

Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women

Renewing Member Application Packet

**590 Park Avenue, Suite 410
St. Paul, MN 55103
Voice: (651) 646-6177 or (800) 289-6177
Fax: (651) 646-1527
www.mcbw.org**

2007 Renewing Member Program Application Form

Please fill out the membership application form and return it to the MCBW office. By signing the membership application, you are indicating that your program will actively support the MCBW mission and core values. In addition, please include all materials listed on the checklist and membership agreement page of the application.

Date of application: _____

Organization: _____

Contact person: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business phone: _____ Crisis Phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Organization web site address: _____

Counties/Areas of Service: _____

Please briefly describe what your program does and who it serves: _____

Names/contact names/addresses/phone numbers/fax/e-mail contact for all satellite offices of your organization (please use an additional sheet of paper if necessary): _____

Voting organizations with multiple satellite offices will receive member benefits for each satellite office for which an additional supportive non-voting membership application is filed. Please fill out an additional membership form for your satellite offices if you wish them to receive full membership benefits.

All voting and non-voting members must support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW as indicated by a signed application and are encouraged to participate in coalition meetings and network activities.

Please review the attached materials and complete the following:

CHECKLIST AND MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

We have reviewed the following:

- Membership Information
- MCBW Mission Statement and Core Values
- Membership Benefits
- Roles and Responsibilities of MCBW Member Programs

We have included the following with our application:

- Attachment A: Mission or philosophy statement
- Attachment B: By-laws
- Attachment C: Current Board of Directors list
- Attachment D: List/description of counties or area of service
- Attachment E: Member Program Participation form (the form is on page 9)
- A check for \$ _____ (see page 4 for Membership Due amounts)

Type of membership requested:

- VOTING MEMBER ORGANIZATION:** Voting membership is open to battered women's programs in the state of Minnesota that are incorporated as non-profit organizations designed primarily to serve battered women and their children and that provide crisis intervention, advocacy, protective housing, referrals, peer support, and/or children's services. Programs that meet the above criteria but are a sub-group of larger non-profit corporations that are not incorporated for such purposes may become voting members as long as the above criteria is met. Voting rights are assigned to the battered women's program rather than to the larger organization. Unincorporated associations that are designed to serve battered women and their children can become voting members as long as they meet the above criteria. Voting members must pay dues and support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW.

Prospective voting members, please designate a Voting Delegate and a Voting Alternate:

Voting Delegate _____

Voting Alternate _____

- SUPPORTIVE NON-VOTING ORGANIZATION:** Organizations that pay dues and support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW as indicated on their signed application may join as supportive non-voting members.

Member organizations agree to support and actively promote the mission statement and core values of MCBW as indicated by the signature below:

Signed _____ Date _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Coalition

MCBW is a statewide membership organization founded in 1978 that includes local, regional, statewide, and national organizations advocating on behalf of battered women and their children. Member organizations provide a wide variety of programs including:

- Shelters
- Community advocacy programs
- Criminal justice intervention
- Culturally specific programs
- Reservation programs
- Health care based programs
- Campus/academic programs
- Programs working on issues related to battering including housing and homelessness, child abuse, immigration, and legal programs.

Among other activities, MCBW provides resources and referrals for individuals and organizations, public policy leadership and legislative education, training, and coordination and facilitation of statewide networking and collaborative opportunities.

Types of Membership

New members will be accepted under a one year “provisional membership” status which will give the Coalition an opportunity to get to know each new member program, as well as provide an opportunity for new members to become familiar with MCBW’s core values, membership benefits, and membership commitment expectations. During the course of the first year, a Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women Board Member will contact new members and arrange to visit your organization. The Board will also review your agency mission statement, organizational brochures, and other information.

During the provisional time period, new members will not be eligible for voting rights, however all other member benefits apply. Please see the following section on Benefits for MCBW Members for more information.

Membership Dues

The MCBW membership dues are based on the annual budget of member organizations. Each voting member organization is entitled to one vote. *Voting organizations with multiple satellite offices will receive bi-weekly mailings and other member benefits for each satellite office for which an additional supportive non-voting membership application is filed.*

ANNUAL BUDGET	MEMBERSHIP DUE
\$ 0 – \$49,999	\$75.00 minimum
\$50,000 – \$149,000	\$125.00 minimum
\$150,000 – \$299,000	\$175.00 minimum
\$300,000 – \$499,000	\$225.00 minimum
\$500,000 and over	\$275.00 minimum

Membership Categories

There are two different types of MCBW membership available to organizations:

Voting member organizations

Voting membership is open to battered women's programs in the state of Minnesota that are incorporated as non-profit organizations designed primarily to serve battered women and their children and that provide crisis intervention, advocacy, protective housing, referrals, peer support, and/or children's services. Programs that meet the above criteria but are a sub-group of larger non-profit corporations that are not incorporated for such purposes may become voting members as long as the above criteria is met. Voting members must pay dues and support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW.

