

NO INDICATION

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No Indication:

Some faith-inspired foundations and grantees do not publicly disclose their connection to religion. Despite the lack of public disclosure, these organizations may still have close ties to faith communities and religion. Foundations and grantees that fall into this category typically use their resources for general humanitarian causes, as opposed to working to spread faith, connect religious communities, or advocate for religious freedom or principles. While these organizations do not display their faith in an obvious way, their faith-in-action can often be seen through partnerships with religious entities such as religious congregations, faith-based advocacy groups, and other religious organizations.

Although we categorized this group as having “no indication” of religious affiliation or faith connections, this categorization is an oversimplification of the organizations that the title encompasses. Very few organizations express no belief in any way. Nearly all foundations and grantees within this group have a belief statement somewhere on their website, or an expression of faith inspiration for the work that they do. However, foundations and grantees in this category often hide these statements in places that are not easily accessible. These groups promote their organizations as being open to striving toward a goal with all who are willing to work with them and they provide information about their faith inspiration only to those who seek it.

Case Study: Habitat for Humanity

[Habitat for Humanity](#) is a widely recognized organization. It is lauded for its dedication to enhancing opportunities for individuals struggling to find a home. While Habitat has long been recognized for its work aimed at ending homelessness, some are unaware of their Christian ties.

Founded in 1976, Habitat for Humanity first saw its propulsion into the ranks of widely-recognized nonprofits less than a decade later, when former President Jimmy Carter aligned himself closely with the work that was being promulgated by Habitat. Religious organizations often avoid partnerships with political and high-profile individuals, so the association between the two became notable as an early indication that Habitat for Humanity was dedicated to the work of building affordable homes, and doing this with anyone willing to work with them.

It is this orientation towards their work that allowed them to build strong networks of housing advocates and agencies that are not limited by religious boundaries.

To this day, Habitat for Humanity remains committed to working with a broad array of coalitions to house more people. Owing to their significant name-recognition, Habitat for Humanity built an affordable housing empire, helping improve housing conditions for over 46 million people and basing their work off of a shared set of religious values while welcoming all who want to serve with them. While Habitat's religious connection is not easily visible on their website, a set of values is immediately apparent: "building strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter".

However, it is important to note that the lack of visibility of their faith-based roots on their homepage is not an indication of a lack of belief on behalf of the organization (see: Invisible Religion). In fact, Habitat's mission statement makes clear the foundation of the vision for their work, reading, "Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope." This clear and explicit embrace of faith may seem at odds with their otherwise restricted advertisement of religious belief. However, further exploration of their websites offers greater insight into this seeming disconnect.

Habitat for Humanity published a list of company values that are meant to play a role in all of their decisions and projects, which are as follows:

1. Demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ
2. Focus on Shelter
3. Advocate for affordable housing
4. Promote dignity and hope
5. Support sustainable and transformative development

These values paint a clear picture that reflects the posturing and work of the organization. The first value is one of a faith-based belief system, which will underlie all further actions. The following four values are all related to housing and do not mention faith. This set of values makes clear that faith is the reason for their actions and values, while the rest of the values are the result of their belief system.

Furthermore, Habitat has adopted a "non-proselytizing" rule which bars members from using their work in housing to impose their religious beliefs on others. This interaction of faith and work allows Habitat to employ a set of faith-based beliefs to impact the world in ways that they see as aligning with their religious convictions, while also creating partnerships with groups who may share very similar values without necessarily being inspired by the same faith.

Habitat for Humanity perfectly exemplifies the "no indication" category because it is a faith-based nonprofit with deep roots in Christianity, but has chosen to offer services to anyone who may benefit, partner with anyone who so desires, and not make their faith a prominent part of their website. A casual viewer of their website would be unlikely to find any indication of their

religious ties without seeking them out, which has proven to be a successful model in building broad coalitions that are dedicated to improving housing conditions while still operating within this organization's Christian values.