



AMICUS, INC. 2003 Annual Report

July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003



MEN OF RAFIKI GRADUATION

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AGENCY PROFILE

AMICUS is a Minnesota not-for-profit organization with 37 years of experience in building positive and constructive relationships between inmates, ex-offenders and the community. Working with more than 140 referring and collaborative organizations, AMICUS annually serves over 3,000 inmates and ex-offenders. Approximately 230 volunteers are involved in AMICUS programs and 268 institutional and individual donors provided financial support of AMICUS programs during the last fiscal year.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

September 26, 2003

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support during the last year! As you look through this report you will probably find your name or agency listed. You have played a big part in the success AMICUS has experienced this past year and I gratefully acknowledge all who have contributed in so many ways to the health and well-being of this little agency with a big mission!

All of our programs are based on the theory that everyone needs to be in community with others who are caring and respectful and that through nurturing relationships, lives are transformed. AMICUS is a laboratory for this theory of creating peace in individuals, families, neighborhoods and communities.

We are proud that year after year our programs help people grow and make changes in their own lives. With your help as volunteers, donors, staff, partners, and friends AMICUS reaches back to people who need a listening ear, help with planning a transition from prison to community, referrals to community resources, knowledge about their community, and a 'safe space' to make things right with family, friends and even people they have harmed.

Magic happens in our laboratory. Hope is inspired. If our theory helps bring peace to the lives of the people we serve, it surely will spread to their families, neighbors and larger communities.

Thank you for your part in making the peace.

Sincerely,

Louise Wolfgramm
President

MISSION

AMICUS' mission is to partner with offenders and communities to build successful lives and create safer neighborhoods.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS and UPDATES

ONE-TO-ONE



Our longest running program at over 36 years, ONE-TO-ONE provides motivated inmates with a positive and affirming relationship with a trained volunteer. Volunteers of the same sex are matched with inmates at the state correctional facilities at Stillwater, Oak Park Heights, Lino Lakes and Shakopee. Specially trained AMICUS volunteers also visit inmates in segregation and in the infirmary at the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF) -Oak Park Heights.

In April 2003, we received funding for a social justice training project that specifically targets faith-based and local neighborhood organizations. The training consists of three phases or parts: (1) Education/Awareness Overview (to improve perceptions and spur involvement); (2) Strategic Planning for committed organizational involvement (to identify options and discuss how to develop a plan); (3) Intensive/in-depth training for active participants (primarily volunteers, mentors, resource staff).

In the last three months of fiscal 2003, two Overview presentations and two Strategic Planning sessions were held. AMICUS was also fortunate to be able to partner with the Redeemer Lutheran Initiative (a multi-faith group of over 20 faith-based organizations), Federal Forum/Faith-based C.A.L.L., and the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches to present two 3-day In-Depth trainings for people wanting to mentor an offender before and after release. A total of 48 people attended with 27 completing all 3 days and "graduating".

Currently, 126 volunteers are active one-on-one volunteers / mentors. Since July 1, 2002, 36 new volunteers have been matched with inmates; however, there are still 77 inmates waiting for a volunteer. There are another 100+ volunteers who assist AMICUS in other programs or in other ways, including: our Board of Directors, RECONNECT office assistants, MEN OF RAFIKI guest speakers, golf event committee members, and justice training presenters.

Please see pages 5 and 6 for an Honor Roll of these generous and caring volunteers.

RECONNECT



The RECONNECT program provides re-entry services that help inmates prepare for release and gives ex-offenders much-needed resources in their search for jobs, housing, clothing, family services and more. This program also provides transition classes at MCF-Lino Lakes as part of TRAC, SRD, MEN OF RAFIKI and the Sex Offender Unit. In addition, RECONNECT is involved in Transition Fairs and Mock Job Fairs at the Shakopee, Faribault, Stillwater, Moose Lake, and Lino Lakes correctional facilities as well as the Ramsey County work house.

Last year the highest number of inmates in U.S. history – over 600,000 – were released from our nation’s prisons. In Minnesota, the number of inmates being released from prison has increased to over 4,000 per year. That’s more than 10 ex-offenders a day trying to make their way back into Minnesota communities. The RECONNECT program continues to be the AMICUS program with the highest number of inmates and ex-offenders served. In the 2002-2003 operating year, a total of 3,685 contacts were made, including 780 meetings with inmates prior to release, a total of 1,686 face-to-face meetings in the AMICUS offices and over 1,200 phone calls and letters.