Supportive non-voting organizations

Organizations that pay dues and support and actively promote the mission statement of MCBW as indicated on their signed application may join as supportive non-voting members.

MCBW'S MISSION

The mission of the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women is to provide a voice for battered women and member programs; challenge systems and institutions so they respond more effectively to the needs of battered women and their children; promote social change; and support, educate, and connect member programs.

We define battering as the use of a range of coercive tactics, including the threat or use of physical and sexual violence, to establish and maintain control over one's intimate partner. In the 1970s, women around the world forced their communities to recognize that male battering of women was a widespread and serious social problem. These activists created women's shelters, advocacy programs, state and national coalitions in response, with the goal of ending this form of violence against women. While this goal remains our primary concern, MCBW member programs understand that any individual may choose to batter a partner; thus we strive to effectively assist all individuals who are experiencing battering in their heterosexual or homosexual, dating and intimate relationships.

CORE VALUES

1. We oppose the use of all forms of violence as a means of control in dating and intimate relationships, and affirm the basic human right of every person to live without fear or the threat of violence throughout the course of one's life.
2. We understand that women have been and are the primary victims of battering as a result of patriarchal cultural values that historically have either expressly sanctioned or implicitly tolerated violence against women.
3. We stand in solidarity with efforts around the world to end all forms of discrimination, exploitation and violence against women, including prostitution and sexual trafficking.
4. We recognize that forms of oppression based on race, gender, class, ethnicity, nationality, disability, age, religion and sexual orientation create a climate of supremacy and ownership that facilitates battering and sexual violence.
5. We believe in the strength of diversity, embrace the differences among ourselves and within our communities, and promote the development of leadership in all communities.
6. We undertake prevention efforts to confront and change cultural norms and practices that facilitate violence against women.
7. We promote and encourage the leadership of victim/survivors in guiding our advocacy and social change efforts.
8. We affirm the power of collective and collaborative efforts, in partnership with victim/survivors, to advocate with social systems and institutions in order to end the conditions that facilitate battering.
9. We believe that all women have the right to advocacy that supports their self-determination regarding lifestyles, finances, education, employment, sexual and reproductive matters, and responses to the violence in their lives.
10. We affirm the right of victim/survivors to confidentiality in their communications with advocates and program staff. We also promote the right of victim/survivors to safeguard their confidentiality as they seek protection or support from other agencies in their communities.
11. We seek to respond to the special needs of battered mothers and their children, and encourage efforts that reinforce the mother-child relationship, build on their resiliency and assets, and support their recovery from the trauma of living with a batterer.
12. We believe that it is the community's responsibility to confront perpetrators of battering and hold them accountable for their actions in order to prevent further abuse. We believe in the human potential for change and support community efforts to assist perpetrators who commit to ending abusive and violent behavior.
13. We encourage reflection about our work and thoughtful evaluation of our efforts. We are committed to the ongoing development of innovative strategies and programs to better meet the diverse and emerging needs of survivors.

BENEFITS FOR MCBW MEMBERS

Public Policy and Legislation:

MCBW membership gives you a voice in shaping the MCBW statewide legislative and policy agenda through emerging issues discussions, needs assessments, the Legislative Advisory Committee, and the Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy for Women Committee.

Recently, MCBW's legislative advocacy and statewide organizing efforts resulted in the following:

- Funding was allocated in the amount of \$1.270 million for fiscal years 06-07 and 08-09 for crime victim services to restore the amount cut through the redistribution of funds in the Office of Justice Programs judicial district funding process.
- Battered women's shelter and safe home funding appropriations were adopted at \$400,000 for fiscal years 06-07 and \$400,000 for 08-09.
- In the State of Minnesota it is now a felony to strangle a family or household member, punishable by up to 3 years of imprisonment.
- \$2 million in bonding was allocated for transitional housing for battered women.
- The federal Violence Against Women Act was reauthorized in January 2006.

Training and Technical Assistance:

- Receive discounted rates for MCBW trainings such as Domestic Violence 101, Legal Advocacy, Legislative Organizing, etc.
- Eligible for the Membership Scholarship Fund for travel scholarships to trainings and events.
- Participate in audio conference trainings that allow your program to receive training without traveling to the Twin Cities.
- Some travel scholarships are available for trainings from MCBW co-sponsors, such as the Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project's New Laws Training or the Immigrant and Refugee Battered Women's Task Force's Training Institute.
- Technical assistance, media relations support, research, and resources are always available from staff.

