

Tides Center
(San Francisco, CA)

Total Award: \$55,000 over 1 year

Florida Black Church Organizing Project

To support the Florida Black Church Organizing Project to engage 300 Black Churches in Florida, their congregations and their social networks in improving the health and economic well being of African Americans in that state. The project will advance this goal by strengthening the capacity of the leaders of Black Churches in the state to analyze the public and private policies that affect their constituencies and to develop the strategies and alliances necessary to affect positive change. Over the next year, the project will involve 60 Black churches statewide in leadership training activities that will result in the following: The project will pilot a National Council of Churches program that will help low-income African American families gain access to the health-related, government-supported benefits such as Medicaid and the Earned Income Tax Credit. Black Churches in two communities will negotiate with hospitals to improve charity care. Black churches in two areas will become active participants in public education campaigns around the need for companies that receive government contracts or other subsidies to pay their workers a living wage with health care benefits.

Health Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1*