

Human Rights, Justice, and Peace:

Truth and Reconciliation
in Post-Conflict Societies



"Peace may sound simple - one beautiful word -
but it requires everything we have, every quality,
every strength, every dream, every high ideal."

Yehudi Menuhin

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights

**2007 HUMAN RIGHTS
AWARDS DINNER**

*“We must learn on our own terms
what peace and freedom mean together.
There can be no peace if there is social injustice and
suppression of human rights, because external and internal
peace are inseparable.”*

Petra Karin Kelly

Our Mission

The mission of **Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights** is to implement international human rights standards to promote civil society and reinforce the rule of law. By involving volunteers in research, education, and advocacy, we build broad constituencies in the United States and selected global communities.



Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights

Annual Report

and

2007 Human Rights Awards Dinner

Program

Special Music by Jesús Purisaca

Greeting

Dinner

End of Silent Auction

Executive Director's Update

Volunteer Awards - *In Memoriam*
Selahadin Mohammed and Emily Sandall

The 2007 Human Rights Awards
Priscilla Hayner and Sofia Macher

Performance by Total Praise Chorus

Keynote Address
Jerome J. Verdier Sr.
Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia

Closing

A Message to Our Guests at the 2007 Human Rights Awards Dinner

Welcome to our 2007 Human Rights Awards Dinner, our annual celebration of human rights and the vibrant community that makes our work possible.

In June 2006, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights entered into an historic relationship with the newly established Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission. For the first time, a refugee community in the United States will have the opportunity to participate in the rebuilding of its country through the truth and reconciliation process. We believe this pioneering work will create a new model for building peace after periods of armed conflict and massive human rights abuses.

Truth and Reconciliation Commissions (TRCs) have operated throughout the world during the past few decades. Countries including Argentina, Chile, Guatemala, El Salvador, Peru, South Africa and Sierra Leone have all created TRCs. Several other countries, including Nepal, Zimbabwe and Cambodia are considering establishing them.

TRCs generally have both backward and forward looking elements. The "truth seeking" function involves establishing what really happened during the period of violence - and the reasons for it. A TRC carries out this function by gathering and analyzing testimonies from victims, witnesses, and perpetrators. TRCs may make recommendations for prosecutions of perpetrators identified through the truth seeking process.

TRCs also propose national strategies for accountability and institutional reform to create democratic institutions and prevent future human rights violations. They recommend reparations to address the needs of victims. They develop reconciliation initiatives to help victims heal and help the society move forward. TRCs also often honor the memory of the victims by constructing memorials or museums.

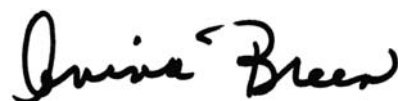
Human rights organizations play an important role in the TRC process by promoting accountability and working to end impunity. They work to ensure that the proposed institutional reforms are based on international human rights standards, and they can hold governments accountable for implementing the recommendations of TRCs when the attention of the international community has faded. Minnesota Advocates is creating a new role for human rights organizations: using volunteers in the United States to help secure a lasting peace.

This year has been both exciting and challenging for Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. We thank you so much for your generous support. Without you, this work and the other projects outlined in this annual report would not be possible.

Sincerely,

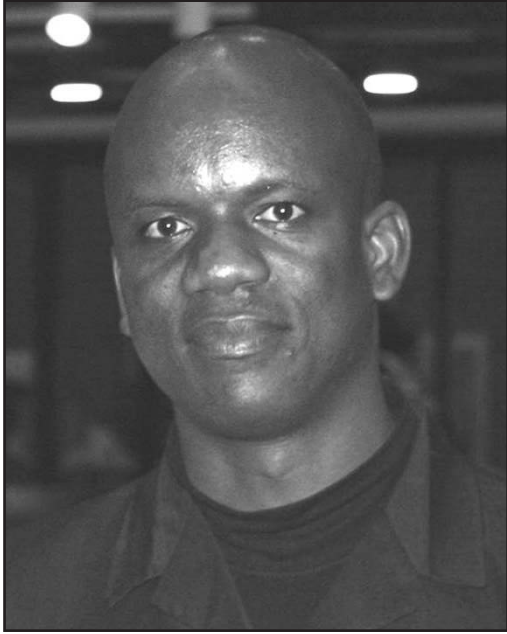


Robin Phillips
Executive Director



Aviva Breen
President of the Board

Keynote Speaker



Jerome J. Verdier Sr.