Information and Resource Materials:

- Receive MCBW's twice-weekly e-mail update with news, resources, and funding opportunities.
- Receive a number of mailings during the year with additional news and resources.
- There are discounted rates for many of MCBW's materials and curriculums.

Networking Opportunities:

- Participate in networks, such as the Women of Color and Native American Women's Network.
- Participate in MCBW's e-mail discussion lists, with up-to-the-minute news and resources as well as discussion with advocates all over the state.
- Network with other members around the state, including monthly audio conference discussions on topic such as problem areas in orders for protection and full faith and credit for Native women.
- Use of MCBW's library of books and videotapes.
- Programs shape the priorities and activities of MCBW at the Annual Membership Meeting.
- Some travel scholarships are available for special events such as the annual Violence Against Women Action Day at the Capitol, the Annual Membership Meeting, and the MCBW Statewide Conference, which is held every other year.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MCBW MEMBER PROGRAMS

As a statewide coalition of battered women's programs, the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women can only succeed in ending domestic violence with the contribution of the time and skills of our member programs. Our member programs are expected to support and promote the mission of MCBW by actively participating in MCBW activities and initiatives. Member program staff, board members, volunteers and/or survivors are eligible and encouraged to take part in MCBW activities.

Members are expected to participate in some or all of the following, depending upon the capacity and resources of the organization:

- **Governance:** applying to serve on the MCBW Board of Directors; attending the MCBW Annual Meeting; assisting MCBW with fundraising efforts.
- **Legislative Education Efforts:** attending the Violence Against Women Action Day Legislative Training and Rally at the Capitol; meeting with your local legislators for Action Day; inviting your local legislators to visit your program; participating in the annual MCBW Legislative Survey; responding to MCBW action alerts.
- **Committee and Network Opportunities:** the Women of Color and Native Women's Network; the Legislative Advisory Committee; the Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy for Women Committee; the Guardian Ad Litem Work Group, etc.
- **Training and Networking Opportunities:** attending MCBW trainings or trainings co-sponsored by MCBW; participating in the Monthly Audio Conference Discussion for Members; attending the MCBW Statewide Conference, held every two years; volunteering time by facilitating an MCBW training, audio conference, or a workshop at the Statewide Conference; hosting an MCBW-sponsored regional training; actively contributing to MCBW's e-mail discussion lists.
- **Public Awareness Efforts:** participating in MCBW-sponsored public awareness efforts such as the Choose Respect teen dating violence campaign; working with local media to cover MCBW-sponsored events such as Violence Against Women Action Day; notifying MCBW when there is a femicide in your community; displaying the Clothesline Project in your community.

**ATTACHMENT E:
MEMBER PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FORM**

As a statewide coalition of battered women's programs, the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women can only succeed in ending domestic violence with the contribution of the time and skills of our member programs. Our member programs are expected to support and promote the mission of MCBW by actively participating in MCBW activities and initiatives. Member program staff, board members, volunteers and/or survivors are eligible and encouraged to take part in all MCBW activities.

Organization Name _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Please indicate which MCBW activities and initiatives in which your program plans to participate in the next year.

MCBW Governance:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applying to serve on the MCBW Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Assisting MCBW with fundraising efforts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending the MCBW Annual Meeting | |

Legislative Education Efforts:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending the Violence Against Women Action Day Legislative Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Participating in the annual MCBW Legislative Survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending the Violence Against Women Action Day Rally at the Capitol | <input type="checkbox"/> Inviting your local legislators to visit your program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting with your local legislators for Action Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Responding to MCBW Action Alerts. |

Committee and Network Opportunities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Women of Color and Native Women's Network | <input type="checkbox"/> The Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy for Women Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Legislative Advisory Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Director/Team Managers Meetings |

Training and Networking Opportunities:

- Participating in monthly audio conference discussions
- Attending MCBW-sponsored trainings
- Attending the MCBW Statewide Conference (held every 2 years)
- Serve as a trainer at the MCBW Statewide Conference or an MCBW-sponsored training or audio conference
- Hosting an MCBW-sponsored regional training
- Contributing to MCBW's e-mail discussion lists

Public Awareness Efforts:

- Participating in an MCBW-sponsored public awareness effort
- Working with local media to cover MCBW-sponsored events such as Violence Against Women Action Day
- Contacting MCBW if there is a femicide in your community and working with local media
- Displaying the Clothesline Project

Please return this form with your program's membership application/renewal materials.

If you have questions, please call MCBW at (651) 646-6177.