


Volunteers of America


PLACE MATTERS
Design Lab Seven

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Agenda

- Volunteers of America
- President's FY2009 Budget Proposal
- Trends
- "Forces for Good"
- Conclusion



Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need rebuild their lives and reach their full potential. Through hundreds of human service programs, including housing and health care, Volunteers of America helps more than 2 million people in over 400 communities. Since 1896, our ministry of service has supported and empowered America's most vulnerable groups, including at-risk youth, the frail elderly, men and women returning from prison, homeless individuals and families, people with disabilities, and those recovering from addictions.



President's FY2009 Budget Proposal

- President's FY2009 budget reflects actual or effective cuts in most discretionary domestic spending areas affecting local governments. The total proposed budget is \$3.1 trillion, of which nearly \$987.5 billion is for discretionary programs subject to annual appropriations decisions.
- The budget proposes further savings of nearly \$100 billion over the next five years through new limits on health insurance entitlement (or "mandatory") spending programs, about \$178.2 billion from Medicare and another \$17.4 billion from Medicaid.



Trends of Inequity

- In 2003, 435 million people – 15.6% of Americans lacked health insurance throughout the year. 11.4% of those uninsured were children.
- 2.3M children are affected by the 1.1M parents incarcerated in prisons or jails. More than 7M children have a parent under some type of correctional supervision.
- One in four low income children lives in an immigrant family.



Trends of Inequity

- 7.5M households pay more than ½ their income in rent
- Nine seniors on a waiting list for every affordable housing unit
- 8M senior households have an income of less than \$10,500



“Forces for Good”

- Leslie R. Crutchfield and Heather McLeod
- Research conducted on recently formed non-profit organization
- 12 organizations singled out that demonstrated high impact
- Diverse groups emerged: Environmental Defense Fund, Heritage Foundation, Teach for America, Youth Build USA



Six Practices of High Impact Nonprofits

- Advocate and serve
- Make markets work
- Inspire evangelists
- Nurture non-profit networks
- Master the art of adaptation
- Share the leadership



Advocate and Serve

- Renew all project- based rental contracts
- Affordable housing preservation
- Disposition of troubled properties
- Housing Trust Fund
- Volunteers of America currently owns and operates a portfolio of over 310 affordable housing facilities, which is comprised of:
 - 214 national office sponsored properties
 - 96 affiliate sponsored properties
 - Portfolio contains over 17,000 units



Make markets work

- Day laborer centers
- Re-entry programs
- Job training programs



Inspire evangelists

- Life Connections - ex-offenders matched with mentoring groups
- Mentoring Children of Promise
- Day of Caring



Nurture non-profit networks

- Senior Sensor Technology
 - Partnership with the University of Virginia and The Good Samaritan Lutheran Society
 - Research
 - Differentiation
 - Verizon Foundation
- National Affordable Housing Trust



Master the art of adaptation

- Specialized program development
 - Aging special needs population
 - Re-entry for senior formerly incarcerated persons
 - Steel frame housing factory
 - Veteran's services



Share the leadership

- Shift affordable housing management to 38 local offices
- Major League Baseball Trust Action Teams



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Conclusion

Key questions

- Is the status quo really working effectively, efficiently and with maximum impact?
- Is the behavior today aligned with addressing root causes of health disparities?
- What are the significant trends in the sector and what planning is in place to proactively address?
- What competencies and assets (present and untapped) can be leveraged?