

# SYNERGY UPDATE

*Building a World  
That Works for  
Everyone*

*Passion creates the action; responsibility carries it forward.*

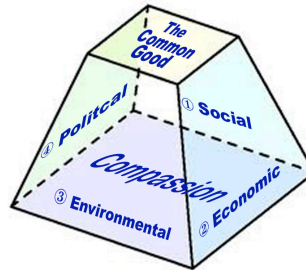
## Arms Spending Alternatives Project (ASAP)

War? "There is no such thing as a "good war," said Howard Zinn. "Civilians die. People don't want war. It is government that coerces its people to go to war. Governments propagandize war's noble goal (democracy and freedom), and distort the truth to get us into war....We're so focused on war that we don't think about the real unmet needs of people in this country and abroad."

So, what do we do about that? Rather than agreeing to an \$800 billion military budget, MAP organizations, like MN ASAP, are working tirelessly to shift the cultural mindset of Americans from a militaristic one to one that emphasizes spending for essential needs of people, infrastructure and the commons.

This shift would be a giant step toward providing the money and resources needed to solve most of our social, environmental and economic problems.

The contact person for participating in these MN ASAP goals is Candice Quinn (see MAP in Action list). She will coordinate cross-communications, publicize your initiatives, and suggest ongoing actions for moving this national project forward.



**For the common good:** *The Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH) is an interfaith collaboration of 17 downtown Minneapolis churches, synagogues and mosques working together to end homelessness and poverty. The focus is on long term solutions through a combination of education, advocacy and action. To learn more, contact MAP delegate, Adele Hansen (see MAP in Action list).*

### THE LEADERSHIP TEAM—WHO TO CONTACT ABOUT WHAT

Delegates have selected seven of their own to serve in a leadership role to manage the structure, process, and tasks necessary for MAP to function well.

These are the people to contact when you have inputs, questions, or grievances:

**Dennis Dillon:** convener and Plymouth Church liaison. dennis.dillon@msn.com 612-333-0723

**Wayne Wittman:** membership. waynecwittman@gmail.com 651-695-5297

**Burt Berlowe:** news releases and letters. bberlowe@comcast.net 612-722-1504



**Madeline Simon:** website/member Lists. madeline-mpls@msn.com. 952-854-2976

**April Knutson:** recording secretary. knutsoo1@umn.edu 612-823-5989

**Mary Faulkner:** treasurer. rfofmpsmn@aol.com 612-823-5524

**Sook Holdridge:** delegate contacts/Synergy Update e-holdridge@comcast.net 952-922-7311

## Shift The Thinking and Change The World

Bad ideas create bad outcomes. The idea that earth's natural resources are given to us for our use shapes the systems and mind-sets to harvest them as quickly and abundantly as possible.

The notion that the world is a competitive and dangerous place compounds the fears militarists love to exploit for profit and power.

The antidote for fallacious thinking for selfish gain are ideas grounded in science and experience; ideas like...

- at our **core** nature we yearn to grow into loving, cooperative relationships and community.
- empathy and compassion are responses by people in touch with their true selves, and form the ground for building a world that works for everyone.
- forgiveness is the path to healing and reconciliation.
- we will either **all** survive and thrive together as brothers and sisters, **or** we will all die together as fools. [MLK]

# Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers

—giving mutual support and working together for the common good—

## MAP IN ACTION

| sort | Vision  | Long Term Participation Opportunities | web site   | Contact person  |
|------|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| ①    | <b>Creating Peace</b> —integrating peace education in the schools and communities. We also offer live trainings and an online peacemaking course.                               |                                       | <a href="http://peacesites.org">peacesites.org</a> | Martha Roberts 612-554-7009<br><a href="mailto:martrobe44@aol.com">martrobe44@aol.com</a>                   |
| ①    | <b>Creating Peace</b> —offering ongoing peacebuilding leadership workshops and trainings.   |                                       |  | Donna Minter 612-377-4660<br><a href="mailto:star.mps@gmail.com">star.mps@gmail.com</a>                     |
| ②    | <b>Economic Justice</b> —setting right the unjust foreclosures by financial institutions. Distribute Occupy’s “ <b>Occupy Together</b> ” 24-panel cards, and there’s much more. |                                       |  | Mary Lynn Murphy 651-698-8593<br><a href="mailto:mary.murphy100@comcast.net">mary.murphy100@comcast.net</a> |
| ②    | <b>Economic Justice</b> —A \$100 million <b>affordable housing bill</b> for Mpls has passed. Call to stay abreast with the Downtown Congregations to <b>End Homelessness</b> .  |                                       |  | Adele Hansen 952-927-6035<br>hanse002@tic.umn.edu   |
| ④    | <b>Real Democracy</b> —Move-to-Amend constitutional amendment. Distribute MTA-MN “ <b>We The People</b> ” 24-panel cards, and there’s more you can do                           |                                       |  | Robin Monahan 651-319-2097<br><a href="mailto:mnmovetoamend@gmail.com">mnmovetoamend@gmail.com</a>          |
| ④    | <b>Alternative Spending Project (ASAP)</b> — seeks to re-prioritize spending; from a military emphasis to the essential needs of people and the commons.                        |                                       |  | Candice Quinn 612-817-2466<br>quinnccandice@comcast.net   |
| ④    | <b>Peace; Not War</b> —a MAP stand. Resolution 1: do not extend Afghan war past 2014. Resolution 2: MAP opposes new sanctions on Iran. (both resolutions passed)                |                                       |  | Wesley Davey<br><a href="mailto:wesleydavey@gmail.com">wesleydavey@gmail.com</a>                            |
|      | <b>“Everything Is Connected”</b>  |                                       |  |   |

