

# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

*“Engaging Religious  
Partners for Health  
Preparedness ”*

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Collaborations*

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# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

*Sharing our time  
together...*

- 1. Thanks & Appreciation*
- 2. Brief Background*
- 3. Religious Health Partnerships*
- 4. Ideas and Initiatives*



# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

## *Origins at the Carter Center:*

*Former Pres. Jimmy Carter,  
Dr. Bill Foege, CDC*

- *1988: “Closing the Gaps”  
Conference*
- *1989: “Churches’ Challenge  
in Health”*
- *1992: IHP officially launched*
- *Strong “Local-Global” Links &  
Leadership Commitment*



# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

- ***Overall Purpose:***

*To bring together the Best Science and Most Mature Faith to build Healthier Communities*

- ***Approach and Strategy:***

*To map, mobilize, and align the “assets” of the faith, health, and public health sectors to advance policy, advocacy, action, and new knowledge*

# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

- *Currently serve under Cooperative Agreement with CDC as:*

## *National Center for Public Health and Faith Collaborations*

- Formative Research
- Mapping of Religious Health Assets
- Global Partnership Network
- Training, Education, Technical Assistance

# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

- ***Selected Areas of Focus:***

- In the United States, especially in *Exemplar Sites*

- **Health Protection/Health Preparedness**

- Emergency Preparedness

- Immunization

- Pandemic Flu

- Refugee Health

- **Health Disparities**

- HIV/AIDS

- Cancer

- Violence & Suicide Prevention

- Diabetes

- Globally, especially *Africa*

- **The “Big Four”**

- HIV/AIDS

- Malaria

- TB

- Safe Water

# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

- *Key Partner in Our Work:*

- National Council of Churches USA and  
*Rev. Dr. Eileen W. Lindner*

Key Leader for Health Issues &  
Editor of the NCC's annual *Yearbook of American & Canadian Churches*, widely recognized as the most accurate and complete compilation of facts and figures on U.S. and Canadian churches and organizations.

# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

- ***Two Recent Collaborative Activities:***
- CDC Presentation – *“Pandemic Preparedness”* by Dr. Richard E. Dixon, 2006 General Assembly, National Council of Churches, Orlando, FL Nov 2006
- Emory/NCC/CDC Joint Conference, *“Convening for Health Preparedness: Engaging Religious Partners,”* Emory Conference Ctr, Atlanta, GA, Jan 2008

# *Emory Interfaith Health Program*

- ***Central Challenge for Health Preparedness:***

*Despite the support for and visibility of preparedness efforts “post 9-11” and “post-Katrina,” have we successfully engaged religious partners and networks in communications planning, response, and recovery?*

*What are our current capacities, strengths, and gaps?*

*How can we assure an integrated, trusted, and effective response?*