

MASW Human Rights Task Force Report  
1:30 pm, June 18, 2009  
Center for Social Justice  
606 East Capitol, Jefferson City  
888 634 2901

Present: Carol Zablocki, Nancy Browning, Eric Krekel, Bob Quinn, Don Love (reporting)

1. Springfield Human Rights Commission update. Funding was drastically cut in a draft budget, but commission supporters are beginning to get attention. Alisa Warren, MHRC, wrote in support. Carol wrote Senator Bond's office which prompted HUD to show an interest. The mayor has indicated an intention for find funding.

2. Possible HRTF events

a. A job discrimination forum in Columbia. (Update: Don talked to Maria Glaze at Columbia HCR about working together on all these topics, and she's interested.)

b. Neo-Nazi threats. Springfield Pridefest had Neo-Nazis present. Bill Whitcomb, department of Justice, is monitoring Springfield groups. Rod Chapel, Jeff City NAACP leader, indicated interest in an event. Don emphasized the positive side of building community interconnections when he talked with Maria Glaze, but Columbia already has good diversity efforts.

c. Racial profiling. Profiling done by businesses is as harmful as that done by police. The new Columbia police chief might be good for a panel discussion. Maria Glaze observed that the Highway Patrol does not keep records of the race of people they arrest.

d. Universal Design. Carol learned from the Springfield workshop and made contact with Colleen Starkloff, who has worked on a St Louis ordinance incorporating UD. Kansas City HUD staff has been working on UD and ADA: fair housing and landlord responsibilities. Katheryne Staeger-Wilson has been working on connections between UD and education, for instance, making the internet more accessible. Don forgot to bring up UD when he talked to Maria, but he mentioned in an email.

3. Annual Conference panel discussions

Carol is working on a panel on Universal Design. Nancy suggested one based on projects by her students which tested responses by rental agents and store clerks to requests by various couples.

Scott Perkins, Project Director, Missouri Youth Suicide Prevention Project, may do a panel on preventing suicides among LGBT youth.

4. Task Force Goals for 2010. We should have new goals prepared for the MASW Annual Conference November 6. Here's what we have so far:

*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.*

#### **TASK FORCE GOALS FOR 2010**

- Facilitate new collaborative efforts, while enhancing existing partnerships in order to create a more unified voice for equality in Missouri;
- Support legislation that would create a more equitable and just state; and
- Carry out education activities, including but not limited to, public forums that promote acceptance and understanding.

5. Next meeting: 1:30, Thursday, July 23, CSJ.

Sumbmitted  
Don Love, Chair