



# **Missouri Association for Social Welfare**

**2009 Annual Report**

*Missouri's Voice for Social Justice Since 1901*

## A Word from Our Executive Director...

Since our founding in 1901, we have been Missouri's Voice for Social Justice, because our members have dedicated their time, talent and financial resources to holding the policymakers in Jefferson City true to the state's official motto: *Salus populi suprema lex esto* – the welfare of the people shall be the supreme law.

In this, our 2009 Annual Report, we document our work for the common good, for a just society, for the welfare of the people, during the twelve months of that year.

As such, this report is a snapshot of MASW as we existed in 2009.

During the year we continued to do research, to educate the public, to lead coalitions, and to advocate to opinion leaders and policymakers on behalf of the downtrodden and the dispossessed, the disenfranchised and the displaced.

In 2009 we were, as we have been for more than a century, a voice for people without homes, for people without jobs, for people without healthcare, for people without hope.

Missouri's political culture often trends in the direction of "you are on your own," as opposed to "we are all in this together." Such a state needs a hearty band of idealists, who are not daunted by the struggle, who are dedicated to the welfare of the people...

In other words, Missouri needs MASW.

And MASW needs you. You can join, or make sure your membership dues are up to date, on our website [www.masw.org](http://www.masw.org).

2009 was for our organization, as it was for most in our state and nation, a year of much leaner fiscal resources. We lost several talented staff members who had been with us in 2008. Fortunately, our remaining staff continued to do remarkable work, including winning additional mid-year grants that allowed us to restore part-time staff support in Kansas City. Our 2009 staff:

- Dorothy Werdehausen, Administrative Assistant;
- [Sandy Wilson](#), Director of HMIS & Special Projects
- [Joanne Ivey](#), HMIS Project Coordinator
- Christine Woody, Chapter/Task Force Coordinator (St. Louis)
- Valori Sanders, Chapter Coordinator (Kansas City)

Elsewhere in this report we note the MASW members who served on our Board of Directors, chaired our chapters and task forces, and provided leadership. Our leaders, members and staff made 2009 an outstanding year.

Bob Quinn  
Executive Director

## **About Missouri Association for Social Welfare**

MASW is a citizen membership organization founded in 1901. Organized in the Progressive Era, it started in St. Louis as the Missouri Conference on Corrections and Charities. It was mostly a statewide professional forum for philanthropists, government employees of human services agencies, and private charity professionals. For the first decade its activities consisted mostly of meeting once a year to discuss social problems and read papers.

MASW became a more activist organization in 1910, with our first legislative committee under the leadership of Roger Baldwin, subsequent founder of the American Civil Liberties Union. We began advocating for changes in public policy to improve social conditions. Among our first major successes was the creation of the Widow's Pension Program, a pilot project in Jackson County, Missouri, which spread around the country and became the model for the national Aid to Dependent Children Program passed in the Social Security Act of 1935.

Major Achievements in our First Century Include:

- Missouri Commission on Human Rights
- Missouri Public Defender Commission
- School Nutrition Program
- Missouri Housing Trust Fund
- Medicaid Expansions
- Repeal of States Sales Tax on Food
- Family Development Accounts
- Missouri Foundation for Health
- Corrections Department Reforms

Second Century Achievements Include:

- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City
- Mental Health Parity Legislation
- Quality Jobs Act (enactment and expansion)
- State Minimum Wage Increase
- Department of Corrections Reforms
- Prevented Major Increase in Electric Rates
- Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance



**“It is the spirit and not the form of law that keeps justice alive.”**

**-Earl Warren**

## **Mission**

It is the mission of MASW to provide the leadership, research, education and advocacy to improve public policies and programs impacting the health and welfare of all people in Missouri.

## **Vision**

MASW envisions Missouri becoming a more just, equitable and democratic society that assures every person's health, safety, security, independence, human rights, dignity and the opportunity to reach full potential.

