

Our History

The Direct Action Welfare Group (D.A.W.G.) grew out of a small group of friends who met in an apartment in a low-income housing project. As these women learned the rules and regulations of the many programs that affected their families, they began to share their knowledge with others in the community.

When these women began to move off public assistance and into the workforce they began to look at more issues that impacted their lives. At this point they began to encounter groups in other states who were working on these same issues. As a result of this, these women decided to become a formal organization that would provide a voice for the poor in West Virginia.

For nearly a year these women ran the organization on a strictly volunteer basis with no budget. With the help of many community organizations and grassroots groups in other states, D.A.W.G. was able to become incorporated in the state of West Virginia in 2002.

D.A.W.G. is a member of the National Welfare Engine and the Southern Welfare Activist Connection.



**For more information contact:
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Charleston, WV 25362
E-mail: itsdadawg@hotmail.com**

**On the web at
www.geocities.com/itsdadawg**

D.A.W.G. is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

D.A.W.G.

Direct Action Welfare Group Inc.



Know Your Rights!

**PO Box 20079
Charleston, WV 25362**

(304) 347-9222



The Direct Action Welfare Group organizes people in poverty to become leaders in their community and to build a statewide organization of low-income people to provide a unified voice to create change in West Virginia. The D.A.W.G. holds trainings and information sessions, monitors state and national legislation, and meets with community groups and policymakers. We operate an e-mail group and distribute a newsletter to individuals living in poverty and to the general public that contains information on pertinent poverty issues.



Goals

- To empower current and former welfare recipients and persons living in poverty by providing them with the knowledge and the tools to change their life.
- To educate current and former welfare recipients and persons living in poverty on their rights and how to advocate on behalf of themselves and others concerning their rights.
- To advocate for individuals who are living in poverty and dealing with poverty issues
- To educate the public and lawmakers on poverty and welfare issues from the perspective of people who are living with these issues.
- To provide a voice for people living in poverty to be heard on the local, state, and national level.



How You Can Get Involved

- ✓ Become a D.A.W.G. member
- ✓ Join the e-mail list serve or sign up to receive the newsletter
- ✓ Host a guest speaker from the D.A.W.G.
- ✓ Invite D.A.W.G. to your community meeting or attend one of ours.
- ✓ Attend a training or host one
- ✓ Donate time or money to the D.A.W.G. to ensure that our work continues.

Tell Me More

Clip and send to the D.A.W.G. at the address on the front.

- I want to become a member
- I want to join the e-mail list serve
- I want to join the newsletter mailing list
- I want to find out more about trainings
- I want to donate \$_____
- I want to volunteer
- I want more information on _____
- I want to invite D.A.W.G. to _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____