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FASTEN 5395 Emerson Way Indianapolis, IN 46226

# The Ask FASTEN Network — A Bridge to Knowledge Sharing!

We're particularly excited about adding a peer-topeer learning community to enhance your ability to actively collaborate with colleagues on issues impacting your work. Through Ask FASTEN, you will have access to advice from leading practitioners, public administrators, and academicians about what's working and what's not.

# What Else Can You Expect from FASTEN?

- Conferences with practical training designed to strengthen your service programs and networking opportunities to foster fruitful collaboration;
- Targeted Advice through FASTEN's E-newsletter you will receive updates on new features, experts and resources on the FASTEN Web site;
- New Research as the FASTEN primary partners and supporting organizations publish research on new discoveries and developments in faith-based social services, you will be among the first to know and benefit.

# A Word About FASTEN's Primary Partners

FASTEN's learning network is guided and facilitated by the work of its four primary partners:

**Hudson Institute's** *Faith in Communities Initiative* leads FASTEN's efforts to strengthen faith-based intermediary organizations through technical assistance and peer-to-peer learning, and acquires and develops educational materials for the FASTEN Web site.

**Baylor University's** *School of Social Work* is FASTEN's primary partner for in-depth empirical research to identify promising and exemplary practices in faithbased social service provision.

**The National Crime Prevention Council's** *Center for Faith and Service* serves FASTEN by investigating promising models of faith-based crime prevention programs and making those findings and insights available through FASTEN's publications and Web site.

**Harvard University's** *Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations* contributes to FASTEN's efforts by equipping public administrators for effective collaboration with local faith-based community organizations.

Please visit the FASTEN Web site at www.fastennetwork.org for links to our primary partners' Web sites and many more Internet resources. For questions or comments, please contact support@fastennetwork.org.



### **FASTEN**

THE FAITH AND SERVICE
TECHNICAL EDUCATION NETWORK

# Making Connections

THAT STRENGTHEN
YOUR ORGANIZATION









Sharing Knowledge. Strengthening Connections. Improving Outcomes.

# What is FASTEN and How Can it Help You Better Serve Your Community?

FASTEN (The Faith and Service Technical Education Network) equips faith-based organizations, philanthropic foundations, and government entities to work more effectively to improve lives in distressed communities. FASTEN promotes enhanced collaboration around best practices based on original research and insights drawn from existing studies and successful models.

### FASTEN provides you with connections to develop:

- **Effective organizations** (through practical capacity building tools and information);
- Effective relationships (by linking you with experts between and across faith-based and public and private sectors);
- **Effective programs** (through case studies and best practices); and
- **Effective fundraising** (through relevant how-to tips, guidelines, and connections to funding sources).

#### Who is FASTEN?

FASTEN is a collaborative initiative of the Pew Charitable Trusts working in partnership with:

- Hudson Institute's Faith in Communities Initiative,
- Baylor University's School of Social Work,
- The National Crime Prevention Council's Center for Faith and Service, and
  - Harvard University's
    Hauser Center for
    Nonprofit Organizations

#### Who is FASTEN for?

FASTEN's mission is to strengthen and support faithbased social services. FASTEN assists:

- Faith-based organizations (FBOs),
- Public/private funders, and
- Public administrators

in connecting to resources and relationships that equip them to better serve communities throughout the United States.

# How Does FASTEN Help Your Organization?

The short answer is that FASTEN does a lot of the resource gathering leg-work for your organization so you can do more of what you do best.

Faced with many challenges in fostering positive change in their neighborhoods, grassroots FBOs are constantly searching for practical help in creating and funding initiatives that work. FASTEN helps community healers find solutions. FASTEN provides:

- **Practical tools** (e.g., how-to guides, curricula, profiles of effective models);
- **Connections to experts** in the fields of practice supported by FASTEN;
- A peer-to-peer learning community; and
- **Up-to-date information** on best practices based on original research produced by the FASTEN partner organizations.

Most Importantly, FASTEN is You

FASTEN's highest value as a learning community is achieved when those passionate about creating healthier communities come together to share ideas and build partnerships. To that end, we invite you to get involved by:

- Visiting our Web site at www.fastennetwork.org
- After visiting, filling out and returning the brief survey (attached right),
- Signing up for the FASTEN E-newsletter to stay current with developments on the Web site and events geared especially to you.

#### Welcome to the FASTEN Web Site



FASTEN is about enhancing your effectiveness. Each section of the site brings you a variety of informative articles and case studies as well as helpful tips. how-to guides, and best practices. At www.fastennetwork.org, you'll find the tools to help you develop, implement, and evaluate new programs and partnerships.

#### www.fastennetwork.org

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