

# AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

The Elaine Aber Humanitarian Award was created by the MASW State Board in 2001 to honor Mrs. Aber's long time work in social justice. She was a member of MASW for 45 years. Born in Mount Sterling in Gasconade County she spent her adult life in Jefferson City and became a lifelong champion of human rights. She worked for the creation of the Missouri Commission on Human Rights in 1957 and the Public Accommodations law in 1963. She was the first white woman to enter Lincoln University and was a dedicated volunteer leader in many area charities.

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This award will be given to the person or organization who has contributed to the mission of MASW through education, research, policy development and/or advocacy in one of the following task force issue areas:

**Asset Development** Fosters independence from welfare and charity in depressed communities by encouraging economic activities such as home ownership, matched savings programs, investment in education, and microenterprise.

## **Criminal Justice**

Support a vision of justice that advocates:

- 1) Healing - the victim, community and offender - rather than vengeance;
- 2) Community based alternatives to prison, especially for nonviolent offenders;
- 3) Increasing public safety through a more just society;
- 4) Responses to crime which enable offenders to develop and express remorse, make restitution, take responsibility for the consequences of their acts, and integrate them successfully into society as good citizens.

## **Economic Justice**

Committed to advocating for the humane implementation of welfare reform, monitoring the impact of welfare policy on poverty in Missouri, advocating policies that help low income people achieve independence from welfare and charity, as well as advocacy for fair and adequate taxation and living wage issues.

## **Health/Mental Health**

Promotes accessible and competent health care for all Missourians, adequate funding for health care programs, and consumer protections against mistreatment by managed care systems. Missouri's mental health policy should be universal, affordable, easily accessible, appropriate, and comprehensive for all Missourians.

## **Housing and Homelessness**

The Housing/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.

## **Human Rights**

The focus of this task force is civil liberties and constitutional rights such as privacy, freedom from discrimination, opposition to hate group activities and upholding our constitutional rights.

## **Hunger**

The goal of the Hunger Task Force is to reduce hunger in Missouri and dependence on emergency food supplies

## **Education**

The goal of the Education Task Force is to conduct research and advocacy around the impact of education policy on other social justice issues.

The Association's task forces will review nominees in each respective category and select one to be forwarded for consideration for the Humanitarian Award. The nominees selected by each task force will receive recognition at the conference and the Humanitarian Award will be given to the person selected among the final nominees.

