

# SYNERGY REPORT

*Doing together what can't be done as well alone*

*Contributing to  
making this world a  
better place*

## For Improving MAP in 2015

Your Leadership Team is always looking for ways to improve the structure and processes that facilitate member organizations' work and synergy.

The structure and processes currently in place are summarized in the document, "**HOW THE ALLIANCE WORKS**" (page 3).

### So, what improvements can you expect in 2015?

**First**, better communications with member organizations. New for 2015 is periodic "**Feedback Reports**" on council decisions—sent to delegates to put on their respective organization's agenda to discuss and respond. (page 2)

**Second**, we are recommending a new **FREE Conference Call** tool that any member organization or small group can use to cross-communicate. (limit of 25)

**Third**, we'll continue to facilitate small group cross-communications by emailing them participants' names and email addresses.

**Fourth**, for better worded proposals and meaningful conversations we're asking organizations to prep their delegates and other members in advance of council meetings.

**Fifth**, to satisfy members wanting presentations at council meetings, we are lining up some high quality, engaging short videos that anyone can choose to discuss during open space time. A five minute speaker pitch would work too.

**Sixth**, we're also trying out a new ongoing small group option called "**Open Talk**" for those who want to network, improve our process or structure, or just get to know one another better. (Giving a report is optional.)

**Seventh**, new is council **Follow-up Reports** (details at the right).

Most of all, we can **all** enhance a respectful, inclusive, mutually supportive, compassionate community—working on specific goals for the common good.

Sook Holdridge  
sook51@gmail.com

### Follow-Up Reports (New!)

The MAP Delegate Council has approved some pretty impressive resolutions and actions over the years. And, sometimes we just need a reminder to keep them alive.

So, starting February 10th, anyone with a "**Follow-up Report**" on actions previously adopted can give it right after the business meeting.

For example, in 2012 MAP had a very active "**Move to Amend**" campaign going. Is there someone out there who can re-connect us with that campaign?

In 2005 MAP endorsed the "**Apollo Alliance Project**" and sent strong letters to Gov. Pawlenty and President Bush asking them to support it. Is there any interest in following up on that project?

In 2014, MAP passed an **ASAP** resolution supporting **shifting spending priorities** from military to essential needs. How is that working out? And, what could the Alliance do to move it forward?

Those are just three of many possible "**Follow-up Reports**".

In giving a report, think about recommending some related action you believe the Alliance could pick up on. Or, call for a follow up conversation during open space time.

## MAKING YOUR COUNCIL MEETING TIME PRODUCTIVE

### Reasons to call for, or sign in to a conversation

Do it to get clarity on an issue, share ideas, propose or discuss an action, plan, strategize, or just listen in.

### Get the Council's approval if it's required.

Request a vote if your proposal is for the **full** MAP membership. You can also form and enlist others in a working group via this newsletter or a sign-up sheet.

### Making announcements

Place your flyers and sign-up sheets on the literature table. You can highlight them briefly during the announcement time. Plus, submit your upcoming events for MAPM to Madeline at info@mapm.org.

### Giving feedback

Use 3x5 cards to give feedback to the Leadership Team.

—OPEN SPACE—

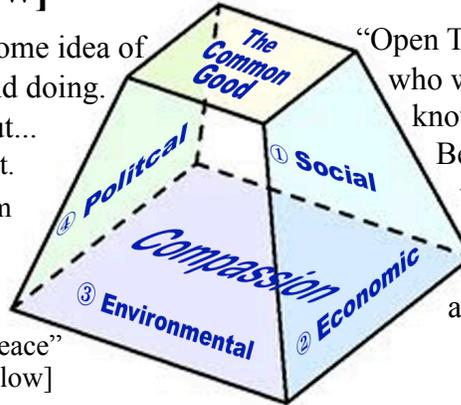
## “OPEN TALK” [new]

## The “Feedback Report” [new]

This report gives member organizations some idea of what the full Alliance is thinking about and doing.

The first report emailed 1-10-15 was about...

- getting more youth into the peace movement.
- signing on to the CharterforCompassion.com
  - no cost; only benefits for ind. and orgs.
  - check out the “*Compassionate Cities*” campaign—(none are in this area—yet).
- following up on Paul Chappell’s “Waging Peace” campaign in any way you choose. [see below]
- what days and times for council meetings are best from your organization’s standpoint?