Jerome J. Verdier Sr., Chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia, was a leading human rights and civil society activist prior to his selection to serve on the TRC. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) Degree in Accounting and Economics (1988) from the University of Liberia and a Bachelor of Laws Degree (LLB) from its Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law. Apart from working both in the private and public sectors as Senior Accountant, Comptroller and Executive Director, he has been instrumental in strengthening civil society advocacy by serving in several capacities: Executive Director of Liberia Democracy Watch (LDW); Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Human Rights Center of Liberia (NHRCL), a consortium of nine human rights and pro-democracy organizations; Board Chairperson of the Foundation for International Dignity (FIND); Senior Staff Attorney for the Association of Environmental Lawyers (Green Advocates); and the first Research & Program Officer of the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (JPC). Mr. Verdier is a practicing attorney, credited for rendering pro bono legal services to indigent clients, civil society activists and journalists, while leading civil society adversarial legal teams in several successful lawsuits against the government of Liberia.

The 2007 Human Rights Award Honorees

Priscilla Hayner



Priscilla Hayner is an expert on truth commissions around the world and has written widely on the subject. Ms. Hayner is a co-founder of the International Center for Transitional Justice, where she currently serves as Director of the

Peace and Justice Program. Prior to joining the ICTJ, Ms. Hayner served as a consultant to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and as a program officer on international human rights and world security for the Mertz Gilmore Foundation.

Sofia Macher



Sofia Macher has been involved in the human rights movement for nearly three decades, including tenures as the first female head of the Peruvian branch of Amnesty International, three consecutive terms with the Executive International Committee of Amnesty International, and a position on the Executive Secretariat of the National Organizing Committee of Human

Rights. Dr. Macher also served as a Commissioner for Peru's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, documenting the worst tragedies of Peru during its history as a Republic.

The 2007 Human Rights Volunteer Award Honorees - *In Memoriam*

Selahadin Mohammed



Selahadin Mohammed joined Minnesota Advocates as a volunteer shortly after arriving in the United States. Selahadin had volunteered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) while living in Sudan, and continued his extraordinary lifelong commitment to service as a volunteer interpreter and translator helping asylum seekers in Minnesota.

Selahadin died in an automobile accident on December 11, 2006 at the age of 34.

A speaker of Arabic, Tigrinya, Amharic, Tigre, Saho and Russian, Selahadin was always ready to assist with his remarkable language skills. He filled many of the Refugee and Immigrant Program's requests for interpreters and translators of those languages, sometimes with only a few hours notice. Staff members recall a particular day when Selahadin interpreted for two different clients at different times of the day, a reflection of his sincere dedication to human rights. His smiles and gentle demeanor put Minnesota Advocates' asylum clients at ease, allowing them to feel more comfortable in telling their difficult stories. Selahadin interpreted for clients in such a skilled and thoughtful manner that these clients would often schedule their appointments around his availability. In November 2006, Minnesota Advocates honored Selahadin for his tremendous generosity in sharing his talents as an interpreter.

Selahadin is survived by his wife and two young daughters, to whom we extend our deepest sympathies. We are very grateful for his commitment to Minnesota Advocates' work in protecting the rights of asylum seekers, and we miss him very much.

Emily Sandall



Emily Sandall, 25, was a passionate volunteer with the students at the Sankhu-Palubari Community School in Nepal. Emily lived a life full of service and adventure, from working with the Sankhu children in Nepal, street children in Mexico and evacuees in New Orleans to leading teens on wilderness trips in Montana, Minnesota and Canada. The people she served deeply influenced her lifestyle and worldview. Emily died in a hiking accident in Yosemite National Park on November 8, 2006.

Introspective and insightful beyond her years, Emily's hope for her life was to *"...continue to evolve in a way that is gentle on the world around us. I come from a background, a race, a culture where I know I breathe easier. I hope to live in a way that balances it. Live in a way where my choices don't hinder another, and rather support a system, a movement, and a lifestyle where others, animals, and the natural world live in a place that is just and fair."* Emily achieved this hope. She was a minimalist in her lifestyle and generous with her concern, her attention, and her bright and shining personality.

To honor Emily's work with disadvantaged youth and her hopes and plans for the future, her family established the Emily Sandall Foundation. The foundation's first donation was given in honor of Emily's life, dreams and aspirations to support the Sankhu-Palubari Community School children. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Emily's family for their loss and our sincere gratitude for their generous support.

About Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights

Minnesota Advocates was founded in 1983 by a group of Minnesota lawyers who recognized the community's unique spirit of social justice as an opportunity to promote and protect human rights in the United States and around the world.

Minnesota Advocates:

- investigates and exposes human rights violations internationally and in the United States;
- represents immigrants and refugees who are victims of human rights abuses;
- trains and assists groups that protect human rights; and
- works through education and advocacy to engage the public, policymakers and children about human rights and cultural understanding.

The organization has produced more than 50 reports documenting human rights practices in more than 25 countries, and works with partners overseas and in the United States to restore and protect human rights. Minnesota Advocates holds Special Consultative Status with the United Nations.

Refugee and Immigrant Program

Our Refugee and Immigrant Program represents individuals who are at risk of deportation to their home countries where they face persecution, torture, and death due to race, religion, nationality, social group, or political belief. Clients include political activists, human rights workers, journalists, children, and teachers. More than 350 Minnesota Advocates volunteer lawyers represent hundreds of asylum seekers every year.

Women's Human Rights Program

The Women's Human Rights Program of Minnesota Advocates applies international human rights standards to advocate for women's rights in the United States and around the world. The program has published 16 reports on women's human rights violations in 12 countries, collaborating with local organizations overseas and in the United States to document domestic violence, rape, employment discrimination, sexual harassment in the workplace, and trafficking in women and girls for commercial sexual exploitation. The Women's Program also provides training on legal reform related to violence against women and consultation on new domestic violence laws to legal professionals and women's organizations in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Human Rights Education Program

Through school and community-based education and professional training, the Human Rights Education Program teaches the principles of human rights to K-12 classrooms, works to combat racism and anti-immigrant sentiment, and trains professionals to promote and defend international human rights. Education experts create curricula, lesson plans, and other tools that are used locally and nationally as a means of educating others about human rights. Minnesota Advocates reaches thousands of people each year by conducting training sessions, holding community forums, teaching law courses and providing other public education opportunities.

Special Projects

- **Death Penalty Project:** Minnesota Advocates' Death Penalty Project provides education and advocacy on death penalty issues in our own community. The Death Penalty Project's advocacy efforts focus on opposing attempts to reintroduce capital punishment in Minnesota.
- **Human Rights Monitoring Project:** Minnesota Advocates uses traditional human rights monitoring methods to document human rights abuses in select communities around the world. This work includes documentation, reporting, and recommendations to governments and institutions.
- **Liberian Truth and Reconciliation Commission Project:** As the implementing partner for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia, Minnesota Advocates is coordinating the process of statement-taking from Liberians in the United States and the subregion of West Africa. Minnesota Advocates will draft a report to the Commission and will present findings and witness testimony at public hearings in the United States.
- **Nepal School Project:** Minnesota Advocates collaborates with community leaders in the village of Sankhu, Nepal, to educate 220 of the region's poorest students at the Sankhu-Palubari Community School.

Annual Overview 2006 - 2007

Advocacy

- Held annual Human Rights Awards Dinner, featuring keynote speaker Hauwa Ibrahim, Nigerian human rights lawyer and winner of the Sakharov Prize, known for her work defending the rights guaranteed by the Nigerian Constitution and international human rights law. Also honored were Kao Ly Ilean Her, Executive Director of the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, Lupe Serrano, Executive Director of Casa de Esperanza and volunteers Penny Parker and Tammy Tucker.
- Led a team of four volunteers to Liberia in February to formally sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Liberia naming Minnesota Advocates the official partner for the TRC in the United States and to observe statement-taking in Liberia.
- Submitted a shadow report and briefed members of the United Nations Human Rights Committee at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland on US compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Collaborated with Pangea World Theater on a dramatic production, *Journey to Safety*, based on the Minnesota Advocates report on battered refugee and immigrant women. A training video and facilitator's guide of the production will be distributed at a national conference of criminal justice professionals in June 2007.
- Served on the national steering committee of ProBono.Net's Immigration Advocacy Network to design and implement a national online resource for immigration legal advocates.