MEN and YOUTH OF RAFIKI



The RAFIKI programs provide pre-release classes and support to African-American males. RAFIKI helps them explore the spirit of African-American manhood, learn what it means to be a healthy, productive member of a community, and develop the attitudes and skills needed to live an independent and honorable life. The MEN OF RAFIKI classes have been offered to offenders at MCF-Lino Lakes for over 6 years and during the past year was expanded to the Rush City correctional facility. The men’s RAFIKI program was also adapted for juveniles and offered to the African-American youth at MCF-Red Wing along with one-on-one case management and mentoring during fiscal 2003.

During the past year, three of the 13-week adult class sessions were held at MCF-Lino Lakes and another three sessions were held at MCF-Rush City. There were also three 12-week sessions for youth held at MCF-Red Wing. A total of 150 men attended at least one class and 58 men graduated from the Lino Lakes and Rush City 13-week sessions. Thirty-seven youth attended at least one class at Red Wing and a total of 19 graduated.

Also in 2003, AMICUS began the Men’s Northside Transition Support Group which is held weekly at the New Salem Church in North Minneapolis and is co-sponsored by the Northside Weed & Seed Initiative. The purpose of the meetings is to assist recently released ex-offenders to transition successfully back into the community by addressing common transition issues and by providing direct resources in the areas of employment, housing, chemical dependency, maintaining positive and hopeful attitudes, etc. Since the inception of the weekly Transition Group, a total of 89 men have attended at least one of the meetings.



SISTERS HELPING SISTERS

The SISTERS HELPING SISTERS program provides transition planning and follow-through assistance to African-American women offenders at the Shakopee facility, supporting them both before and after release as they develop a new outlook, new confidence, and a positive and healthy lifestyle. Since 1997, when the program was introduced, the SISTERS program staff have assisted 279 women to transition back into the community.

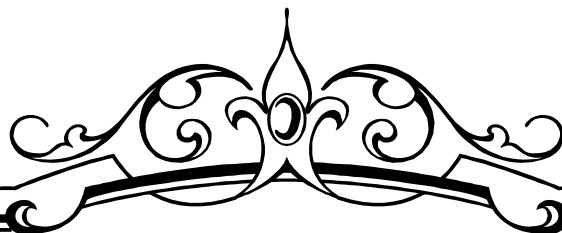
As the population at MCF-Shakopee continues to rise from a monthly average of 375 in 2001 to a new monthly average of 425 in 2003, we have found that more and more women have both mental health and chemical dependency issues with few supportive relationships to return to upon their release. Many of these women have been homeless and have no coping skills to deal with the multitude of issues encountered in daily living on the “outside”. So we are pleased to find that in a recent recidivism study of these more difficult cases, the SISTERS participants 3-year post release re-incarceration rate (with a new court commit or sentence) was only 10% compared to the state average of 21%. However, there are still 23% of SISTERS participants who are convicted of a felony within 3 years of release (compared to 34% of all African-Americans statewide), so there is still a lot of work to be done.

In December 2002, AMICUS formalized a 2-year partnership with the League of Catholic Women to expand and improve services provided through the SISTERS program. Female volunteers from the League of Catholic Women provide friendship during incarceration and after release as well as provide expertise / resources in such areas as education, employment, parenting, budgeting, nutrition, housekeeping, and good consumer skills. In addition, the League of Catholic Women have provided “Coming Home” tote bags for women returning to the community and assistance with bus passes, IDS, clothing, etc.

Girls' Restorative Justice

We are excited to announce that we now have two distinct GIRLS' RESTORATIVE JUSTICE programs in place. The original program, in operation since 2000, works with serious and chronic female juvenile offenders committed to the Commissioner of Corrections to help them heal relationships with family and victims, plan for successful transition back into the community, and build strong circles of support. In partnership with the Woodland Hills residential facility in Duluth, this program uses a circle-driven approach combined with one-on-one and weekly group meetings with the AMICUS Trauma Counselor. This model has proved to be very successful with this population.

The model for state-commit juvenile females was adapted for a new program in Ramsey County working with girls on probation to prevent them from being sent to out-of-home placements. Since the inception of the program in January 2003, there have been a total of 31 participants in the Ramsey County program with 9 girls receiving full program services (group, one-on-ones and circles of support). Two 12-week groups completed in May 2003 (separate groups for girls 12 – 15 years old and for those 16 – 18 years old.) A total of 18 girls attended these groups with 9 completing enough sessions to “graduate”. A new group began in June with a total of 13 participants.



SUPPORT

*Definition: To bear or hold the weight of;
to tolerate; to give assistance or approval*

The AMICUS mission is difficult and successes are often hard to measure, but after 36 years of operation, it is clear that success invariably comes down to support and the relationships that flow from that support. AMICUS is truly grateful for the unwavering vision, passion and generosity of all of our supporters. These exceptional people include volunteers, donors, partners and collaborators - with a number of selfless souls providing support in all of these areas. Because of this support, we are building new lives and safer neighborhoods.