# **Carrying Out Our Mission**

## **Leadership**

In 2009, MASW provided leadership to some 20 coalitions. MASW participates in coalitions which have missions, values, or goals that meet the overall goals, mission, values, and objectives of MASW. MASW, as a non-partisan organization, participates in only nonpartisan coalitions. MASW annually reviews the activities of each coalition campaign to determine if MASW's continued participation is prudent.

## **Research**

The central purpose of MASW's research is to call public attention to changing social problems, provide data to properly inform policy-makers, and to monitor the effects of public policy on Missouri's most vulnerable citizens. Much of MASW's research is funded by philanthropic foundations, government organizations, or other grantors, and thus plans for particular types of research may sometimes need to be postponed until funding is acquired.

### **▪ Homeless Missourians Information System**

Our largest ongoing research project is the Homeless Missourians Information System (HMIS), of which MASW is the program administrator. HMIS is a shared data base for the use of agencies that provide assistance to homeless persons and to persons at risk of homelessness. The main purpose of HMIS is to collect information about the people that such agencies serve in order to better define the problem of homelessness in Missouri, and thus to help end homelessness. HMIS is funded by grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Missouri Housing Development Commission. None of the funding from Department of Housing and Urban Development or the Missouri Housing Development Commission contributes to advocacy efforts.

## **Public Outreach & Education**

MASW holds public forums and conferences to educate the public at-large about important issues, and publishes newsletters and articles – in print, via email and on our website. The goal is to inform and activate members and allies and to provide sources of information on social welfare issues for citizens.

## **Advocacy**

MASW's advocacy efforts are focused squarely on the nearby Missouri State Capitol, where we advocate for or against legislation to elected officials, often via committee testimony. The goal of our advocacy is to give greater visibility to the causes of social justice and the common good, especially with legislators debating public policy initiatives. MASW also conducts a Student Advocacy Day to teach young people about advocacy and participates in numerous advocacy days and events throughout the year.

***We perform this work through our chapters, task forces and coalitions...***

## **Chapters**

MASW currently has active local chapters in Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, and Central Missouri. The local chapters act as the information arm of the organization by holding public forums on pertinent social justice issues and topics. Chapters provide opportunities for local members to meet on a regular basis for networking and education. A Board of Directors elected by the chapter members governs each chapter.

Chairs are elected locally by each respective chapter and are members of the state board of directors.

### **2009 Chapter Chairs**

**Central:** [Don Love](#) **St. Louis:** [Richard King](#) **Springfield:** [Jacquie Brown](#)  
**Kansas City:** [Christina Martin](#); (co-chairs) [Andrew Bailey](#), [Karen Lowenstein](#)

Each chapter holds meetings and forums throughout the year to educate the public about pertinent current legislative issues. Some examples of the topics covered in 2009 during these events are:

- New Missouri Immigration Legislation
- Effects of Stimulus Money on Missouri
- The Future of Education: Public, Private and Charter Schools
- Federal & State Health Care Reform

## Task Forces

MASW has eight specific policy focus areas; each of these areas has a designated task force to focus on the pertinent policies and legislative activity related to each area.

**Asset Development:** The Asset Development Task Force supports policies that foster independence from welfare and charity in depressed communities by encouraging economic activities such as home ownership, matched savings programs, investment in education and microenterprise. **2009 Chair:** Vacant

**Criminal Justice:** The Criminal Justice Task Force advocates for: Healing rather than vengeance; Community based alternatives to prison; Increasing public safety through preventive activities that address social issues of people at risk; and Responses that enable persons who commit crimes to develop and express remorse, make restitution, take responsibility for the consequences of their acts, and become integrated successfully into society. **2009 Chair:** [Sister Rose McLarney](#)

**Economic Justice:** The Economic Justice Task Force is committed to reducing economic injustice and inequality through advocacy and public education. **2009 Chair:** Vacant

**Education Policy:** The Education Policy Task Force is dedicated to providing leadership, research, education and advocacy to improve the educational climate for all Missourians regardless of age, race, gender, ability or socioeconomic status. **2009 Chair:** [Marcia Hayes-Harris](#)