Arvonne and Don Fraser speaking with Garrison Keillor, master of ceremonies at the 2006 Human Rights Awards Dinner



Minnesota Advocates staff with Advisory Committee Member Loan Huynh at an immigration bill hearing



Board President Aviva Breen welcoming guests to the 2006 Human Rights Awards Dinner



Intern Leah Tran with Development and Communications Director Sarah Herder at Minnesota Advocates' 2006 State Fair Booth



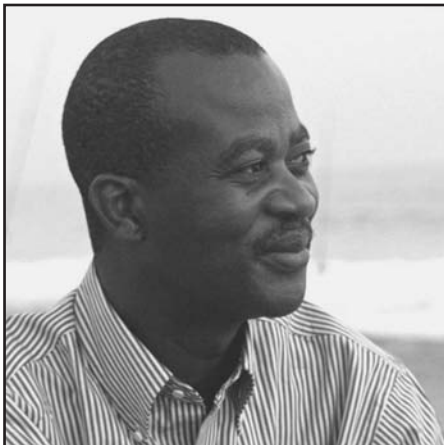
2007 IWD attendees, including Board Member Marlene Kayser (center), speaking with keynote speaker María José Alcalá (right)



Joe Van Sloun, Amanda Cialkowski, Susan MacMenamin, and Mark Girouard from Halleland Lewis Nilan & Johnson assisted with drafting a shadow report to the United Nations Human Rights Committee



Staff members Min Chong, David Takassi, and Kim Babine working with Board Member Sandra Johnson on the 2007 Awards Dinner Silent Auction



Liberian Minister of Labor and Minnesota Advocates Board Member Samuel Kofi Woods II



Chad Stewart and Candee Goodman at the 2006 Human Rights Awards Dinner



2006 Human Rights Award Recipient Kao Ly Ilean Her

- Provided full legal representation in 452 new and ongoing asylum and related cases. Placed 61 asylum cases with 75 volunteer attorneys, representing clients from Belorussia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Congo-Brazzaville, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Russia, Rwanda, Somalia, Togo, Ukraine, and Yemen. Closed 89 full representation cases in asylum and related matters.
- Trained over 200 Liberian TRC Project volunteers to take statements from Liberians residing in the United States. This groundbreaking project marks the first time refugees have been included in the “truth telling” function of truth and reconciliation commissions.
- Co-presented the 12th Annual International Women’s Day Celebration in March 2007 with the University of Minnesota Human Rights Program. The event included keynote speaker María José Alcalá of the UNFPA, eleven workshops on women’s human rights issues, an Amnesty International photo exhibit on the Juárez femicides, and a closing ceremony created by Global Site Performance. A record 70 organizations co-sponsored this year’s event.
- Coordinated legal services at the Bloomington Immigration Court for individuals detained as a result of the raids at Swift plants in December 2006, and acted as liaison with legal service providers in Georgia.
- Testified at the Minnesota Legislature about a bill to divest interests in Sudan.

Annual Overview 2006 - 2007 (continued)



Board Member Jeffrey Keyes, speaker Imani Jaafar-Mohammad, and Women's Program Director Cheryl Thomas at a Women's Human Rights Speaker Series co-sponsored by Briggs and Morgan PA



2006 Volunteer Award Winner Tammy Tucker with Neela Hammer-Tucker and Rochelle Hammer



Board Member David Weissbrodt presenting Penny Parker's 2006 Volunteer Award to her mother, Shirley Parker



Members of the Liberian TRC Project National Community Advisory Committee: (back) Yende Anderson, Irvinton Ben, James Qualah, TRC Chairman Cllr. Jerome J. Verdier, Sr., Calvin Dwuye, (front) Minnesota Advocates Deputy Director Jennifer Prestholdt, Patrick Kugmeh, Minnesota Advocates Refugee and Immigrant Program Director Michele Garnett McKenzie, Willametta Saydee, and Minnesota Advocates TRC Program Associate Ahmed Sirleaf

- Officially launched completed *Energy of a Nation* website to provide updates on immigration legislation and advocacy opportunities.
- Served as Co-Chair of the Detention Watch Network, the only national coalition in the United States that works for the rights of immigrant detainees.
- Provided brief legal services and advice to over 550 clients at the Park Avenue Foundation/Volunteer Lawyers Network Walk-In Legal Advice Clinic, the Minnesota AIDS Project, the Center for Victims of Torture, the Center for Families, Park Haven Apartments, and the St. Paul Public Schools LEAP Academy.
- Served as co-chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association's Human Rights Committee.
- Recruited and trained volunteer interpreters who handled over 200 interpreting and translating assignments.
- Provided consultations to advocates in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union on legal reform on violence against women.
- Partnered with the Liberian TRC to take statements from Liberian refugees in Buduburam Refugee Camp in Ghana.
- Attended the third annual Stop Violence Against Women (StopVAW) website meeting in June 2006 in Budapest, Hungary. Website Monitors attended the meeting to discuss their StopVAW work with Minnesota Advocates and the Network Women's Program of Open Society Institute.

