

2004



**African Mutual Assistance
Association of Missouri**

ANNUAL REPORT

AMAAM

African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri Annual Report
AMAAM (July 1, 2003- June 30, 2004)

In FY ending June 30, 2004 the African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri has served a total of 1,400 African refugees and legal immigrants. The services include social adjustment, outreach, citizenship education/ civic participation women's initiative and core case management.

Although most the services in this period concentrate on refugees less than 5 years in the united states, we have provided referral and interpreter services for refugees up to ten years in the United States (for those who did not yet achieve their citizenship due to language barrier.

Our staff has also provided services to other categories of legal immigrants like diversity Visa entrants, family reunion cases in weekends and evenings.

The total refugee admission authorized by the President has not been achieved for FY 2004, which was close to 70,000 refugees. Our new refugee case load has decreased like many resettlement agencies and MAAs in the nation. The majority of our clients are less than 5 years and greater than one year of residence in the United States. In the initial months of 2004 one of the milestone achievements has been organizing a conference on conflict resolution titled WELCOMING THE STRANGER: A DIALOGUE ACCEPTANCE AND DIVERSITY. In this endeavor we have partnered with the government, interfaith groups, civil rights organizations and various entities of emerging communities. In this educational conference professor Ephraim Isaack of Princeton had been the keynote speaker.

St. Louis and Missouri is a welcoming city and state for refugees and legal immigrants. Refugees and legal immigrants have demonstrated in being resilient and adapting to the American work ethic. To day many immigrant businesses are growing in the city of St. Louis catering to their own specific population groups and the general public.

We have assisted African refugee immigrant business in supplying needed information whenever they need our services.

Welcoming The Stranger: A Dialogue on Acceptance and Diversity has also promoted the spirit of working together with law enforcement and in combating hate crimes and intolerance. In this endeavor the US Attorney's Hate Crimes Task Force, Anti Defamation League, NCCJ (National Conference for Community and Justice) had been very instrumental for the success of the conference. In its pivotal approach AMAAM has tirelessly worked for tolerance and respect to each other. The conference has also become a forum of education for law enforcement and the refugee immigrant community.

In its mission of promoting cultural preservation and heritage, AMAAM has participated in Festival of Nations and International Folk Fest (projects of the International Institute) last June and October.

As a premier African refugee and immigrant agency AMAAM has worked tirelessly in recruiting ethnic leaders for service linkage and coalition banding. AMAAM has strongly encouraged emerging MAA's and ethnic leaders to attend the nation's best community connection program of the International Institute. In fact AMAAM accurately estimates that the community connections program of the International Institute is the best practice in the nation.

The executive and Deputy Director have worked hard in reaching to our public officials in solving problems of constituencies, and we are thankful for our senators and congressmen from Missouri regardless of party. They are always there to help and listen.

We have also encouraged the New American African voting block to register in designated centers. For refugee's and immigrants there is no better way than expressing their gratitude to this nation by casting their confidential ballot come November. Across the great cross-sections of the new African American voters the privilege of voting is not taken for granted because these great public responsibility was denied to us in one way or the other when we are back home in our original home country.

Besides the regular social adjustment and case management services A MAAM has spent about 9,000 hours of service units in solving problems that related to school discipline, housing discrimination job placement, insurance overcharges, utility disconnections in extreme weather conditions, accidents, sickness and unjustified employment termination. There has been misunderstanding of interpreter issues related to Title 6 of the immigration and Nationality Act by few healthcare providers. Whenever it can AMAAM has educated on issues and provided trained interpreters to hospitals, clinics and other centers for free of charge.

AMAAM staff has also put many of hours of meetings in major processes and dialogue groups that make our city better, safe and efficient.

We strive always to deliver quality service that promotes refugee/ legal immigrant self-sufficiency towards the ultimate achievement of the American dream and citizenship. Nothing makes us happier than seeing refugees/asylees/legal immigrants take their oath of allegiance. In this FY we have assisted a total of 52 in citizenship education and 100 in outreach concerning citizenship issues.

African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri

Financial Statement

For The Year Ended June 30, 2004 (Unaudited)

Total All Fund Revenues

Various Contracts and Grants:	\$90,738.00
	<u>\$105,261.00</u>
	<u>\$195,999.00</u>
Fundraising:	-650
Donations and Other:	<u>4,393</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$199,742.00</u>

Total All Fund Expenses

Program Services	172,263
Supporting Services	<u>28,995</u>
Total Expenses	<u>201,258</u>

Current Fund

Expenses in Excess of Revenues	-1,516
Fund Balance on 6/30/02	<u>40,285</u>
Fund Balance on 6/30/03	<u>38,769</u>

For any questions refer to Audited Financial Statements

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