Thank you all for your support!

VOLUNTEERS

“We believe that we cannot exist each unto ourselves, that commitment and a sense of obligation to the welfare of others, to the community, and to the nation are ingredients of being human.” — *Bernice Weissbourd*

It has been a tough year in many ways for the people we serve. Record numbers of offenders are being released from prison as large cutbacks in programming and funding are occurring due to the poor economy and the state budget woes. Now more than ever, AMICUS is deeply indebted to our unsung heroes: the people who volunteer their time and expertise to support those in need and their community:

AMICUS VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

David Abrams
Judith Adams
Michael Agnew
Eugene Allred
Nancy Anderson
The Hon. Paul Anderson
Steve Anderson, Sr.
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Roger Arnold
Shari Bauer
Lois Belrose
Frank Belrose
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Lisa Dumke
Paul D. Eberhart

Volunteers Honor Roll cont.

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Maureen Fischer
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Kristin Fleagle
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Jim Guswiler
Tim Hansen
Amanda Hardeman
Keith Harrington
Kevin Harris
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Kirstin Halen
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Lyle Heggemeier
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Tom McLaughlin
Gregory McMoore
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Mark Metzger
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Marvin Murphy
Shannon Nelson
Susan Nelson
William Newman
Ed O'Conner
Mavis Odonkor
Doris Olson
Glenn W. Olson
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Virginia Orth
Don Pagelkopf
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 Woman's Covenant Group
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Stan (Corky) Veker
Angie Von Ruden-Doll
Fred Wagner
Leon Wallace
Vant Washington
Robert Werner
Terri Westphal
Jacqueline Wilkins
Jim White
Mary Whitaker
David Whiteford
Mary Whitney
Jamie Wilcox
Jacqueline Wilkins
Eric Williams
Ronn Williamson
Kim Wills
Sam Wilson
Roy R. Wolff
Madeleine Wolfgramm
Doug Young
Sue Ystenes
Gregory Zabinski

PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

“All who think cannot but see there is a sanction like that of religion which binds us in partnership in the serious work of the world.” — *John Milton Hay*

As a community agency, we know we can't provide all services for all circumstances. Accomplishing our mission would be next to impossible without on-going partnerships and collaborations with state and county corrections departments, resource agencies, faith-based organizations and neighborhood businesses. AMICUS is extremely grateful to ALL resource and government agencies who assist those less fortunate and in need of our support, including – but certainly not limited to – the following:

PARTNERSHIPS:

Minnesota Department of Corrections
Hennepin County Community Corrections
Ramsey County Community Corrections
Minnesota Corrections Facilities:
* Lino Lakes
* Oak Park Heights
* Red Wing
* Rush City
* Shakopee
* Stillwater

Federal Forum/Faith-Based C.A.L.L.
Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches
League of Catholic Women
Northside Weed & Seed Initiative
Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative
Ramsey County Juvenile Services
Redeemer Lutheran Initiative
Uniting Network for Youth
Woodland Hills, Duluth, MN

COLLABORATORS / REFERRING AGENCIES:

180 Degrees
Adult Learning Programs - GED
The Affinity House
African-American Family Services
Alliance Apartments
American Indian OIC
BeFriender Ministry
BEVANS Associates
Breaking Free
Bridging, Inc.
BVM Ministries
Caroline Family Services
Center for Fathering
Central Avenue Apartments
Central Lutheran Church
Christian Restoration Services
Community Action of Minneapolis
Council on Crime & Justice
Damascus Way Re-Entry Center
Dunwoody College
East Side Neighborhood Services

Educational Opportunity Center / Talent Search Project
Elim Transitional Housing
Emma Norton Residence
Employment Action Center
EXCEL (Wilder)
Family Means - Consumer Credit Counseling Services
Father's Resource Center
First Impression
Freeport West
First Call for Help
Goodwill/Easter Seals
Hennepin County Probation/Parole
Hennepin County Economic Assistance Department
Hennepin County Medical Center
Hennepin County United Methodist Church
House of Charity
House of Hope Presbyterian Church
HousingLink
Hmong American Partnership

Jordan New Life Community Church
La Familia Guidance Center
Legal Aid
Legal Rights Center
Liberty Diversified Industries
Loring Nicollet-Bethlehem Community Centers Inc.
Lutheran Social Services
Lyndale Neighborhood Association
Make Old Things New
Mentoring Partnership of MN
Mentoring Works
Metro Mentoring Network
Metropolitan Council
Metro Training Co-op
Minneapolis Urban League
Minnesota AIDS Project
MN Associations of Volunteer Administrators (MAVA)
MN Community Corrections Association (MCCA)
Minnesota Families Investment Program (MFIP)

Collaborators / Referring Agencies cont.

