



What Our Participants Are Saying:

My group has an annual father's day in Annapolis. I got the idea [for the program] from the Advocacy Leaders Program during a strategy session. So far we have had the Lt. Governor, the Secretary of the Department of Human Relations, several delegates and senators come to speak. We usually bring about 100 low-income fathers down for the day and we have a reception in the city delegation room....

In addition, I learned how to read and analyze bills and now have the confidence to talk to representatives without fearing that I will sound ignorant. Finally, I have been privileged to be part of an ever-growing network of Advocacy Leaders Program graduates who work together on issues of poverty and fairness. It helps when you are not alone and can share the burden of fighting the good fight.

Leon J. Henry, Executive Director
Maryland Regional Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families

Alternative Directions, Inc. has benefited by my being in the Advocacy Leaders Program. Because of my contacts with other advocates, I have [learned about other organizations] willing to come to the prisons to help women... The Advocacy Leaders Program has been a wonderful experience and our first graduates are still in contact with each other.

Mary Joel Davis, Executive Director
Alternative Directions, Inc.

Maryland Nonprofits' Advocacy Leaders Program was a great experience that I would recommend to any advocate to sharpen their professional skills. The variety and quality of trainings, as well as the opportunity to make new relationships, were very valuable experiences. I actually just recommended the program to a co-worker just last week.

David McNear, Sustainable Funding Director
Advocates for Children and Youth

Truly a valuable learning experience... From the legislative, communications, and cultural points of view. One of the best educational experiences I've ever had.

Joe O'Donnell, Former Director
Public Relations, Planning, and Development
Transplant Resource Center of Maryland Nonprofits

I have been a grassroots advocate for more than 35 years. Participation in Maryland Nonprofits' Advocacy Leaders Program authenticated work that I have been doing instinctively. The completion and certification received from this important program adds authoritative credibility to my work within certain circles in the advocacy community. My tenure with the 2003 ALP Class contributed valuable and useful insights, perspectives and relationships to the continuance of my advocacy work.

Danise Jones-Dorsey, Director of Public Policy
Center for Poverty Solutions