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PRESS RELEASE

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MSNBC Featured Guest to be Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Howard, Faith Leader, Arrested on May 6

(Kansas City, MO) - The Kansas City Chapter of the Missouri Association for Social Welfare (MASW) will host their annual dinner on May 29 and will feature keynote speaker, Reverend Dr. Vernon Percy Howard, Jr. A Kansas City native, Rev. Dr. Howard has appeared on MSNBC's *Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell*, *What's Up Kansas City*, and in *The Kansas City Star*. He was one of more than 20 Missouri faith leaders arrested as they disrupted a session of the Missouri state Senate to call for Medicaid expansion and human dignity for persons with low incomes on May 6.

Here are details regarding the event:

Thursday, May 29, 2014

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**Holiday Inn Country Club Plaza
1 East 45th – Kansas City, MO**

The annual dinner, with focus on **“The Real State of the State: Coming together for Action,”** will also feature guest speaker Johnny Waller (as seen in *The Kansas City Star*) as he shares his experience with SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) after having served a non-violent, drug conviction.

MASW, founded in 1901, pioneered citizen advocacy in Missouri. MASW is not affiliated with any political party.

The evening will be concluded with annual awards given to recognize outstanding service by MASW members to their Kansas City communities. Tickets may be ordered through May 15 at MASW website: www.masw.org. Contact Kansas City Chapter Chair Dena DeSimone-Sextro at 816-522-2996 for additional information.

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“[Expanding Medicaid] is about the dignity of our citizens. 750 Missourians will lose their lives this year if we do not act now!” - Rev. Dr. Howard, Jr., MSNBC