**Health and Mental Health:** The Health and Mental Health Task Force promotes quality, affordable health care for all Missourians, supports adequate funding for health care programs, and works with coalition partners to ensure the voice of the consumer is heard in the public policy process. **2009 Chair:** [Brian Colby](#)

**Affordable Housing and Homelessness:** The Affordable Housing and Homelessness Task Force is committed to increasing the supply of affordable, accessible housing, and reducing the numbers of homeless people in Missouri through the prioritization of rental, utility, and affordable housing assistance into the areas of greatest need. **2009 Chair:** [Liz Hagar-Mace](#)

**Hunger:** The goal of the Hunger Task Force is to reduce hunger in Missouri and dependence on emergency food supplies. **2009 Chair:** [Ben DeFeo](#)

**Human Rights:** The Human Rights Task Force is committed to advocacy and education efforts that guarantee equal rights and equal opportunities for all persons, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, health, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, class, religion, or immigration status. **2009 Chair:** [Don Love](#)

## Coalitions

In 2009, MASW participated in the following coalitions:

- Criminal Justice
  - Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (MADP)
  - Moratorium NOW! Campaign
- Economic Justice
  - Fair Electric Rates Action Fund (FERAF)\*\*
  - Keep Missourians Warm
  - Long Spoons Coalition
  - Missourians for Fair Electric Rates (MOFER)
  - Missourians for Tax Justice (MTJ)\*\* and Tax Justice for a Healthy Missouri (TJHMO)\*\*
- Education Policy
  - Literacy for Social Justice\*\*
- General or Multiple Issues
  - Blueprint Coalition
  - Missouri Coalition for Budget and Policy Priorities (MBP)
  - Missouri Jobs with Justice (MO JwJ)\*\*
  - Missourians for Fair Elections\*\*
  - Missourians to End Poverty (MEP)\*\*
- Health & Mental Health
  - Federation of Missouri Advocates [Mental Health]
  - Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance (The Alliance)\*\*
  - Missouri Health Care for All
- Housing & Homelessness
  - Coalition for the Missouri Housing Trust Fund\*\*
  - Governor's Committee to End Homelessness\*\*
  - National Low-Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)
- Human Rights
  - Missouri Immigrant & Refugee Advocates (MIRA)\*

\*\* MASW Executive Director, Staff, or Board Member holds a leadership position on the board or steering committee of this coalition.

## 2009 Policy Priorities

In 2009, MASW continued our work in support of the common good, giving priority to ensuring the following basic needs and basic rights for all people in Missouri. Three Policy Priorities for 2009 were adopted by our members at our 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in October, 2008: Quality Health Care, Decent Housing, and Fair Treatment. In addition, we have a *de facto* fourth priority: Economic Justice.

**Quality Healthcare.** All people in Missouri should have access to affordable, quality health care, including mental health services, starting with those who lost coverage due to changes made in the state Medicaid/MOHealthNet program in recent years, and through increasing state support for nutrition assistance programs. These services are basic elements of the common good for all people in our state, and the state should revise its tax code to provide adequate revenue to support the common good.

**Decent Housing.** All people in Missouri should have access to affordable, decent housing, as well as access to services such as temporary and emergency shelter when the need arises. Increasing revenue for the Missouri Housing Trust Fund will ensure greater availability of affordable housing and of homelessness services. The state should protect people from predatory lending practices that put their homes at risk, and should increase opportunities for people to earn their way out of poverty.

**Fair Treatment.** All people in Missouri should be treated with dignity and fairness. It is a fundamental element of the common good to extend a helping hand to those who are too often made to feel unwelcome – those subjected to discrimination, those re-entering society from the corrections system, and those who were born in other nations. The state should protect all people from exploitation and injustice, and teach children in our schools how to value others and resolve differences through non-violent means.

**Economic Justice.** MASW’s unique niche among advocacy organizations in our state is that we often examine and advocate around the nexus of public policy issues; perhaps most important is the nexus of adequate revenue for state programs and the fairness of the tax system designed to produce that revenue; the ability of working people to earn a living wage and the responsibility of corporations and well-off individuals to pay their fair share of the cost of the common good.