Minnesota Wire & Cable
 Minnesota Workforce Centers
 Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
 My Home, Inc.
 New Choices
 New Foundations
 New Hope Center
 New Salem Baptist Church
 Nine to Five Beats 5 to 10
 North Hennepin Community College
 Paradigms of Success
 Parenting With Purpose
 Pax Christi Christian Community
 Perspectives, Inc.
 Phillips Job Bank
 Pi Enterprises Inc.
 Pillsbury Neighborhood Services
 Pilot City Neighborhood Services
 Portland House
 Portland Village

PPL Industries Inc./
 Project for Pride in Living
 Prevention Alliance
 R. S. Eden Reentry Services
 Rage to Roses
 Ramsey Action Programs
 Ready For Success
 Recovery Resource Center
 Recovering Women's Services
 Rehabilitation Services (MDES)
 Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Volunteers of America-MN
 The Salvation Army
 St. Paul Foundation
 St. Stephens Programs
 Save Our Sons
 Simpson Housing Services
 Suitably Yours
 Summit Academy OIC
 Tubman Family Alliance
 Turning Point

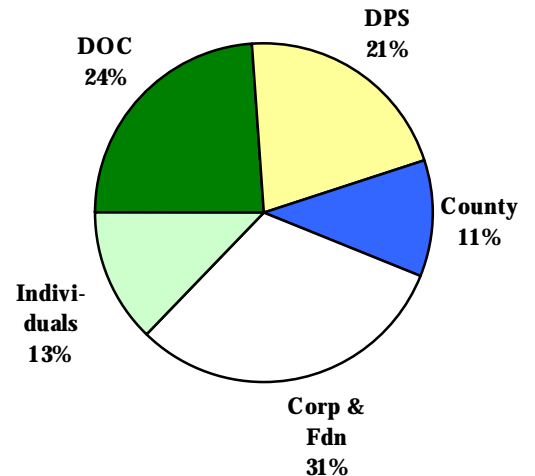
Twin Cities Community-Voice Messaging Services
 Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity
 Twin Cities RISE!
 Union Gospel Mission-Naomi Family Shelter
 University of Minnesota
 University of Minnesota Duluth
 United Rental/Warning Lites
 Unity Church Unitarian
 Urban Hope Ministries
 V.E. Thomas Real Estate
 Volunteer Resource Center
 Way to Grow
 Wayside House
 Wellsprings Living Center
 Phyllis Wheatley Community Center
 Women Of Color Health Alternatives Network
 Women's Recovery Center (VOA)
 Women Venture

DONORS

“Life is mostly froth and bubble, / Two things stand like stone —
 Kindness in another’s trouble, / Courage in our own.”
 — *Adam L.Gordon*

Like most organizations, AMICUS couldn’t stay faithful to our mission without consistent financial support. In these extremely difficult budget and economic times, we have the incredible good fortune to receive financial support from funders that include:

- Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC)
- Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Hennepin & Ramsey Counties
- Individual donations
- Foundation & Corporate grants/donations



Please see the next 2 pages for a detailed Honor Roll of our wonderful Donors

AMICUS DONOR HONOR ROLL

July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003

Donors who have made gifts after June 30, 2003 will be listed on next year's honor roll.

Thanks to all our donors for your vision and generosity to support offenders building new lives.

Individuals:

Anonymous Gifts	Robert B. Hart	Jerome A. & Ardell A.
David & Monica Abrams	Peter & Anne Heegaard	Plantenberg
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Thomas & Pamela Halpern		Rose Therese Weiner

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The Frederikson & Byron Foundation
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HDMG
Halleland Lewis Nilan Sipkins & Johnson
Harris-Homeyer Company
Hennepin County Community Corrections
House of Hope Presbyterian Church
James & Ann Howard Family Fund
Huss Foundation
C. A. Jackley Foundation
Kopp Family Foundation
League of Catholic Women
Le Jeune Investment, Inc.
Lyle Signs, Inc.
McVay Foundation
Minnesota Mini-Storage
The Minnesota Mutual Foundation
Minnesota Vikings Children's Fund
Minnesota Wire & Cable Company

