

The Color of Power: Voices for Change

SisterSong 5th Annual National Membership Meeting & Advocacy Day

Agenda

November 6-9, 2009
Washington, DC

Friday, November 6, 2009 – Pre-Meeting Institutes

- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Diversifying Funding: Accessing Government Resources **Montpelier Room**
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM LUNCH (for workshop participants) – **Capitol Room**
- 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM VISTA/Public Allies Communications Workshop: *Building the Next Generation of RJ Leaders* – **Montpelier Room**
- 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Registration and *Positive Women HIV and Reproductive Justice Reception* - **Lobby Bar**

Saturday, November 7, 2009 – Membership Meeting Day One

- 8:00 AM **Breakfast/Registration – Grand Ballroom**
- 8:30 AM - 9:15 AM **Opening – Grand Ballroom**
- **Call to Order - Drumming by ABAFASI**
 - **Welcome and Agenda Overview** – Toni Bond Leonard, *Black Women for Reproductive Justice* and President, *SisterSong Management Circle*
 - **Spoken Word** - Alexis Caputo
 - **SisterSong 2009 Year in Review**– Loretta Ross, *SisterSong National Coordinator*
 - **Self Help** – Aya De Chellis *New Voices Pittsburgh: Women of Color for Reproductive Justice* and Laura Jiménez, *SisterSong Deputy Coordinator*
 - **Update on Obama Administration's First Year** – Miriam Yeung, *National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum*

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Opening Plenary: The Color of Power: The Power of Reproductive Justice – Grand Ballroom**

Presenters from organizations nationwide will demonstrate the ways that we are exercising our voice and our power in the RJ movement – from intersectional policy and program work to communications and evaluation strategies.

Moderator: Gabby Valle, California Latinas for Reproductive Justice

- Amber Hartgens, *National Health Law Program*
- Dázon Dixon Diallo, *SisterLove, Inc.*
- Juhu Thukral, *The Opportunity Agenda*
- Jessica Yee, *Native Youth Sexual Health Network*
- Thao Nguyen, *National Women's Law Center*
- Maria Nakae, *Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice*

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM **BREAK**

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **Workshops – [Issues Track]**

- **Access to Reproductive Health Services - Atrium Ballroom**
As health care reform move closer to being a reality, this workshop looks at the importance of recognizing reproductive health care services as a right.

- *Moderator: Toni Bond Leonard, Black Women for Reproductive Justice; Susan Fogel, National Health Law Program; Stephanie Poggi, National Network of Abortion Funds; Katrina Cantrell, Women's Health Specialist of California*

- **Birth Justice – Executive Room**

Birth activists share their work on the frontlines advocating for pregnant women's rights, as well as for the legal status and protection of midwives.

- *Moderator: M. Angela Moreno, National Advocates for Pregnant Women; Nerissa Kunakemakorn, Justice Now; Michelle Peixinho, Tewa Women United*

- **Immigrant Rights and Reproductive Justice - Hermitage Room**

Representatives of state and national level organizations working on the intersection of Reproductive Justice and immigrant women's rights will discuss the current landscape for immigrant women and their advocacy and policy efforts.

- *Moderator: Laura Jiménez, SisterSong; Priscilla Huang, National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum; Rocío Córdoba, California Latinas for Reproductive Justice*

- **Incarcerated Women – Sagamore Hill Room**

This session will outline current legal protections for pregnant women who are incarcerated, including their right to receive counseling on their pregnancy options.

Jill Morrison, National Women's Law Center

- **Reproductive Justice 101 & Human Rights – Springwood Room**

A review of the core Reproductive Justice Principles including an emphasis on the centrality of the Human Rights framework.

