

# Civic Caucus Annual Report for 2012

**Mission:** The mission of the Civic Caucus remains the same as always: to provide a new model for reaching informed, non-partisan solutions to a broad scope of civic issues. To that end we strive to engage a wide spectrum of citizens to join in an efficient and constructive exchange of ideas.

**Scope:** While we welcome participation by interested citizens in all areas of the country, the geographic area primarily served by the Civic Caucus continues to be the state of Minnesota. Our topics of discussion are focused on Minnesota public policy issues, but we frequently find that many of these have national implications. We recognize that citizens from other states have much to contribute as they experience similar public policy challenges.

**Program Activities:** We continue striving to educate the public, our member-participants and ourselves about new ways of thinking about solutions to many of our state's most pressing problems. During 2012 policy issues addressed included growing Minnesota's economy, election reform, unemployment among veterans, meeting job skills requirements, health care reform, developing a health insurance exchange, juvenile justice reform, the role of online postsecondary education, postsecondary assessment reform, financing public postsecondary education, financing K-12 public education, K-12 education redesign, investing in pre-K education, redesigning public services, balancing the state budget, human capital performance bonds, performance measurement of government services, tax reform, tax-base sharing, roads and transit funding, transportation planning, and the role of vision and leadership in government.

The Caucus works to find experts in many different fields who are in unique positions to shed light on the issues we try to address. In 2012, a total of 57 different speakers participated in 46 presentations to the Caucus. Each of these presentations was summarized and emailed to approximately 3,100 individual participants. Readers were invited to respond to questions with every email. Their responses were then summarized and shared with participants through regular email correspondence and also are permanently posted on the Civic Caucus website. See <http://bit.ly/AplqiA> for a complete list of 2012 speakers, their interview summaries and reader responses.

**Annual Financial Report:** Civic Caucus continues to do its work with a view toward maximizing its outreach while minimizing administrative expenses. Civic Caucus began 2012 with a cash balance of \$29,392. During the year the Caucus had income from donations of \$56,415, program expenses of \$74,200, management expenses of \$6,636, and zero fundraising expenses, producing a cash balance at December 31, 2012 of \$4,972. Civic Caucus neither owns property nor pays rent for space. Unpaid board members accomplish all fundraising. All operating expenses consequently are incurred solely to fulfill Civic Caucus's educational mission.

The cash balance at December 31, 2012 of \$4,972 represents Civic Caucus's total assets and, since Civic Caucus has no outstanding liabilities, its total net worth.

**Board of Directors:** During 2012 members of the Board of Directors were Verne C. Johnson, chair; Dan Loritz, vice chair; Janis Clay, secretary-treasurer; James L. Hetland, Jr., John Mooty, Dwight Johnson, Bruce Mooty, and Audrey Clay. To our great sadness, Jim Hetland passed away May 23, 2012 and our founder and chair Verne Johnson passed away November 2, 2012. At the meeting of the Board of Directors, December 7, 2012, Dan Loritz was unanimously elected Chair.

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<b>Cash balance, December 31, 2011</b>	\$29,392
<b>Revenue</b>	
Donations from individuals	56,415
<b>Total revenue</b>	\$56,415
<b>Expenses</b>	
Payments to independent contractors	74,200
Other administrative expense	6,636
Fundraising expenses	0
<b>Total program expenses</b>	80,836
<b>Cash balance, December 31, 2012</b>	\$4,971

**Balance Sheet**

**12/31/12**

**Assets**

Cash balance	\$4,972
Fixed assets: Telephone equipment	400
Less depreciation	(400)
Net fixed assets	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$4,972

**Liabilities** 0

**Net Worth** \$4,972