## Outcome Measurement

**Quality Healthcare:** HB 156 was a bill to provide state supplement to the Food Stamp Program for low income seniors. The monthly benefit would be raised from \$14 to \$30 with state funds making up the difference. Adopted overwhelmingly in the house, it was voted “do pass” by a senate committee and considered on the senate floor the morning of the last day of session. The Senate was looking for a way to compromise a version of Governor Nixon’s plan to restore the 2005 Medicaid cuts, and used HB 156 as the vehicle. The Governor’s plan was to use about \$50 million from hospitals and \$90 million from a federal matching fund. When the revised HB 156 was sent back to the House from the Senate, the House did not agree with it. Thus both the Food Stamp supplement and partial restoration of Medicaid cuts died in the House on the last day of session. It is a measure of success that the issues reached that stage.

**Decent Housing:** MASW and our allies in the Coalition for the Missouri Housing Trust Fund had more progress than usual this year regarding an increase in the recording fee that provides for the Missouri Housing Trust Fund. SB 268 would have increased the Missouri Housing Trust Fund fee collected by \$6 and the bill had a hearing in the Senate Progress & Development Committee. HB 1020 would have provided a \$3 increase. A \$2 increase was offered that would expire in 2 years as an amendment to HB 376, a bill dealing with many local government issues. The amendment was adopted by a voice vote and marked the first time the Senate had voted for an increase in the Missouri Housing Trust Fund in many years! In a conference committee to work out the differences between the two bills, Senator Justus had to compromise on just a 50 cent increase for one year, to at least get some type of increase the Housing Trust Fund. When HB 376 came to the House floor, there were many controversies regarding the bill, not just the fee increase to the Housing trust Fund. Unfortunately the bill did not pass, but we now have major cause to push the Housing Trust Fund fee increase in 2010!

**Fair Treatment:** MASW and our allies succeeded in bringing the moratorium on the death penalty further in the legislative process than ever before. HB 484 was heard in the House Public Safety Commission which was a repeat performance from prior years. On the other hand, the hearing for SB 321 in the Senate Progress and Development Committee was a first! For the first time, a version of the bill was a “do pass” by committees in the House and the Senate. Unfortunately, the versions that came out the committees were the moratorium bill without the moratorium part. The House voted to remove the moratorium part of HG 484. On the contrary, a victory for MASW and allies, the House voted in favor of the death penalty study panel as an amendment to SB 26. The Senate however did not agree with the house on the death penalty study panel, seeing it as the first step to abolishing the death penalty which is not favorable to them. Most of the other fair treatment priorities consist of bad ideas that did not end up passing.

**Economic Justice: *Quality Job Act Expansion Passes!*** MASW supported creation of the Quality Jobs tax credit in 2005 despite reservations about tax credits as an efficient, effective and equitable means of making the welfare of the people the supreme law. We supported it because businesses could only obtain this benefit from the state if they created new jobs with above-average wages and provided healthcare benefits. We supported the expansion of the Quality Jobs program in 2009 because it continues to be consistent with our commitment to a living wage for all who are willing and able to work, and our commitment to quality healthcare for all. A top priority for the Governor and legislative leaders, the bill, passed on the last day of the legislative session, was among the few positive achievements for lawmakers this year.

At the beginning of the 2009 legislative session, the state’s largest for-profit utility company announced that the legislature would repeal the 33-year-old voter enacted law that prevents utilities from charging for electric plants until they are

built and producing electricity. MASW opposed this bill from an economic justice stand point: low income households already spend a considerably higher percentage of their income on utilities than the rest of us, and an across the board increase would devastate households that already spend every dime on absolute necessities. Many advocacy groups opposed this bill and eventually, the utility announced that they would no longer pursue the change in the law.

There was a beneficial utility related bill that passed in 2009. SB 376 created the Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act which would empower the Public Service Commission to approve plans that would provide help to low income households to save money on their utility bills through energy efficiency upgrades.