Northside Weed & Seed Initiative
The Numero-Steinfeldt Foundation
Nystrom, Inc.
Otto Bremer Foundation
The Pacific Foundation
The Phileona Foundation
The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation
Premier Banks
Ramsey County Community Corrections
Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative
Ramsey County Juvenile Services
Ryan Companies US, Inc.
St. Croix Foundation
Saunders Family Foundation
The Sayer Charitable Foundation
Sentinel Management Company
Smikis Foundation
Henry N. Somsen Trust
Star Tribune Foundation
State of Minnesota
Department of Corrections
State of Minnesota
Department of Public Safety
Stern Consulting International
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Traffic Technologies
Transfiguration Church
Tyco Capital
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Williams Family Foundation
The Whitney Foundation

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* Deceased

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ADDCO, Inc. – Lisa Dumke
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Minnesota Vikings
North Oaks Golf Course
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M. Scott Sayer
T. L. C. Toys
Treasure Island Resort & Casino
Wells Fargo – Private Client Services
Stanley "Corky" Veker
Warren Zenk, D.D.S.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

AUDITED FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

	FY 2003	FY 2002	FY 2001
REVENUES	\$ 586,754	\$ 540,640	\$ 553,734
EXPENSES	584,841	539,781	651,881
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	1,913	859	(98,147)
NET ASSETS:			
Unrestricted	157,936	155,347	107,515
Temporarily/Permanently Restricted	38,662	39,338	86,311

FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES – FY 2003:

	One to One	Recon -nect	Men of Rafiki	Sisters Helping Sisters	Youth of Rafiki	State- Commit Girls RJ	Ramsey County Girls	Public Educ.	Admin	Fund Raisng	Total
Salaries, Taxes & Benefits	41,768	50,937	28,335	54,332	40,251	82,718	39,321	14,566	19,236	29,339	400,803
Office Expenses	11,067	14,443	5,267	12,631	11,509	8,537	5,472	7,321	9,893	9,176	95,316
Professional / Contract Fees	1,534	612	552	619	491	1,790	74	768	1,464	789	8,693
Meetings, Training & Travel	1,793	1,165	3,076	4,569	4,852	8,775	861	128	1,938	37	27,194
Other Expenses	4,168	13,976	2,738	4,719	3,070	5,169	1,743	2,626	3,092	11,533	52,835
TOTAL EXPENSES	60,330	81,133	39,968	76,870	60,173	106,989	47,471	25,410	35,623	50,874	584,841
% of Total	10.3%	13.9%	6.8%	13.2%	10.3%	18.3%	8.1%	4.3%	6.1%	8.7%	100%

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Attorney
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Kenneth F. Schoen
Former Commissioner of
Department of Corrections
State of Minnesota


Louise Wolfgramm, **Secretary**
President
AMICUS

And, of course, AMICUS would be totally lost without our dedicated and hard-working
Staff:

Russel Balenger, Volunteer Services Coordinator	russel@amicusUSA.org
Mercy Buchholz, RAMSEY COUNTY GIRLS Program	mercy@amicusUSA.org
Terry Casey, GIRLS' RESTORATIVE JUSTICE Program	terry@fnbnet.com
Eugene Faison, MEN OF RAFIKI Program	eugene@amicusUSA.org
Deb Feeny, Director of Finance & Planning	deb@amicusUSA.org
Ruth Johnson, RECONNECT Program	ruth@amicusUSA.org
Angela Mettin, GIRLS' RESTORATIVE JUSTICE Program	angela@amicusUSA.org
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Jeannine Moga, RAMSEY COUNTY GIRLS Program	jeannine@amicusUSA.org
Louise Wolfgramm, President	louise@amicusUSA.org
Adam Zielie, Administrative Assistant	adam@amicusUSA.org

Public education about how AMICUS makes a difference in the lives of offenders and the community continues to be an integral part of our work. If you are interested in having an experienced speaker present information about AMICUS at a meeting or conference, please call (612) 348-8570.

For more information about our programs or to talk with someone about **volunteer** or **donor** opportunities at AMICUS, please call or complete the form provided below.

 **YES, I would like to support AMICUS in its important mission!**

\$500 \$200 \$75 \$25 \$ _____

My employer will match this gift. (Company name: _____)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Email _____

I am interested in volunteer opportunities.

Please contact me about making a bequest or other planned gift.

Checks payable to: AMICUS
100 North Sixth Street, Suite 529B
Minneapolis, MN 55403-1503

Contributions are tax-deductible as specified by law.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact Louise Wolfgramm, AMICUS President at (612) 348-8570 ext.(11) or Deb Feeny, Director of Finance and Planning at (612) 348-8570 ext.(13). To request a copy of the Audited Financial Statements or the IRS 990 for fiscal 2002, call Adam at (612) 348-8570 ext.(10).