

# Alternatives to Marriage PROJECT

## LEADERSHIP

A webinar for people who are thinking about AtMP's Board of Directors.

Tip: press \*6 to mute your phone, press \*7 to un-mute & ask questions!

Please say your name before starting your question 😊

## Today's plan – in 1 hour!

First, introductions! *and, questions between sections*

### 1. About AtMP

Mission, constituency, operations

Programs, projects

### 2. Quick overview of nonprofit boards

### 3. About AtMP's board

### 4. Your next steps



# Quick Introductions 😊



< Kevin



Nicky >



< Meaghan

YOU!

## Section I

*Questions? On to..*

About the Alternatives to  
Marriage Project

## About AtMP: Mission Statement

The Alternatives to Marriage Project advocates equality and fairness for unmarried people, including people who are single, choose not to marry, cannot marry, or live together before marriage. We provide support and information for this fast-growing **constituency**, fight discrimination on the basis of marital status, and educate the public and policymakers about relevant social and economic issues. We believe that marriage is only one of many acceptable family forms, and that society should recognize and support healthy relationships in all their diversity.

## About AtMP: Constituency

- 104 M unmarried Americans
- 45% of all adults
- Children – remember 40%!

## About AtMP: Constituency

Concentrated in disadvantaged categories:

African American

Women

Young adults and very old

Less education

Unemployed

Uninsured

Low or poverty-level incomes

## About AtMP: Constituency

Health  
care!

Common  
law  
marriage?

*Stories!*

[www.unmarried.org/your-stories-about-marriage-and-health-care.html](http://www.unmarried.org/your-stories-about-marriage-and-health-care.html)