## 2009 Student Advocacy day

Student Advocacy Day was started in 2005 to provide college and university students from across the state of Missouri with the opportunity to visit the State Capitol and learn about the political process and advocate on Social Justice issues.

This year's student advocacy day was a hugely successful! More than 250 students from colleges across Missouri came to Jefferson City on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> as part of the MASW Student Advocacy Day. Prior to visiting, students had been researching legislative issues and the legislative process. MASW was able to assist students with a hands-on experience at the State Capitol!



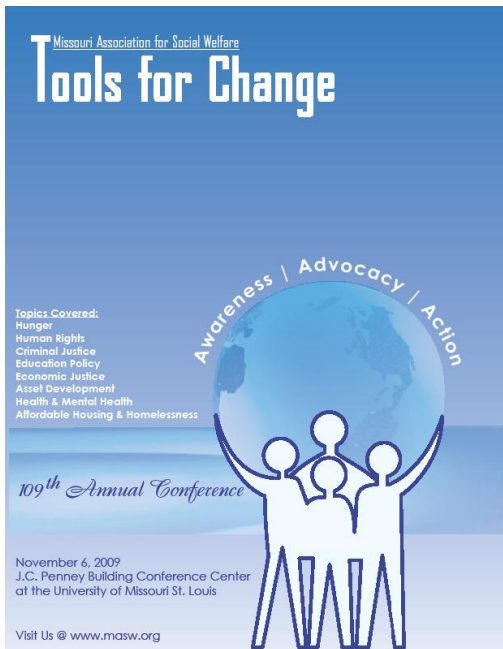
MASW staff and other experts shared tips with students on successfully interacting with legislators, then briefed and updated them on 3 legislative issues MASW had been focusing on including: moratorium of the death penalty, lifting the lifetime food stamp ban eligibility on Missourians who have been convicted of a drug felony, and increasing revenue for the Missouri Housing Trust Fund.

Colleges in attendance included St. Louis University, Washington University, University of Missouri at St. Louis, University of Missouri at Columbia, William Woods University, Lincoln University, Southeast Missouri State University, Missouri State University and University of Missouri at Kansas City.



# 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

This year's annual conference, "Tools for Change", was held on November 6, 2009 at the University of Missouri in St. Louis. With over 175 attendees, this conference was a huge success. The day began with a panel including Dan Buck with St. Patrick Center, Andrea Routh with Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance, Alisha Warren with Missouri Commission on Human Rights and Otto Fajen with Missouri National Education Association. The Awards Luncheon featured Keynote Speaker Margaret Donnelly, Director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. The closing Keynote Speaker was Rabbi Susan Talve, Central Reform Congregation. The day offered several workshops covering the topics of hunger, human rights, criminal justice, education policy, economic justice, asset development, health and mental health and affordable housing and homelessness. Representative Jeanette Mott Oxford was presented with the Elaine Aber Humanitarian Award and Percy Green was presented with the Herman and Dorothy Johnson Local Advocate Award. MASW thanks everyone who made our 109<sup>th</sup> annual conference a great success!



Rep. Jeanette Mott Oxford  
*Elaine Aber Humanitarian Award*  
Percy Green  
*Herman & Dorothy Johnson Award*



Margaret Donnelly, Director  
Missouri Department of  
Health and Senior Services,  
Keynote Speaker

## 2009 MASW Board of Directors

### Executive Committee

- President: Mary Schantz
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: [Stuart Murphy](#)  
Chair, Nominating Committee
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Phyllis Harris
- Secretary: Ann Johnson
- Treasurer: Kevin Kelly, Ph.D.
- Immediate Past President: Joe Yancey

### Board Members-at-Large

- Lisa Hill
- Pam LaFrenz
- Jane Van Sant
- Dana Klar, JD, LCSW
- Sandra D'Angelo, Ph.D.
- Kevin Callaway
- [Jacqueline Brown](#)  
Chair, Springfield Chapter
- Maria Cepeda
- [Marcia Hayes-Harris](#)  
Chair, Annual Conference Planning Committee  
Chair, Education Policy Task Force
- Ann Harris
- *Vacancy*
- *Vacancy*

