	80.6	Spousal Abuse/DV Program	58.3
Family Counseling	76.7	Suicide Prevention	55.3
Couple Counseling	70.9	Divorced Programs	53.4

Program Area 2: (Programs for Seniors)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting		Least Interested/Percent Reporting	
Transportation	71.8	Recreational Activities	53.3
Meals on Wheels	54.4	Providing Meals on Site	44.7

Program Area 3: (Programs for Children)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting		Least Interested/Percent Reporting	
Tutoring	61.2	Summer Day Camp	41.7
Scholarships	58.3	After School Program	36.9
Big Brother/Big Sister	57.3	Before School Program	21.4

Program Area 4: (Health Programs)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting		Least Interested/Percent Reporting	
Drug/Alcohol Prevention	66.0	People w/physical disabilities	42.7
Sick/Homebound	55.3	Hospice	26.2

Program Area 5: (Educational Opportunities for Adults)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting	Least Interested/Percent Reporting
Computer Training 74.8	Adult Literacy 58.3
Scholarships 66.0	Vocational Training 46.6

Program Area 6: (Arts and Culture Programs)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting	Least Interested/Percent Reporting
Music Classes 60.2	Art Classes 33.0

Program Area 7: (Permanent Housing)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting	Least Interested/Percent Reporting
Housing Rehabilitation 46.6	Habitat for Humanity 37.9
Advocacy for Housing 43.7	Loans for Housing 33.3

Program Area 8: (Other Programs)

Most Interested/Percent Reporting	Least Interested/Percent Reporting
Prison/Inmate Services 62.1	Youth Offenders 59.2

Knowledge of Charitable Choice

Knowledge of Charitable Choice Among Pastors

- **15 Items to test knowledge**
- Items focused on:
 - 1) Objectives of Policy
 - 2) Rights & legal obligations of Faith-Based/
Community Organizations under the law
 - 3) Extent to which Charitable Choice has been
implemented

(Scale adapted from Bartkowski & Colleagues, 2003)

Performance on Charitable Choice Items

Number of Correct Responses	Percentage of Pastors in Sample
0 – 4	25.2
5 - 9	61.2
10 and More	13.6
Total	100

Median Number of Correct Responses: 9.00

Willingness To Apply for and Accept Government Funding

Willingness to Satisfy Criteria for Government Funding

Satisfy Criteria	Percentage of Pastors in Sample
0 - 4	6
5 - 9	40
10 or More	54
Total	100

Median Number to satisfy the criteria: 10.00

Hypotheses Testing

Hypothesis Testing

- **Research Hypothesis 1**

- There is positive relationship between knowledge of information about the Charitable Choice Law AND willingness to apply for and accept funding

- **Finding:**

- More knowledge of information about the Charitable Choice Law increases the likelihood of applying for and accepting government funding

(Hypothesis confirmed)

Hypothesis Testing

(cont.)

- **Research Hypothesis 2**

- There is a positive relationship between formal education and training AND willingness to apply and accept funding.

- **Finding**

- More formal education and training increases willingness to apply for and accept government funding to provide public social services.

(Hypothesis confirmed)

Hypothesis Testing

(cont.)

- **Hypothesis 3**

- There is a positive relationship between church resources AND willingness to apply for and accept funding

- **Finding**

- There was no statistically significant relationship between *(all)* the church resources AND willingness to apply for and accept funding. *(not confirmed)*

Hypothesis Testing

(cont.)

- **Hypothesis 4**

- There is a positive relationship between attitude or feelings toward church-state partnership AND willingness to apply for and accept funding.

- **Finding**

- More favorable attitudes or feelings toward church-state partnerships increases willingness to apply for and accept government funding.
- **(Hypothesis confirmed)**

Variables That Best Predict Willingness to Meet Charitable Choice Criteria (Beta Weights in Multiple Regression)