- Collaborated with Minnesota Council of Churches, Hennepin County Office of Multicultural Services, and the Minnesota Department of Health to produce materials promoting an innovative joint project that connects new asylees with services and support.
- Continued to coordinate the Minnesota Detention Project to provide free legal services to immigration detainees at their first court appearances.

Education

- Held the 22nd Annual Asylum Conference in June 2007. Conference faculty included Ben Casper, Immigration Judge Joseph Dierkes, Paula Duthoy, Karen Ellingson, Robert Gilbertson, Alan Goldfarb, Emily Good, Kevin Lashus, Assistant Chief Counsel Terry Louie, Kenneth Madsen, Michele Garnett McKenzie, Lynn Mershon, Nancy Peterson, Paschal Nwokocho, Immigration Judge Kristin Olmanson, Acting Chairman Juan P. Osuna, Malinda Schmiechen, Dinesh Shenoy, Steven Thal, and Joseph Vail.
- Presented a workshop on a lesson from the *Road to Peace* curriculum and participated in the post-conference action plan discussion panel at the MnSCU conference on genocide.



TRC Commissioner Massa Washington (center) with TRC Advisory Committee Members Patrick Kugmeh (left) and Momolu Sirleaf



Students at Crossroads Alternative High School with Moving Lives Artists (back row): Jesús Purisaca, Ed Bok Lee, and Ibé Kaba



Brikti Hiwet (left) of Powderhorn Phillips Cultural Wellness Center visiting the Minnesota International Health Volunteers table at International Women's Day, staffed by Safiya Jama



Minnesota Advocates staff: Julia Kashaeva (top), Ann Theisen, and Sarah Herder



Hugh Parmer, President of the American Refugee Committee speaking at the Children's Human Rights Speaker Series co-presented by Faegre & Benson LLP

Annual Overview 2006 - 2007 (continued)

- Held the Fifth Annual Human Rights Law and Policy Conference, *Children Left Behind: A Child's Right to Education in the U.S.* in June 2007. Featured speakers included Scott Abernathy, Anne Carroll, Amy J. Goetz, Baris Gumus-Dawes, Natela Jordan, Carlos Mariani, Joe Nathan, Todd Otis, Elizabeth Sullivan, and Ladan Yusuf.
- Hosted an Immigration Roundtable at the International Institute of Minnesota, featuring local Department of Homeland Security leadership, St. Paul Police Chief John M. Harrington, Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia of the National Immigration Forum, and local immigration advocates.
- Provided training to staff at the Hennepin County Department of Corrections, West 7th Community Center Women's Health Fair, and students at Carleton College on domestic violence in refugee and immigrant communities.
- Educated the public about issues related to immigration at the *Immigration Fuels Our Nation* booth at the 2006 Minnesota State Fair. Volunteers and staff distributed thousands of buttons and hundreds of fact sheets.
- Provided diversity training at Sandburg Middle School, Creative Arts High School, Perpich Center for Performing Arts, Work Opportunity Center, and Intermedia Arts.
- Presented *Journey to Safety* along with panel discussions on the barriers facing battered refugee and immigrant women for legislators and public officials at the Revisor of Statutes Office, attendees at the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women annual meeting, Partners for Violence Prevention and the Saint Paul Police Department, child protection staff, public health faculty and students, and the Public Law Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association.