“Open Talk” is the small group for those who want to network, or just get to know one another better.

Begin with each person saying why they joined this group, and go from there.

Note: This group need **not** give a report to the larger gathering.

## “MAP IN ACTION”

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Map In Action is no longer a small group.

Still, time is allotted for very short “MAP in Action” announcements.

It’s a good time to update the larger group on a project’s progress, or inform them of a volunteer opportunity (have a sign-up sheet ready).

## MAP and the “Waging Peace” Campaign

Captain Paul Chappell recommends signing this pledge, at [worldbeyondwar.org](http://worldbeyondwar.org)

### Declaration of Peace

*“I understand that wars and militarism make us less safe rather than protect us, that they kill, injure and traumatize adults, children and infants, severely damage the natural environment, erode civil liberties, and drain our economies, siphoning resources from life-affirming activities. I commit to engage in and support nonviolent efforts to end all war and preparations for war and to create a sustainable and just peace.”*

Among Captain Paul Chappell’s guiding principles are:

1. The beginning of waging peace [anywhere] is respect, and the base of respect is empathy, which engenders compassionate action.
2. Violence breeds violence. Someday wars will be as outmoded as slavery has become unacceptable today. We can help make that true.
3. Model defense work after police work (i.e. deal with terrorists as criminals—not as a faceless group to wipe off the map).
4. Waging peace is about national security which includes dealing with climate change and economic insecurity. They’re all connected.

### TIPS FOR SMALL GROUPS

- Be sure everyone present signs in; find a moderator, and someone to take notes (give to Sook Holdridge after reports).
- Show respect by listening and expressing the value of each person’s contribution. And, call out anyone monopolizing the conversation.
- Act as colleagues (equals) in a mutual quest for deeper meaning and clarity.
- If you are advocating, state the reasons for your position without defending it.
- At any time feel free to move on to another group.



Hearts sharing compassion

**Note...this newsletter is available to print out at [MAPM.org](http://MAPM.org)**

### THE LEADERSHIP TEAM—WHO TO CONTACT

Delegates have elected six of their own to serve in a leadership role to manage structure, process, and tasks necessary for MAP to function well. Currently, they are in the process of dividing up those tasks. Sorted alphabetically they are:

**Burt Berlowe:** [bberlowe@comcast.net](mailto:bberlowe@comcast.net) 612-722-1504

**Mary Faulkner:** [rfofmplsmn@aol.com](mailto:rfofmplsmn@aol.com) 612-823-5524

**Sook Holdridge** [sook51@gmail.com](mailto:sook51@gmail.com) 952-922-7311

**Larry Johnson:** [larryjvfp@gmail.com](mailto:larryjvfp@gmail.com) 612-747-3904

**April Knutson:** [knutso01@umn.edu](mailto:knutso01@umn.edu) 612-823-5989

**Martha Roberts:** [martrobe44@aol.com](mailto:martrobe44@aol.com) 612-554-7009

Other leadership volunteers include:

Membership application forms: **Wayne Wittman:** [waynecwittman@gmail.com](mailto:waynecwittman@gmail.com)

Website Postings: **Madeline Simon:** [madeline-mpls@msn.com](mailto:madeline-mpls@msn.com). 952-854-2976

# THE MINNESOTA ALLIANCE OF PEACEMAKERS

*“We come together as community—building solidarity, mutual trust, action and support”*

## HOW THE ALLIANCE WORKS

**First**, MAP is not an entity separate from its member organizations. MAP IS its member organizations, and they govern the Alliance thru their appointed delegates and their elected Leadership Team.

**Second**, At Council meetings, the agenda begins with a blank slate which is open for delegates and other members to create and implement.

**Third**, The Leadership Team’s primary responsibility is to provide a platform and smooth process at council meetings for member organizations to cross pollinate and work together on common goals.

**Fourth**, Group decisions can be made on just about anything. However, if a proposal applies to the full Alliance membership, the majority of delegates (or alternates) attending must approve it.

**Fifth**, The Leadership Team prepares periodic “Feedback Reports” for delegates to present to their organizations for discussion and response.

The time and space provided by the Leadership Team also gives members a chance to **a)** announce their upcoming events, **b)** distribute their flyers, **c)** hold conversations that matter, **d)** network with other members, and **e)** share resources.