### Chairs

- [Liz Hagar Mace](#), Affordable Housing & Homelessness Task Force
- *Vacancy*, Asset Development Task Force
- [Sr. Rose McLarney](#), Criminal Justice Task Force
- *Vacancy*, Economic Justice Task Force
- [Don Love](#), Human Rights Task Force, and Central Chapter
- [Ben DeFeo](#), Hunger Task Force
- [Brian Colby](#), Health/Mental Health Task Force
- [Christina Martin](#), Kansas City Chapter  
Co-Chairs: [Andrew Bailey](#), [Karen Lowenstein](#)
- [Richard King](#), St. Louis Chapter
- [Fr. Bill Hutchinson](#), Endowment Fund Committee

For a list of current board members, please visit  
[http://masw.org/about\\_MASW/board.php](http://masw.org/about_MASW/board.php)



# 2009 Financial Summary



## Operating Revenue

Homeless Missourians Information System revenue*:	\$139,735
Missouri Foundation for Health – General Support for Advocacy:	\$75,000
MASW Endowment Fund Earnings Used for Operating Budget:	\$50,000
United Way of Greater Saint Louis:	\$28,660
109 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Other Special Events:	\$24,410
United Way of Greater Kansas City:	\$20,670
Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City:	\$17,550
Fundraising Program and Other Contributions:	\$14,490
Membership Dues:	\$12,400
Mazon Foundation ( <i>A Jewish Response to Hunger</i> ):	\$10,000
Miscellaneous and Chapter Income:	\$9,060
Center for Social Justice (MASW Building) Net Cash Income:	\$5,900
Sparkplug Foundation:	\$5,400
Missouri Foundation for Health Technical Assistance Grant:	\$2,000
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$415,275</b>

*\*Includes U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC); HMIS revenue is used strictly for operation of the HMIS Program – none is used for advocacy.*

## Expenses

Salaries:	\$239,020
Employee Benefits:	\$31,800
Vendor Fees:	\$36,100
Professional Fees:	\$23,460
Payroll Tax:	\$18,525
Travel:	\$14,610
Conferences/Events:	\$11,560
Miscellaneous:	\$8,955
Communications:	\$7,130
IRA Match:	\$6,700
General Office Expenses:	\$5,615
Equipment:	\$4,360
Insurance:	\$2,945
Debt Service:	\$2,600
Dues and Subscriptions:	\$2,000
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$415,380</b>

## **MASW Office**

The Missouri Association for Social Welfare office is located in the Center for Social Justice in Jefferson City, Missouri. The MASW board of directors holds its regular meetings here, as do task forces and other MASW committees. The board room is also available for use by other social justice organizations in need of a meeting place in Jefferson City.

### **Contact Us:**

#### Office

The Center for Social Justice  
Missouri Association for Social Welfare  
606 East Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone: (573) 634-2901

Toll Free: (888) 634-2901

E-mail: [Citizenvoice@masw.org](mailto:Citizenvoice@masw.org)



Join us in the fight for social justice! To learn more about MASW or become a member, please visit <http://masw.org/join.php>  
Or call us toll free at:  
(888) 634-2901

# *Save the Date...*

*Missouri Association for Social Welfare  
110<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference:*

*November 4 & 5, 2010*

*Resort at Port Arrowhead at the Lake of the Ozarks.*

For more information about our annual conference, please contact our office at (573) 634- 2901 or visit our website at [www.masw.org](http://www.masw.org)



*Missouri State Motto:*

*“Salus Populi Suprema Lex Esto”*

*The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law...*

# MASW is Proud to Be Funded by These Outstanding Organizations



Proud member of



United Way  
of Greater St. Louis



United Way of  
Greater Kansas City



*Missouri Foundation for Health, United Way (St. Louis and Kansas City), Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Sparkplug Foundation and MAZON Foundation fund MASW's program of research, education, leadership and advocacy for social and economic justice. Funds from the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development are used solely for operation of the HMIS program and are not used for advocacy.*