- *Dázon Dixon Diallo, SisterLove, Inc.*

- 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM **LUNCH – Grand Ballroom**
Lunch Plenary: Growing Stronger Together
- **Sisters of the DC Labor Chorus**
 - **Reproductive Justice 102 Overview –**
Loretta Ross, *SisterSong*
 - **Mapping Our Rights** - Serena García and Betsy Dobson,
SisterSong Communications Team
 - **SisterSong’s New Membership Program** - Heidi Williamson,
SisterSong Membership and Advocacy Coordinator and La’Tasha Mayes,
New Voices Pittsburgh: Women of Color for Reproductive Justice
- 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM **Workshops – [Capacity Building Track]**
- **Building a Reproductive Justice Coalition – Sagamore Hill Room**
Join our panelists to hear about their experiences, successes and challenges in forming regional Reproductive Justice coalitions
 - Moderator: La’Tasha Mayes, *New Voices Pittsburgh: Women of Color for Reproductive Justice*; Sarah Noble, *Milwaukee Reproductive Justice Coalition*; Yuritzi Acosta, *MI LOLA*; Florence Simán (*El Pueblo, Inc.*) and Laura Villa (*Ipas*), *North Carolina Reproductive Justice Coalition*
 - **Doing Reproductive Justice Work with Youth – Atrium Ballroom**
Learn about specific ways that youth are organizing and bringing awareness to their reproductive justice issues.
 - Moderator: Bianca Vélez, *Pro-Choice Education Project*; Aimee Thorne-Thomsen, *Pro-Choice Education Project*; Benita Miller, *Brooklyn Young Mothers’ Collective*
 - **Organizing through Technology - Springwood Room**
SisterSong staff members will introduce innovative ways to use Web 2.0 and other technology for organizing.
 - Serena García and Betsy Dobson, *SisterSong*
 - **Promoting Science Based Approaches to Preventing Teen Pregnancy – Hermitage Room**
Representatives of the CDC will share the Promoting Science-Based Approaches to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (PSBA) program as a way to increase the capacity of state and local organizations such as schools, health clinics, community-based organizations, and other youth-serving organizations to use a science-based approach to prevent teen pregnancy
 - Dr. Taleria Fuller, *Centers for Disease Control*
 - **Self Cervical Exams – Hotel suite (TBA)**
Women’s Health Specialists of California joins SisterSong again to provide a “hands-on” training on conducting self-cervical exams
 - Katrina Cantrell, *Women’s Health Specialists of California*
 - **Understanding the Opposition to Sexual Rights – Executive Room**
Panelists will cover why creating an organized effort to counter the opposition to reproductive and sexual rights is important in our efforts for Reproductive Justice movement building.
 - Moderator: Dr. Lynn Roberts, *SisterSong*, Heather Boonstra, *Guttmacher Institute*; Maame-Mensima Horne, *SisterSong*
- 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM **Advocacy Training for Health Care Reform Advocacy Day – Grand Ballroom**
Presented by Raising Women’s Voices: National Women’s Health

Network, MergerWatch, the Avery Institute, and NARAL Pro-Choice America

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM **DINNER (On your own)**

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Queer People of Color Caucus Reception – Montpelier Room

The Dream and the Drama: Ups and Downs of Alternative Organizational Structures – Springwood Room

Many movement-building groups are struggling not only to advance social justice values externally, but to live them internally. What happens when we experiment with collective organizations, flat structures and director's circles? What are the benefits we seek and the issues we get blindsided by? This discussion will flow from lessons learned, best practices and key questions of the participants. Facilitators will share their own experiences and a new tool for balancing issues of structure and power.

➤ *Facilitated by Ann Caton of the Potomac Group and Adriann Barboa of Young Women United*

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **An Evening of Film by, for, or about Indigenous Women and Women of Color- Springwood Room**

Women of Color Resource Center's Do Tell Project

La Americana

Hampshire College Population & Development Program's Stop the Blame: Population Control Imagery

Sunday, November 8, 2009 – Membership Meeting – Day Two

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Breakfast – Grand Ballroom**

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Multi-Faith & Spiritual Upliftment**

- Breath & Sounds Circle – **Hermitage Room**
 - Ayo Handy-Kendi, *PositivEnergy Works*
- Spiritual Service - **Ashlawn Room**
 - Reverend Claudia de la Cruz, *Dominican Women's Development Center and Iglesia San Romero de las Americas*, New York
- Yoga – **Sagamore Hill Room**
 - Gabby Valle, *California Latinas for Reproductive Justice*

9:00 AM

- 11:00 AM **Closing Plenary – Our Bodies, Our Environments: Stories and Strategies for Environmental and Reproductive Justice – Grand Ballroom**

Our closing plenary will feature Environmental Justice and Reproductive Justice activists who will highlight the intersections of these two movements as a strategy for growing both and making them stronger.

Moderator – Luz Guerra, SisterSong Environmental Justice/Reproductive Justice Project

- Elizabeth Barajas Roman, *Population and Development Program at Hampshire College*
- Sofía Martínez, *Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice*
- Nia Robinson, *Environmental Justice Climate Change Initiative*
- Katsi Cook, *First Environment Project*
- Amanda Wake, *Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice*

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM **How to Grow SisterSong – Grand Ballroom –**
Loretta Ross, *SisterSong*

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM **Open Mic & Closing**

Monday, November 9, 2009 – Advocacy Day

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Breakfast – Atrium Ballroom**

9:00 AM **Depart for Capitol Hill**