The signing of the Robertsport Accord (memorandum of understanding with the Liberian TRC) in Robertsport, Liberia in February 2007



2006 Human Rights Award Recipient and Keynote Speaker Hauwa Ibrahim with Board Member Hon. Hubert H. Humphrey III



Women's Program Director Cheryl Thomas with William Heegaard at the 2006 Walk for Justice



Attendees at a Refugee and Immigrant Program house party in October 2006 hosted by Dr. Hyder Khan and Nazneen Khatoon



Dianne Heins from Faegre & Benson introducing speakers at a Liberia TRC training



Staff attorney Rebecca Palmer, Chelsea Zimmerman, and Judge Lloyd Zimmerman with Chelsea's silent auction win from the 2006 Human Rights Awards Dinner



Students at the Sankhu-Palubari Community School in Nepal in February 2007

- Moderated a panel at the American Immigration Lawyers Association annual conference.
- Conducted immigration presentations at churches, places of employment, community centers and private homes.
- Administered on-site professional development human rights trainings for educators in seven metro area school districts.
- Presented information on "Peace and Human Rights" to people from different faith communities at a Northern Lights Society dinner in October 2006.
- Hosted a successful Human Rights Day seminar, *In the Shadows: Non-Citizens and U.S. Violations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, in partnership with the University of Minnesota Human Rights Center.
- Presented information about the Liberian TRC to dozens of Liberian organizations, community groups, students, volunteers, and social service providers in Minnesota, Chicago, Atlanta, New York, Philadelphia, Providence, and Washington D.C.
- Distributed hundreds of *Energy of a Nation* materials promoting a human rights perspective on immigration to teachers, service providers and the general public throughout the nation.
- Presented information about human trafficking to the St. Cloud Forum for Executive Women.
- Presented the Women's Human Rights Film Series in partnership with the Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library.
- Presented the Human Rights and Justice Film Series in partnership with the Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and The Innocence Project of Minnesota.
- Trained teachers of English Language Learners on general immigration issues. Also educated teachers in training at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and Hamline University on understanding immigration and advocating for immigrant families.
- Educated students of the University of St. Thomas, College of St. Catherine, and Minneapolis College of Business about human rights issues.
- Gave a presentation titled the "Human Cost of War Around the World" for community members at an event presentation hosted by the Islamic Center of Minnesota.
- Educated attendees of the Christian Legal Society conference in San Antonio, Texas about the work of the Walk-in Legal Clinic.

Annual Overview 2006 - 2007 (continued)

- Conducted immigration presentations at Irondale High School, Perpich Center for Arts Education, Crossroads Alternative High School, Champlin Park High School, Metro State University and the University of Minnesota.
- Presented information on asylum, immigration and other related issues at the University of Minnesota in Duluth, the University of Minnesota Law School, William Mitchell College, Fredrickson & Byron, and the Minnesota Department of Human Rights' 2006 Conference.
- Moderated a teleconference focused on updates in the asylum process and providing effective legal services to victims of torture for the American Immigration Lawyers Association.
- Presented on child labor for middle school students from the YMCA in East St. Paul.
- Taught Immigration Law Clinic at the University of Minnesota Law School as adjunct faculty.
- Partnered with Briggs and Morgan, P.A. to present the Women's Human Rights Speaker Series, covering topics including progress in legal reform on violence against women in Central Asia and the Caucasus, women's rights in Islam, and human trafficking.
- Partnered with Dorsey & Whitney LLP to present the Death Penalty Speaker Series, covering topics including reinstatement efforts in Wisconsin, the role of the media in explaining capital cases, and the federal death penalty.



Eric Jorstad speaking at a Death Penalty Lecture Series co-sponsored by Dorsey & Whitney LLP



Jeanne Voigt (left) and Judge Nino Bakakuri (center) with Minnesota Advocates' Women's Program staff members Cheryl Thomas, Laura Nelson, and Mary Ellingen at the Court of Appeals in Tbilisi, Georgia



Hon. Wesseh Blamo from Liberian Parliament meets with Minnesota Advocates' delegation in Monrovia in February 2007



Staff members: (back) Ingrid Haugland, Julia Kashaeva, Fatima Jawaid, (front) Emily Farell, David Takassi, and Laura Young



Moving Lives Artist Jesús Purisaca (right) with Crossroads Alternative High School Student Wayne Savage at a Human Rights Day Celebration workshop



A sign advertising the TRC in Liberia



Dulce Foster of Fredrikson & Byron and Jim O'Neal of Faegre & Benson in Liberia in February 2007

- Partnered with Faegre & Benson LLP to present the Children's Human Rights Speaker Series, covering topics including the girl-child, infant mortality, and child soldiers.
- Partnered with Fredrikson & Byron, PA to present the Human Rights Lecture Series, covering topics such as human rights and national security, and housing and health care as human rights.

