

December 10, 2007

By Post Staff

OCCUR's Faith-Based Assistance *Groups Shown How to Access Foundation Money*

Over 200 representatives from faith based institutions throughout the Bay Area attended the Kickoff event for a year long capacity building program implemented by OCCUR and The San Francisco Foundation FAITHS Program, entitled "A Model Built on Faith". The event, which was held at the Oakland Museum, attracted an enthusiastic gathering of clergy, church leaders, nonprofit representatives and consultants. Oakland Mayor, Ron Dellums and the San Francisco Foundation, Program Director, James Head were among the speakers setting a dynamic tone for the program. Mayor Dellums described to attendees his decision to run for Mayor of Oakland as "Ultimately a leap of faith", in response to the recognition of Oakland's depth of need and the City's desire for strong leadership. He spoke of his life experiences and how they have shaped his faith.

The OCCUR program will work with all faith based institutions towards building stronger organization capacity to provide vital services, raise more money, write proposals and effectively relate to philanthropic sources. OCCUR will hold seven workshops between December 2007 and June 2008.

The next session is scheduled for Thursday December 13, 2007 at Oakland City Hall in Hearing Room #1 from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. This session will focus on Funding for Nonprofits and will include presentations from noted author and program development specialist, Dynell Garron, Faith based program director Carmen Bogan and OCCUR Executive Director David Glover. Please note that times and locations for other sessions will be announced. For more information on this important program, and to RSVP for any of the sessions, please contact OCCUR at (510) 839-2440 or fax to (510) 268-9065 or email to occur@sbcglobal.net.