

Peace and Service Committee/CASP
2013 Report

As usual, we report no change in the US government position on the possibility of a military draft. There is little likelihood of a draft taking place unless there is a widespread conflict that would deplete the pool of available volunteers. The situation developing with Iran and North Korea does raise some potential for such a conflict to develop.

Still, we want to conduct our affairs in a way that continues to establish our position as actively nonresistance and willing to complete alternative service as a substitute for military service. One of the ways we do that is to be sure that all our young men register with the Selective Service at age 18. While they cannot register as Conscientious Objectors at that time, they would be ineligible to do so during a draft if they are unregistered.

We had two successful terms of CASP service in Hutchinson, KS again this year. There were a total of 17 Alternative Service Workers (ASW) and 10 staff participating from January 7 to March 1. Interfaith Housing, the agency we work with, continues to have much appreciation for the work that is being done and the character, skill, and energy of the boys involved.

The Board met in Kansas during the first term to clarify and establish the structure and policies of our work out there. We had a profitable meeting with IFH and they would welcome an increase in our involvement. We are open to that, but would especially welcome the opportunity to explore expanding our work into other areas of the country as well. If you think your community would have such opportunities, please contact us. There are a lot more of our young men who could be put to work if we had the space, projects, and funds available.

Our current structure in Kansas is designed to provide opportunity for expansion without overloading this committee. We are currently taking responsibility for recruiting staff and ASWs, policies, and finances. A local three-man committee is then responsible for overseeing preparations for the service terms, day to day implementation of policies and projects, liaison with the local congregations, maintaining the relationship with IFH, and dealing with any questions or issues that may come up in the course of a term. A flow chart to illustrate this arrangement is attached to this report. We think this arrangement can be duplicated easily as the Lord and the constituency direct.

We are in need of an additional \$2000 to cover this year's expenses. We started last year with a positive balance and would appreciate if you could put us on your offering schedule soon so we can move into the black before too long. Our expenses this year were \$13783.39 against an income of \$10,194.00. We anticipate next year's expenses again being in the \$12,000 to \$15,000 range.

We are planning two terms in Kansas for 2014. The dates will be: Term 1, January 6 – 31. Term 2, February 3 – 28. We welcome your suggestions for staff (houseparents, project director) and ASWs.

We also recognize David L. Miller for his many years of service to this constituency on peace issues. He has served us for approximately 30 years and has earned his status as member emeritus on this committee. The work has evolved over those years from connection with MCC Peace Section to working with CAM's CASP program. We regret that he was not able to be with us because of health issues; but express our thanks to him for the years he invested in this committee's areas of responsibility.

Respectfully submitted by:

Peace and Service/CASP

Tim Miller, Chairman

Elmer Miller, Treasurer

Mervin Lapp, Secretary

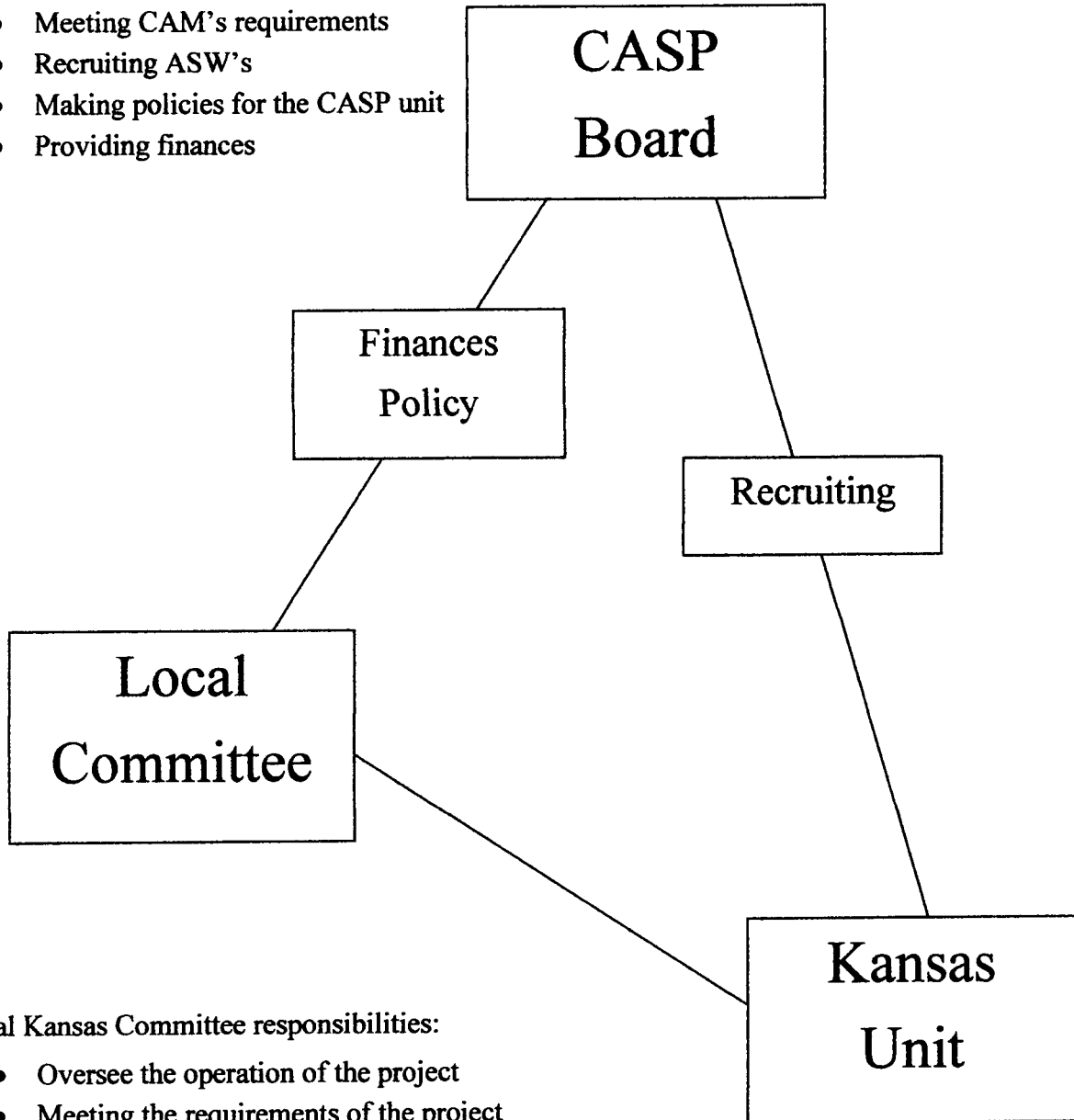
David S. King

David L. Miller

Flow Chart

CASP Board responsibilities:

- Meeting CAM's requirements
- Recruiting ASW's
- Making policies for the CASP unit
- Providing finances



Local Kansas Committee responsibilities:

- Oversee the operation of the project
- Meeting the requirements of the project
- Schedule for the ASW's
- Relationship with InnerFaith Housing
- Reporting of expenses to CASP Board
- Making sure that reports are completed
- Keep CASP Board informed of relations between houseparents and unit leaders