Research

- Led a fact-finding mission to the Republic of Georgia to conduct research on domestic violence and child abuse commissioned by a consortium of United Nations agencies.
- Led a fact-finding mission to Bulgaria to gather information about the implementation of their new domestic violence law.
- Completed fact-finding research and writing for *Domestic Violence in Tajikistan*.
- Brought together leaders of different faith backgrounds to discuss messaging around immigration issues in focus groups around Minnesota.

Publications & Awards

- Published *Domestic Violence and Child Abuse in Georgia: An Assessment of Current Standings of Law and Practice Regarding Domestic Violence and Child Abuse in Georgia, and Recommendations for Future United Nations Country Team Involvement*, in collaboration with the Institute for Policy Studies, Georgia.
- Co-authored a shadow report to the United Nations on problems with *U.S. Compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: Violations of the Rights of Aliens*, a report to the United Nations Human Rights Committee on the Second and Third Periodic Report of the United States of America
- Published *Voices from Silence: Personal Accounts of the Long-Term Impact of 9/11*.
- Received Charity Navigator's highest 4-star rating for sound fiscal management.
- Met all standards of the Charities Review Council.

Annual Overview 2006 - 2007 (continued)

Refugee and Immigrant Program Volunteer Awards

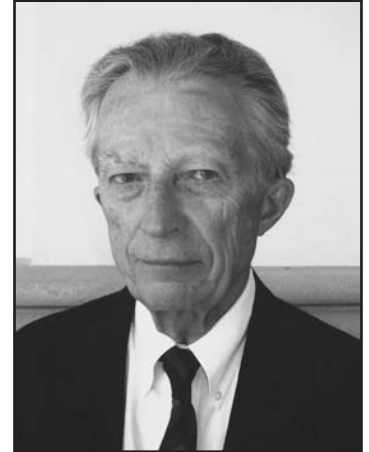
The Refugee and Immigrant Program honored three of its longtime volunteer attorneys at its Fall House Party in November 2006. We thank Lesley Guyton, Nancy Peterson, and Wayne Popham for all of their work on behalf of indigent asylum seekers. Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights appreciates the generosity and dedication of these three individuals.



Lesley Guyton is a private immigration attorney at the Guyton Law Office. She has been an active volunteer with the Refugee and Immigrant Program as a member of the Steering Committee and as a mentor for attorneys who represent asylum seekers through Minnesota Advocates. Throughout the years, Lesley has graciously and

thoroughly guided volunteer attorneys through the maze of asylum law and practice. We are honored to again recognize Lesley's contribution to providing pro bono legal services to asylum seekers.

Wayne Popham is a private attorney at the Popham Law Office. Wayne has been a long-time volunteer attorney with the Refugee and Immigrant Program, representing asylum seekers in the Immigration Court. We would like to thank Wayne for generously agreeing to represent so many of our clients, some of whom have had difficult and complex cases.



Nancy Peterson is also a private immigration attorney at the Law Office of Nancy Peterson. For many years, Nancy has volunteered her legal services as a mentor to Minnesota Advocates' volunteer attorneys for the Refugee and Immigrant Program. Many of the volunteer attorneys have commented that Nancy was extremely helpful as they represented their asylum clients. Nancy has also been a loyal volunteer at the Park Avenue Foundation/Volunteers Lawyers Network Walk-in Legal Clinic. We are grateful to Nancy for all the time she has given.

2007 Human Rights Awards Dinner - Special Thanks

- To **Boulevard Gardens** for donating flowers for the event.
- To **Bill Cameron** for photography at the event.
- To **Marie Enge** and **Johnson Design + Etc** for donating the design of the Awards Dinner's invitation and program cover.
- To **Dijana Andic, Karna Berg, Karen Evans, Rachel Johnson, Chelli Phillips Ray, and Lily Troia** for assisting with the event.
- To **Jesús Purisaca** and **Total Praise Chorus** for providing music for the event.
- To all of our silent auction donors.

