



*A Network Promoting Healthy Communities
Through Faith-Health Partnerships*

CO-CONVENERS

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MT Office of Rural Health

Margaret MacDonald, Exec. Dir.
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June 14, 2002

OCS Operations Center
Administration for Children and Families
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
1815 North Fort Myer Drive, Suite 300
Arlington, Virginia 22202

**RE: INTENT TO APPLY FOR COMPASSION CAPITAL FUND DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT**

Dear Office of Community Services, ACF:

This communication is a Letter of Intent to submit an application on or before July 22, 2002, in response to the announcement in the Federal Register Vol. 67, No. 110/Friday, June 7, 2002, entitled Compassion Capital Fund Demonstration Program (CCFDP).

The Montana Faith-Health Cooperative, a state-wide organization, will serve as the lead applicant and the 'intermediary organization' for our application. The purpose of the CCFDP coincides well with the scope and mission of the Montana Faith-Health Cooperative which is "to foster and promote productive faith-health partnerships across Montana designed to improve the holistic health and social well-being of Montanans and their communities." We are convinced that the Montana Faith-Health Cooperative is an ideal organization to assist faith- and community-based organizations to expand the types and reach of social services programs and to replicate promising models or programs. Acting as the 'intermediary organization' for the state of Montana, the Montana Faith-Health Cooperative will develop a coherent plan that utilizes both technical assistance and sub-awards to faith- and community-based organizations to better meet the needs of poor and low-income individuals and families across Montana.

We are truly excited about this new program to expand the role of faith- and community-based organizations in delivery of social services to our geographically-isolated, low-income, vulnerable, underserved and special needs populations. We look forward to a productive and successful review process.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

David M. Young, Co-convenor
MT Faith-Health Cooperative
Director, MT Office of Rural Health

Margaret E. MacDonald, Co-convenor
MT Faith-Health Cooperative
Executive Director, MT Association of
Churches