



**MASW**  
Since 1901

**Missouri Association for Social Welfare**

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***MASW Endorses Coalition's Call to Renew War on Poverty***

Missouri Association for Social Welfare (MASW), a proud member of the Missourians to End Poverty coalition, is pleased to endorse and participate in the 2013 Poverty Summit on April 9 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, Missouri. The theme of the summit is ***“Renewing the War on Poverty.”*** Registration begins at 8:00 a.m., with presentations to begin at 9:00 a.m.

Keynote speaker for the summit is **Peter Edelman**, a former staffer for Robert F. Kennedy and for the Clinton Administration, from which Edelman resigned in protest of the shape of welfare legislation signed by Pres. Clinton. Edelman, a law professor, is married to Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children’s Defense Fund, and author of the recent book **So Rich So Poor: Why It’s So Hard to End Poverty in America.**

**Jeanette Mott Oxford**, MASW executive director said, “Having been director of a statewide Missouri welfare reform organization in the 1990’s, I appreciated Mr. Edelman’s principled stand and resignation. It is an honor to join in hosting him at the 2013 Poverty Summit.”

Two Board members of MASW who formerly lived in poverty are among those who will respond to Edelman’s keynote address:

- **Angela Roffle**, now assistant professor and program director at St. Louis Community College, and
- **DeAnna Alonso**, currently executive director of Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association

Oxford continued, “Ms. Roffle and Ms. Alonso illustrate something that is common, but too little known. There are success stories all around us, neighbors who did escape poverty through the help of public policy tools that sustain families in a time of crisis and give a hand up. Think what we can accomplish if we double down in our national efforts to overcome poverty.”

Additional speakers for the conference are:

- **Eileen Wallace**, an expert in community organizing and relationship building
- **Gene Nichol**, the Director of the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity and a Boyd Tinsley Distinguished Professor of Law

Missourians to End Poverty is a statewide coalition that has come together to discuss the issue of poverty and how they can create change for the benefit of all communities. The cost of registration for the summit is \$40 for General Admission, \$30 for students and senior citizens and \$10 for low-income participants. For more information or to register online visit [www.communityaction.org](http://www.communityaction.org).