PART TWO: CASE STUDIES

Introductory Note

Although the mail survey of faith-based intermediary organizations was extensive, it could not capture the work of these groups fully. To further illuminate understanding of intermediaries, we conducted on-site case studies of five of the intermediaries in our sample. Case study researchers conducted interviews with intermediary staff and with leaders at the constituent ministries served by those intermediaries. The case studies offer a variety of vivid snapshots of the intermediaries' work. Much of this is similar from group to group, as these intermediaries share common functions. But we found that each also shined in a particular aspect of intermediary work, and we have labeled the intermediaries according to that particularly accurate descriptor (see below). In so doing, we do not wish to be misunderstood: each intermediary completes functions beyond that indicated by its label. All play roles, for example, as voices for unsung frontline heroes, as cheerleaders of weary clergy, as conveners and catalysts for multi-sector brainstorming sessions, and as equippers and bridge builders.

THE ADVOCATE:

Center for Renewal (Houston, TX)

THE COACH:

Los Angeles United Methodist Urban Foundation (Los Angeles, CA)

THE ENHANCER:

Cornerstone Assistance Network (Ft. Worth, TX)

THE CATALYST:

One by One Leadership (Fresno, CA)

THE INVESTOR:

Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation (Pittsburgh, PA)