

Bob Quinn
Executive Director

Updated 2009



The Missouri Association for Social Welfare Board of Directors named Bob Quinn as Executive Director in the summer of 2006.

“The need for an organization that provides leadership, research and advocacy for social and economic justice in Missouri has never been greater,” according to Bob.

“The work of our members in our local chapters and issue-centered task forces has never been more important,” Bob

noted in his remarks at last fall’s MASW [108th Annual Conference](#).

“Support for [our new fundraising](#) effort will be a key to our ability to continue our vital work in these terrible economic times. We need resources to expand on our use of the new technology on which so many people rely for news and communications about issues, as well as to continue and increase our more traditional programs like public forums and rallies at the Capitol. I am excited to be part of MASW right now,” Bob said.

As part of MASW’s mission of leadership on social justice issues through coalitions and partnerships with other organizations, Bob currently serves on several boards.

Bob is a founding board member of the Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance, where he serves as Vice Chair of the Board and also chaired the search process that resulted in the Alliance hiring its first Executive Director.

He is also on the Executive Committee of Tax Justice for a Healthy Missouri / Missourians for Tax Justice (TJHMO/MTJ). He represents MASW on the statewide board of Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates (MIRA) and the statewide committee of the “Moratorium Now!” campaign (which supports a moratorium on the death penalty).

Prior to joining MASW as Executive Director, Bob Quinn served in several key leadership roles in and around the State Capitol. Bob was Executive Director of the Public Service Commission, the state agency that regulates for-profit water, power and telecommunications utilities, during the Holden Administration (2001 – 2005).

He was Legislative Director and Chief Lobbyist for the Missouri chapter of the National Education Association from 1994 through 2000 – in other words, seven of the eight years of the education-oriented governorship of the late Mel Carnahan.

“I grew up in the St. Louis area, but my wife and I moved to Jefferson City right after Mel was elected governor, to work in his administration, as Legislative Liaison for the Department of Mental Health in 1993,” Bob recalls.

Quinn served three terms in the Missouri House of Representatives, elected from North St. Louis County in 1986, 1988 and 1990. He was a committee chairman, passed several bills, and was a consistent supporter of social and economic justice.

Before being in the state legislature, Bob was on the City Council in his original hometown of Ferguson from 1982 to 1986. During this time he served as Chair of the North Area Cable Television Authority, a 21-city consortium that regulated the local cable franchise. He was on the Ferguson Planning and Zoning Commission prior to his tenure on the City Council.

Quinn earned his master's degree in political science at the University of Missouri – St. Louis (1980) and his bachelor's, also in political science, at Butler University in Indianapolis (1978). He is a 1974 graduate of McCluer High School in the Ferguson-Florissant School District.

He completed an executive seminar at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard in 2002, and was a member of the 1989-1990 Leadership St. Louis program.

Bob, who is 52, lives in Jefferson City with his wife, Kellie (an education consultant and evaluator), and their two children, who attend local public schools.