Announcing the <u>CENTER for PRIORITY BASED BUDGETING</u>

Jon Johnson and Chris Fabian are pleased to share with you that the <u>Center for Priority Based Budgeting</u> officially opened its office on September 1, 2010, with its main objective being to "lead communities to Fiscal Health and Wellness". As most of you know, it was our desire from the very beginning of our partnership to create a not-for-profit environment that could support and sustain our work in not only providing advisory services to local governments across the country but also to find ways to continue our research efforts to better understand the fiscal conditions that are impacting local governments from coast to coast. Utilizing a business development technique found in the private sector, the Center is being "incubated" by another successful not-for-profit organization that also serves local governments — the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). Under this incubator program, we share office space and other resources that will help the <u>Center for Priority Based Budgeting</u> continue to grow and spread the message of Fiscal Health and Wellness even more passionately.

As before, we are striving to bring the principles of *Fiscal Health and Wellness* to all communities by teaching, coaching and guiding them in the development and implementation of our unique, creative and proven tools and techniques. We continue to improve upon our "*Fiscal Health Diagnostic Tool*", which provides a quick assessment of any organization's fiscal health status. We also continue to develop our "*Resource Allocation Tool*" which provides not only a mechanism to set target budgets based on our *Priority Based Budgeting* approach, but also serves as a way to depict how well any organization is aligning its resources with the programs and services that the community values. Our work has expanded to now include some interesting and successful citizen engagement opportunities with the communities we are partnering with in this work.

We have included our contact information below and hope that we can continue to reach out to those of you we have worked with in the past (now up to 17 organizations!!!) to further our research efforts as we continually strive to enhance the *Priority Based Budgeting* process as well as with the concepts of *Fiscal Health and Wellness*. We also hope to continue the conversation with those of you who have been following our work and share with you the stories of accomplishment and success from the organizations that have implemented *Priority Based Budgeting*. Please drop us a line anytime – we're always glad to hear from you. In the meantime, please update your contact information and when you have the chance, check out our blog site to find out what we've been doing since our last conversation with you. We are in the process of developing a web site, so check back with us soon!

Jon Johnson and Chris Fabian

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