

The Christian Church and the Faith Based Initiative



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The vision for a portion of the Christian church in America is undergoing a radical transformation. While most churches in America traditionally have built sanctuaries, fellowship halls and educational space, there is a growing trend toward other types of structures to facilitate an ever-expanding vision toward social ministries.

In communities across the nation there are congregations that have a vision for ministries that are far more community based than most traditional methods. These churches are constructing a wide range of facilities to make possible the ministries God has placed in their hearts. Some of the facilities being considered include Single Room Occupancy Housing, Multi & Single Family Housing, Adult and Child Daycare facilities, Assisted Living communities and Community Recreation and Training Centers to name a few.

Beyond their traditional ministries of worship and Christian education these churches are conducting outreach to various groups. These growing ministries include, transitional housing for single mothers and ex-offenders, subsidized daycare services for low-income families, vocational training programs for at risk youth and GED and other educational programs. In addition, some of these churches have been able to identify various programs within the faith-based initiative to create income streams that assist in financing church building projects. In most cases the church will need to create a Community Development Corporation to access the aforementioned programs.

It is exciting to see visionary Pastors and Church Leaders who are demonstrating the ministry and love of Jesus Christ in an innovative way. They are taking the teachings and love of Jesus Christ and effectively reaching people who are disenfranchised within their respective communities and are ministering to them in a manner that is relative to their respective situations.