

# Membership Matters

Quarterly News from The 501 Alliance

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*June 2008*

## **Seeking Nominations for the Board of Directors**

We currently have one vacancy on our board and we are seeking nominations from interested candidates. To qualify, the individual must be employed by one of our members or be a director on their board. This is a great opportunity for someone who wants to meet and work with his or her peers in the nonprofit community.

As a director, you'll be able to provide input and use your expertise in decisions that impact our members. The board meets four times a year in February, May, August and November in Lansing. Each director also participates on at least one committee that provides recommendations to the entire board. The committees include Finance, Marketing, Membership, Nominating, Rate and Scholarship. These committees typically meet from one to four times a year via telephone conference call.

Attached is a nomination form that can be completed or distributed to interested candidates. This form needs to be returned to us by Friday, July 18, 2008, with the candidate's resume. The Nominating Committee will review the qualifications of all of the candidates and provide recommendations to the board at their next meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Administrator at 800-968-9675.

## **And the Winner is...**

From a field of 33 candidates, the winner of the Harry and Shirley Klein Legal Scholarship was announced at the annual meeting in May. Amanda Morris won the award and was presented with a check for \$1,000.

Ms. Morris is a student at the Wayne State University Law School. Some of her accomplishments include being a student attorney for the Free Legal Aid Clinic; a legal intern for Lakeshore Legal Aid's Counsel and Advocacy Law Line and an AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer. She plans to pursue a career in public interest law.

The 501 Alliance and Human Service for Workers Compensation boards established this scholarship in honor of Harry Klein. Harry was a nonprofit advocate and was instrumental in establishing legislation for an unemployment compensation group-reimbursing plan.

This scholarship is funded by contributions from the two boards and is posted at various law schools in Michigan. Candidates submit essays indicating how their background and qualifications fit with what Harry Klein tried to do with his life. Members of each board, along with a family member and four judges, form the selection committee.

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### **New Board Members Elected**

The Nominating Committee recently reviewed all of the nominations submitted for two of the vacancies on the Board of Directors. The committee presented their recommendations to the full board for approval at the May meeting. It's my pleasure to report that the directors voted unanimously to elect Mr. James Crisp, Executive Director, Michigan Community Action Agency Association in Lansing and Ms. Sharon Maier, Executive Director, Services for Older Citizens in Grosse Pointe. The board and staff are both looking forward to working with these two new individuals.

### **New Officers Elected**

New officers were also elected to serve one-year terms on the Board of Directors at the May meeting. Please join me in congratulating the following individuals:

President: Mr. Austin Robison  
Corporate Manager, Compensation and Benefits  
McLaren Health Care Corporation

Vice President: Mr. Mike Blau  
Attorney

Treasurer: Mr. Lary Wells  
Chief Operating Officer  
Michigan League for Human Services

For a list of all of the individuals on the board, please visit our web site at: [501alliance.org](http://501alliance.org)

### **We're in the Check Writing Mood**

Do you work with or know of other nonprofits that could benefit from membership in The 501 Alliance? If you do, it could be worth hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

Our Member Referral Program provides your agency with a \$50 charitable donation for every prospective member you refer who completes and submits an application. An additional \$150 charitable donation is provided to your agency for every prospective member who also qualifies and is approved for membership. That's up to \$200 your agency can receive for each prospective member referred to The 501 Alliance.

The applicant simply needs to include your name and telephone number on the application and we'll send you a check. In addition, there's no limit to the number of prospective members you can refer. For example, refer just five prospective members and your agency will receive at least \$250 and up to \$1,000.

You can also contact us at any time to inquire about the status of any nonprofit you've referred. For a brochure or for more information, please contact Mike at 800-968-9675. You can also visit our web site at [501alliance.org](http://501alliance.org) for complete details.



## **Board of Directors** **Nomination Form**

Please print the requested information. Once completed, return this form to The 501 Alliance at the address provided below **by Friday, July 18, 2008 (attn: Administrator), with a copy of your resume.** All nominees must be residents of the state of Michigan.

Nominee: (Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Company County: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Director expectations:

1. Attend four meetings per year in Lansing that last approximately two hours each.
2. Participate on at least one committee that reviews information, offers input and provides recommendations to the full board.
3. Participate on committee conference calls once per quarter.
4. Promote The 501 Alliance unemployment program and encourage other nonprofit organizations to become members by providing contact information to the Administrator.