Contributions from May 21, 2006 to May 25, 2007

\$25,000 & Up

Faegre & Benson Foundation
 Ford Foundation - West Africa
 JEHT Foundation
 Legal Services Advisory Council
 Minneapolis Foundation
 Minnesota Program Development, Inc.
 Oak Foundation
 Office of Justice Programs - Minnesota Department of Public Safety
 Open Society Institute
 Otto Bremer Foundation
 Public Interest Projects, Inc.
 Saint Paul Foundation
 The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation
 Karen M. Sternal
 United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

\$15,000 to \$24,999

Anonymous
 Lawyers Trust Account Board
 Thomas & Marlene Kayser
 Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi Charitable Foundation
 United Nations Population Fund

\$10,000 to \$14,999

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota
 Dorsey & Whitney Foundation
 Fredrikson & Byron Foundation
 Carol & Bud Hayden
 Samuel D. Heins & Stacey L. Mills
 Jeanne M. Voigt Foundation
 John S. & James L. Knight Foundation
 Julie Corty & Richard Erickson Family Fund

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Aronson Philanthropic Fund
 Best Buy Children's Foundation
 Education Minnesota
 Fredrikson & Byron, PA
 James E. & Dee Dorsey
 James R. Thorpe Foundation
 Robert & Alexandra Klas
 Leonard, Street & Deinard Foundation
 Lindquist & Vennum, P.L.L.P.
 Minnesota Chapter, Federal Bar Association
 Daniel R. Pennie
 Cheryl Thomas & Roger Heegaard
 Emily Anne & Gedney Tuttle
 United Nations Voluntary Trust for Contemporary Forms of Slavery

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Diane Bratvold & David Bolt
 Briggs & Morgan Foundation
 Briggs & Morgan, PA
 David & Mary Parker
 Wood R. Foster, Jr. & Jane Severns
 Mary Louise & Daniel Klas
 James P. Martineau
 Minnesota State Bar Foundation
 Myers Thompson P.A.
 Nancy Speer
 Vance & Darin Opperman
 Jeffrey F. Shaw
 Unity Chamber Of Commerce LLC
 Zelle, Hofmann, Voelbel, Mason & Gette LLP

\$1,000 to \$2,499

3M Company
 American Immigration Lawyers Assoc.

Ameriprise Financial Services Foundation
 Karna Berg
 Best & Flanagan LLP
 Michael K. & Martha Montag Brown
 William & Connie Cameron
 Steven & Cathy Carlson
 City of Minneapolis
 Clara Davis
 Frances Davis
 Elmer & Eleanor Andersen Foundation
 Faegre & Benson, LLP
 Barbara A. Frey
 Ann Frisch
 Susan H. Gebelein
 John Getsinger
 Gray, Plant, Mooty, Mooty & Bennett Foundation
 Halleland, Lewis, Nilan & Johnson, P.A.
 Samuel L. Hanson
 Headwaters Foundation for Justice
 Jeff & Lucy Heegaard
 William & Elizabeth Heegaard
 Hennepin County Bar Foundation
 Henson & Efron, PA
 Muzammil Hussain
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 Victor Parker & Eun-Young Kim
 David Amos & Muria Kruger
 Larson-King, LLP
 Kathy Lenzmeier
 Mark & Charlie's Gay Fund for Moral Values
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Statement of Financial Position - Year Ended June 30, 2006

ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 134,713
Accounts Receivable	34,918
Unconditional Promises to Give, current portion	109,500
Cash Value of Life Insurance	9,071
Prepaid Expenses	<u>15,893</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	304,095
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - Net	<u>34,618</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <u>338,713</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 22,194
Accrued Expenses	54,458
Deferred Lease Incentive - current portion	<u>5,357</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	82,009
Deferred Lease Incentive - long term portion	<u>5,357</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	87,366
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted Net Assets	4,735
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<u>246,612</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>251,347</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ <u>338,713</u>

Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended June 30, 2006

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	
SUPPORT	
Foundation and Corporate Contributions	\$ 528,684
Individual Contributions	223,353
In-Kind Donations	2,274,556
Government Grants	<u>109,807</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT	3,136,400
REVENUE	
Special Events, net of direct benefits	\$ 45,642
Program Services	20,131
Sales of Publications	689
Interest Income	8,343
Other	<u>408</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	75,213
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ <u>3,211,613</u>
EXPENSES	
PROGRAM EXPENSES	
Education	416,196
Refugee and Immigrant	2,148,830
Women's Human Rights	525,642
Special Projects	<u>322,535</u>
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	3,413,203
ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDRAISING	<u>134,008</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,547,211
Change in Net Assets	(335,598)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>586,945</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ <u>251,347</u>

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Michael Dinnen	Rebecca McConkey	Emily Sipiorski	Brianna Zuber
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