

2005



**African Mutual Assistance
Association of Missouri**

ANNUAL REPORT

AMAAM

AMAAM ANNUAL REPORT TO BOARD AND THE COMMUNITY
July 1, 2004- June 30, 2005

Within this period AMAAM has outreached African refugees, secondary migrants and families. Besides 400 legal immigrants which includes DV (Diversity Visa) entrants and family based immigrants we had served 790 refugees. The areas of services included citizenship and civic duty education, social adjustment and women's initiative. Our interpreter services have seen a sudden rise in demand because of our case work specialists of Somali Bantu and Somali languages.

AMAAM is also mindful of various obstacles towards self-sufficiency and absorption of refugees. These are underlying causes are unemployment and lack of medical insurance and LEP (Limited English Proficiency) level. Through referrals and sending potential candidates for employment, we have assisted 75 families. We are very much grateful for Harrah's Casino which hires most of our clients. In this effort we are able to have multiple wage earners in one family, even helping them to move higher up in the economic ladder to buy their homes and new cars and brand furniture. During this FY Harrah's Casino donated to us 4 cell phones for client use and outreach. The results had been phenomenal.

We have also fulfilled one great project of summer program for refugee kids age 7-16 in forming soccer teams in June of 2005. With their different mentors from the Somali Bantu and Ethiopian Communities we graduated all of them (48) in good behavior and good character. Supplies, uniforms, refreshments were provided under a grant from the Community Connections program of the International Institute.

One of the great diversity festivals in our region is Festival of Nations organized by the International Institute in which many communities show their cultures and music. Our volunteers had spent a lot of hours in training the Eskista Dancers in May and June. The famous International Masinko (Ethiopian style fiddle like instrument) player Shambel gave a good taste of his genius to the festival which was held in July. We had also prepared in organizing volunteers for food booth, arts/ crafts and performance education.

Senior staff continue to participate in dialogue forums, non-political advocacy issues, in meeting our elected officials or their constituent assistances. They also speak in public and private forums on educational topics. The Executive Director has given a talk at Warren Brown School of Social Work for social service students and faculty members. Mr. Metaferia has also moderated a forum for Black History month in the offices of Army Corps of Engineers. We still continue to uphold advocate for the great tradition of this Country as a land of immigrants. We have communicated with our elected officials not to lose sight of the contribution of immigrants, Vis a' Vis the many harmful bills and backlashes that are being felt in the nation which must be looked at very seriously in a bipartisan way. We are also mindful of the cloud and haze of xenophobia in the post 9/11 era. America became

richer through its diversity. "Without Diversity We Will Be Poorer "(Isaac On Conflict Resolution) .To this effect AMAAM has been in the fore front of the debate of balancing civil liberties and homeland security since 2002. The general service constituency has been generous in time of the few funerals we had in our FY by contributing money and their time.

(I) SERVICES: Because concerted effort of outreach we are able to help many refugees including those who have passed the 5 year limit, our concentration being providing services for those who are less than 5 years in the US. The diverse nature of our staff has enabled us to serve new Somali Bantus and Former Ethiopian Navy Personnel. Besides refugees we have served also other categories of legal immigrants, 150 of them, which include Diversity Visa entrants and family based immigrants. The total number of persons served is 1,190.

(II) Financial Summary.

African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri
Financial statement

For The Year ended June 30, 2005 (Unaudited)

Total all Fund revenues:

Various contracts and Grants:	<u>\$177,585</u>
Donations:	<u>\$10,342</u>
Total Revenue:	<u>\$187,927</u>
Total All fund Expenses:	
Program services:	<u>\$155,434</u>
Supporting Services:	<u>\$25,505</u>
Total Expenses:	<u>\$180,939</u>
Current Fund:	
Revenue in Excess of Expenses:	<u>\$6,988</u>
Fund Balance on 6/30/04:	<u>\$35,110</u>
Fund Balance on 6/30/05:	<u>\$42,098</u>

For any questions, refer to Audited Financial Statements

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