

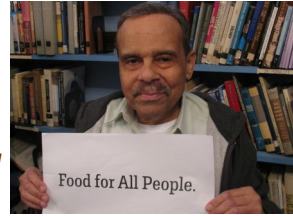
FOCUS Churches

Annual Report • February 2, 2014



FOCUS Executive Council President, Irving Smith:

Thanks to God's blessings, 2013 was another solid year in the remarkable life of FOCUS, as seen through the FOCUS feeding programs, relationships with our faith communities, financials and Advocacy.



Proverbs 31:8-9 says "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." FOCUS Food programs continue to fill an urgent hunger need in Albany. The Breakfast Program a year round service, served over 16,000 hot meals and lunches. The Interfaith Food Pantry provided groceries to 1,425 (unduplicated count) families (a six day supply available each month).

The FOCUS financial status is the healthiest that I have seen in recent years due in large to grants, contributions and fund raising events.

FOCUS increased its covenant base, as First Reformed Church in Albany became our newest member church.

FOCUS Advocacy activities during 2013 included Hunger Action Network Annual Meeting, NYS Dept of Health Nutrition Division, rallies to raise minimum wage, bringing plights of needy and poor to numerous State Legislators, Thanksgiving Action Against Hunger press conference, SNAP postcard campaign, SNAP video petition, and much more. FOCUS Advocates participated in the People's State of the State Rally, and led a contingency to Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington DC.

As I turn over the Executive Board Presidency to Nancy Horan from Emmanuel Baptist, let me say that it has been a privilege and honor to serve FOCUS as its President over the past years.

Irving Smith

FOCUS Sets Priorities for 2014

Worshipping Together:

Remembering who we are and to whom we belong

Food Programs:

Interfaith Food Pantry
Winter Breakfast
Breakfast Express

Community Harvest Garden
Gardening In A Bucket

FOCUS Advocates:

*Working for Long-term Solutions
to End Hunger and Poverty*

Communications:

Getting the Word out

Capacity Building:

Strengthening our work together

Ecumenical & Interfaith partnerships:

*Book studies, conferences, Homeless
Memorial Service, FOCUS on Schools supply
project*



FOCUS Executive Council

Interfaith Food Pantry Affiliates:

Congregation Beth Emeth • First Unitarian Universalist
Society of Albany (FUUSA) • Islamic Center of the
Capital Region • New Covenant Presbyterian •
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Project Partners:

Angels to Each Other—All Saints Catholic, Beverwyck
Worship Community, Cathedral of All Saints, First
Lutheran/Albany, First UMC/Delmar, Journey UCC, &
St. Paul's Episcopal

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FOCUS Adopts 2014 Budget Cites Major Income Sources

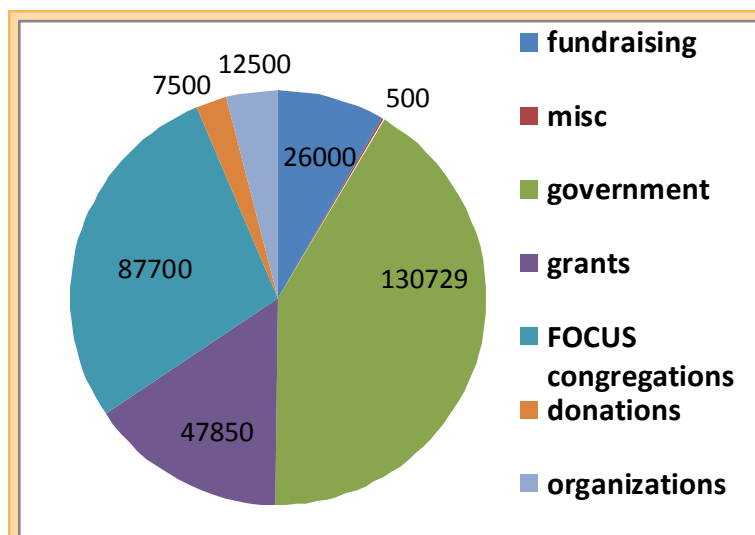
The FOCUS Executive Council approves a 2014 budget of pledged and anticipated income totaling \$ 319,394.

The budget supports all facets of FOCUS programming and relies on many sources of income.

Pledges from FOCUS Covenant Churches, totaling \$66,815, will continue to support the Director of Community Ministry position, outreach, project activities, and administration. Other income for these uses will come from fundraising and other contributions. They are projected to provide \$111,400, with a total for the core budget of \$178,215.

FOCUS feeding programs, the Interfaith Food Pantry, Winter Breakfast, and Breakfast Express are supported by affiliate faith communities, donations from FOCUS churches, individuals, groups, grants, and a direct contract with NYS Department of Health, Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance funding. Feeding program budgets total \$141,179.

Funding Our Shared Ministry 2014



Grants, Organizational Gifts, Contributions Support FOCUS

Advanced Physical Therapy
 American Baptist Churches USA
 Bake For You
 BJ's Charitable Foundation
 Capital Area Council of Churches/Church World Service
 Capital Region Theological Center
 Christian Reformed Church in North America
 Community Loan Fund of the Greater Capital Region
 Congregation Beth Emeth Social Action Fund
 D. Brickman Inc.
 Delmar Reformed Church
 ELCA Domestic Hunger Program
 Emmanuel Baptist Benevolence

"In-kind" Gifts and Volunteer Hours Boost Value of FOCUS Contributions

Editor's Note: In addition to contributions of money, FOCUS receives many "in-kind" contributions of goods and services

Executive

FOCUS Office - Emmanuel Baptist—\$2,500

School Supply donations—\$6,500

Volunteer time—1,081 hours

Pantry

USDA Commodities—\$17,833.

Total pounds of Food Given Out—131,656

Donated food and personal care items—\$6,913

Food Pantries of the CD, food certificates—\$1,087

food supplement—\$2,912

Volunteer time—2,913 hours

Breakfast

Winter Space - Westminster Presbyterian—\$4,500

USDA Commodities — \$1,859.

Volunteer time — 3,876 hours

221 Volunteers provided **7870** hours of service in FOCUS Programs in 2013.

Feinstein Family Fund
 First Church Albany
 First Lutheran Albany
 First Presbyterian Church
 First United Methodist Church of Delmar
 First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany
 GE Foundation Matching Gifts
 Generations Planning Group
 Hannay Reels
 Homeless and Travelers Aid Society
 Journey United Church of Christ
 McSharry & Associates
 MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
 New Covenant Presbyterian Church
 Presbyterian Church USA Hunger Fund
 Reformed Protestant Church of the Helderbergs
 Rosetti Holding Companies
 Schwab Charitable Fund
 Seeds for Peace
 Sharon Hoorwitz Real Estate Team
 Slingerlands United Methodist Women
 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
 Stark & Basila
 Trinity United Methodist Church
 Trojan Tele Communications
 United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries
 Upper NY Annual Conference, United Methodist Church
 Westminster Presbyterian Church
 W.J. Lyons Jr. Funeral Home
 Women of the ELCA (upstate NY Synod)

(Individual donors reported 2x annually in *IN FOCUS* newsletter)