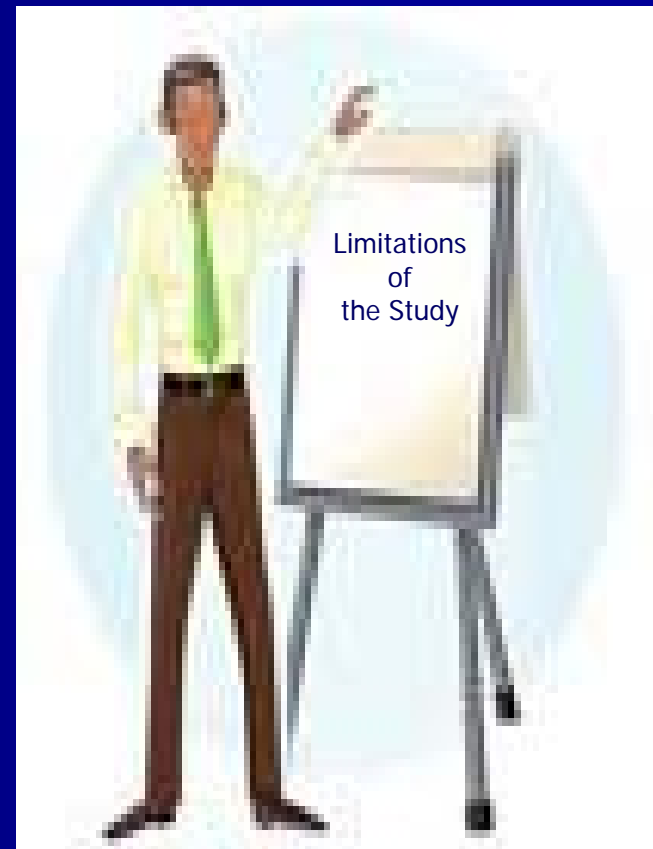
Personal Characteristics	Church Characteristics	Combined
$R^2 = .413^{**}$	$R^2 = .084$	$R^2 = .309^{**}$
<u>Beta Weights</u>	<u>Beta Weights</u>	<u>Beta Weights</u>
Education .447^{**}	COGIC $-.302^{**}$	Education $.487^{**}$
Attitude .341^{**}	Seating Capacity $-.280^*$	Knowledge $.300^*$
Knowledge .175[*]		

* $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$

Limitations of the Study

Limitations

- Identification of Churches
- Sampling and Data Collection
- Generalizability



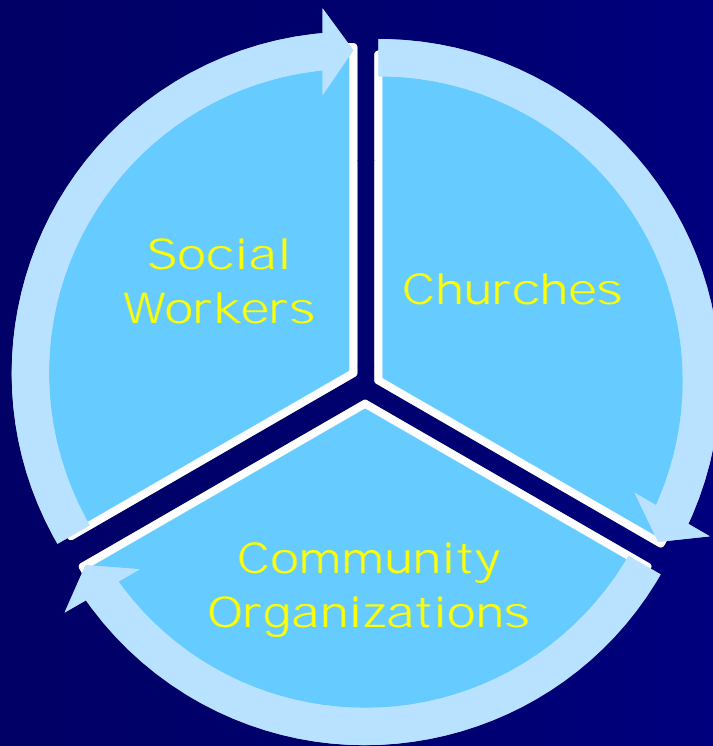
Implications for Social Work

Implications

- Potential to increase the number of social services providers in rural communities



Develop Coalition



- Willingness to do more/expand their mission field
- Willingness to learn more about partnering with the government (opportunities, challenges, and expectations)

President Barack Obama's Faith-Based Priorities

- 1) Strengthen the Role of Fathers in home/society
- 2) Reduce the number of abortions
- 3) Reduce Poverty
- 4) Improve Interfaith Relationships





Thanks for selecting this workshop!

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Questions and Answers

