



**July - September 2008: Client's Success Story**

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**Company - Inter Faith Development Center, Non-Profit**

**Company Owner: Deon Johnson**

**CRSBD Participant Since: 2004**

**Outline of Need:**

Deon Johnson of Inter Faith Development Center contacted the Center's staff to request assistance in establishing a non-profit organization in Kentwood, Louisiana. This part of the parish is plagued with youth who have dropped out of middle or high school. Deon is one of the individuals who mentor and assist youth in the rural area of Northern Tangipahoa Parish. He did not have an organization that would allow him to receive funding from reputable funding agencies. He was helping tutor, advise, reduce drug dependency among youth. He assisted more than 30 youth who were struggling with class assignments and they were behind two grade levels or about to be a part of the dropout statistics. He used his own personal funds to assist adults who had difficulty understanding documents associated with finance, liabilities, assets, and some legal documents. He often provided transportation and helped them to resolve other issues.

**How CRSBD Assisted:**

Johnson had been a participant in a seminar sponsored by our Center in 2006 at Brown Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Tangipahoa Village, Tangipahoa Parish. He took good notes and asked more questions than anyone else. Although he knew establishing a non-profit would be the key to helping both youth and adults in his community and other communities within 30 miles, he did not want to waste time performing research to reinvent any wheels. He visited our office with a burning desire to establish a non-profit. Our staff helped complete the necessary local, state, and federal registration of business applications, and the application for Recognition of Exemption under Section 501 ( C ) ( 3 ) Internal Revenue Code.

## **Results and Outcome**

Because of our Staff's assistance, Deon, is now a legal non-profit organization in Tangipahoa Parish, state of Louisiana and has his Exemption of his non-profit status, he had been approached by at least several funders who have requested a grant proposal. Deon did not have to search for this particular funder. This funder searched for his non-profit in the northern part of Tangipahoa Parish. He has been informed that other funders will be contacting him because he is attempting to make a difference in his community. Our Center's staff have placed Deon's Inter Faith Development Center on our list of potential computer lab sites. Our technical support team will be performing a site evaluation within 60 days to determine his needs and requirements. Deon says he is ready to continue helping and assisting youth and adults, but at an expanded rate.