### ADDED PROJECTS

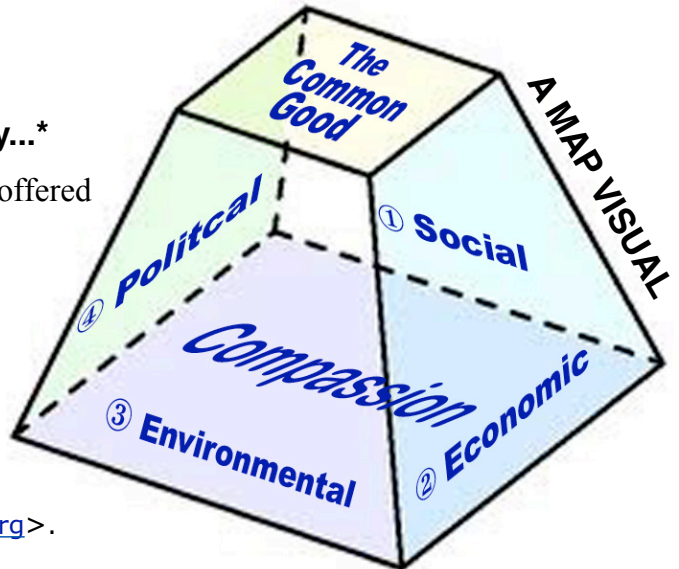
#### To add a new long term participation opportunity...\*

- a) have a specific vision with participation opportunities offered by you, your organization or group,
- b) double check to make sure it doesn’t violate any MAP guiding principle, and
- c) be or find the contact person to list here.

\*Submit to Sook Holdridge, [sook51@gmail.com](mailto:sook51@gmail.com)

(Single events are **not** listed here. They should be submitted to [info@mapm.org](mailto:info@mapm.org);

You will receive event notices from [MAPM](http://MAPM) <[mapm@pjep.org](mailto:mapm@pjep.org)>.



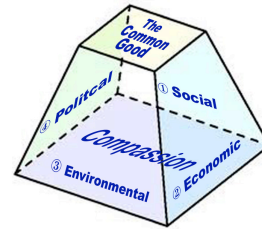
### FOR THE COMMON GOOD

MAP IS what its membership makes it. As people step forward to share their vision, and take or find leadership for it, this “**MAP IN ACTION**” visual symbolizes a deeper meaning and greater impact.

For each opportunity, there is someone you can contact to either join, learn more, or make comments.

**May we rejoice in community, honor the service of every person, and celebrate the journey.**

**COMPASSION is not a *new* MAP pledge.**  
It was created and adopted in 1996.



## **A PEACEMAKER'S PLEDGE**

**For Creating a More Just, Compassionate, and Peaceful World**

This pledge was created and adopted by the Minnesota Alliance of Peacemakers in 1996.

To honor our ancestors for giving us life, to express our love for the earth, and to respond to the oneness of the human family, we offer our compassion and pledge to:

- **C**reate conditions that promote social and economic justice.
- **O**ffer non-violent resistance to unacceptable conditions.
- **M**aster knowledge and skills that will enable us to help others.
- **P**rotect the environment for our own and future generations.
- **A**sk our teachers to make peace education a high priority.
- **S**pread the message of interconnectedness and interdependence.
- **S**eek ways to reduce overconsumption and to limit population growth.
- **I**ncrease our commitment to peacemaking organizations.
- **O**vercome oppression.
- **N**urture peacemaking skills in ourselves and others.

### **KUDOS TO THE PEACEMAKERS**

Excerpt from a poem written and read by Sook Holdridge at the April '14 MAP Meeting

One doesn't have to be called a peacemaker to **be** one.  
Anyone exercising genuine, empathetic compassion for  
the common good is engaged in peacemaking.

**Empathy** registers and mirrors the feelings of our fellow  
creatures, and **compassion** adds to it a strong desire  
to alleviate suffering.

Peacemaking is not selfish, dishonest or divisive.  
It honors the sanctity of every human being—  
treating everybody with justice, equity and respect.

It springs from a sense of oneness with the other,  
is inspired by the inherent wholeness of all life,  
and motivated by a desire to make a positive difference.