

Greg Landsman

Director, Ohio Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

In October of 2007 Governor Ted Strickland appointed Greg Landsman Director of the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. From Cincinnati Ohio, Mr. Landsman's career began in government, working for then Representatives Ted Strickland and Nancy Pelosi. He left the work in 2001, first traveling to Guatemala to study Spanish and help build homes with Habitat for Humanity, then to Virginia where he began a leadership program for youth. He also spent a year teaching in a public high school in that state.

It was through the leadership program that Mr. Landsman discovered the role communities of faith were playing in improving the lives of others. The program, which was housed on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, called for a service project in the local community. He partnered with a food pantry organized by a Methodist church in town and was amazed by the level of commitment a mostly volunteer staff had for helping others. He has been a believer in the work ever since.

The experience on the Shore, along with others like it, led Mr. Landsman to divinity school in 2002 to study the role communities of faith play in civic life. It also led him to his current position with the Governor.

To this position, Mr. Landsman brings a background of government service, community involvement and scholarly research in the area of faith-based initiatives. Mr. Landsman earned a bachelor's degree from Ohio University and a master's in divinity from Harvard University.