

News March, 2007

Breaking News from Michigan

The partnership with the Church of God in Christ (Bishop Nathaniel Wells II and Elder Melvin Lars) resulted in a meeting (March 13th) with prominent Michigan legislators at the State Capitol in Lansing, Michigan. Jim Brown, Dr. Warren Chavers and Dean Renfrow accompanied Bishop Wells and Elder Wells to Lansing. The purpose of the meeting was to bring the Amer-I-Can Program to 16 schools in Michigan; 12 schools in Detroit (six high schools and six middle schools) and six (6) in Grand Rapids (four high schools and two middle schools). Legislators in attendance at the meeting included: Speaker of the House, Andy Dillon (D); Speaker Pro-Tem, Michael Sak (D); Rep. Morris Hood II (D), a member of Michigan Legislative Black

Caucus; Rep. Virgil Smith (D), Vice-Chairman of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus and Assistant Majority Whip; Rep. Coleman Young II (D), Michigan Legislative Black Caucus; and George Cushingberry, Jr. (D), member of Michigan Legislative Black Caucus. The meeting will produce legislation requesting \$2 million in appropriation from the Education Assistance Funds.

The First Gentleman of the State of Michigan (husband of Governor Jennifer Granholm), Daniel Mulhern, met with the Amer-I-Can contingent and discussed a proposed volunteer mentoring program and a prison re-entry program. The prison re-entry program will be accommodated through negotiations with the Director of Corrections, Patricia Caruso.