<http://www.unmarried.org/minds-of-unmarried-voters.html>

Black Jack,  
Missouri

## About AtMP: Operating Milestones

### Milestones of the First Decade ...

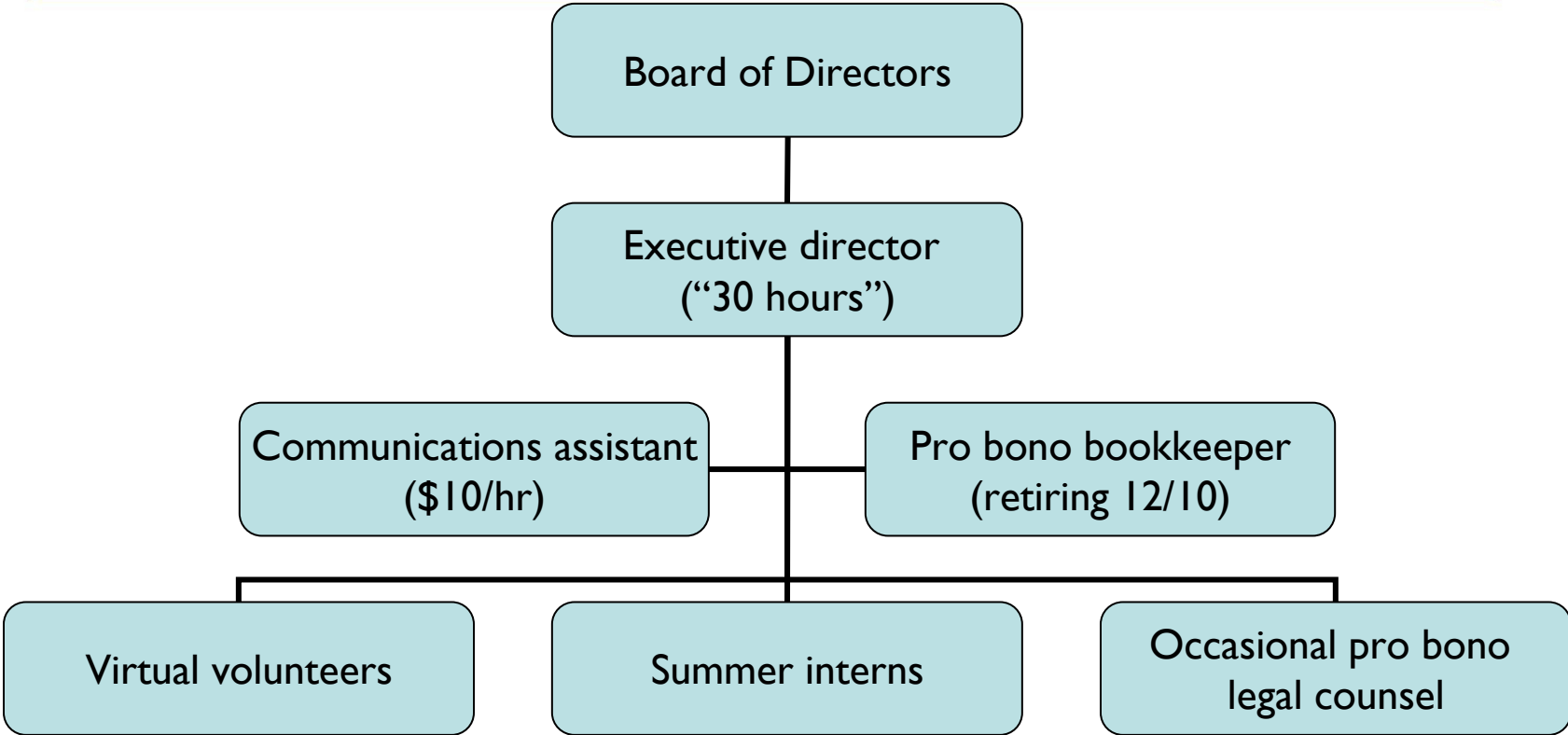
April 1998.....August 1998.....2003

Mid 2005.....Late 2005

November 2009.....you!

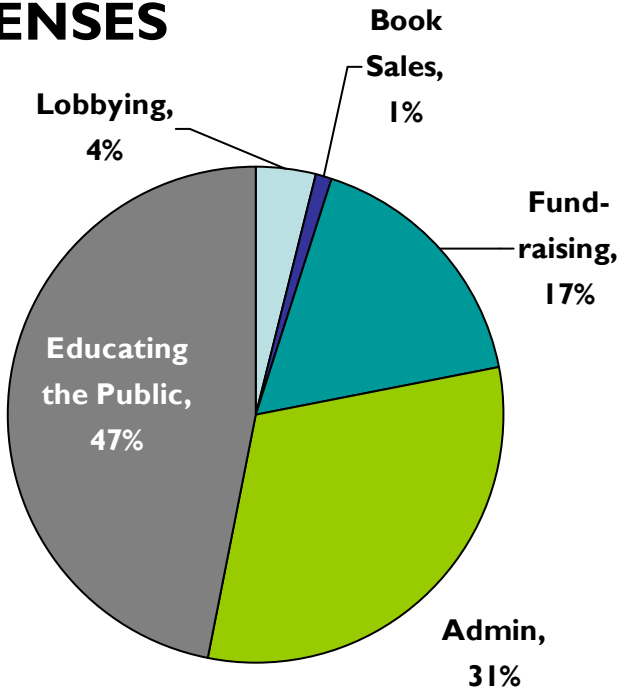


# About AtMP: Operating Structure

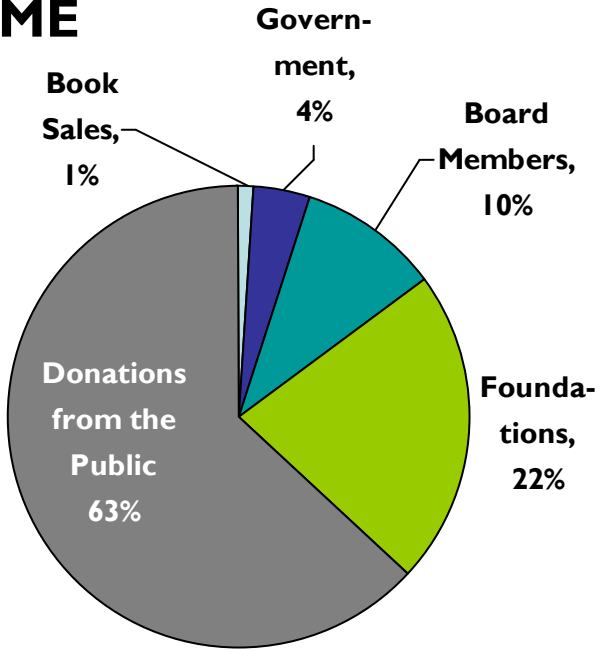


# About AtMP: Operating Budget

## EXPENSES



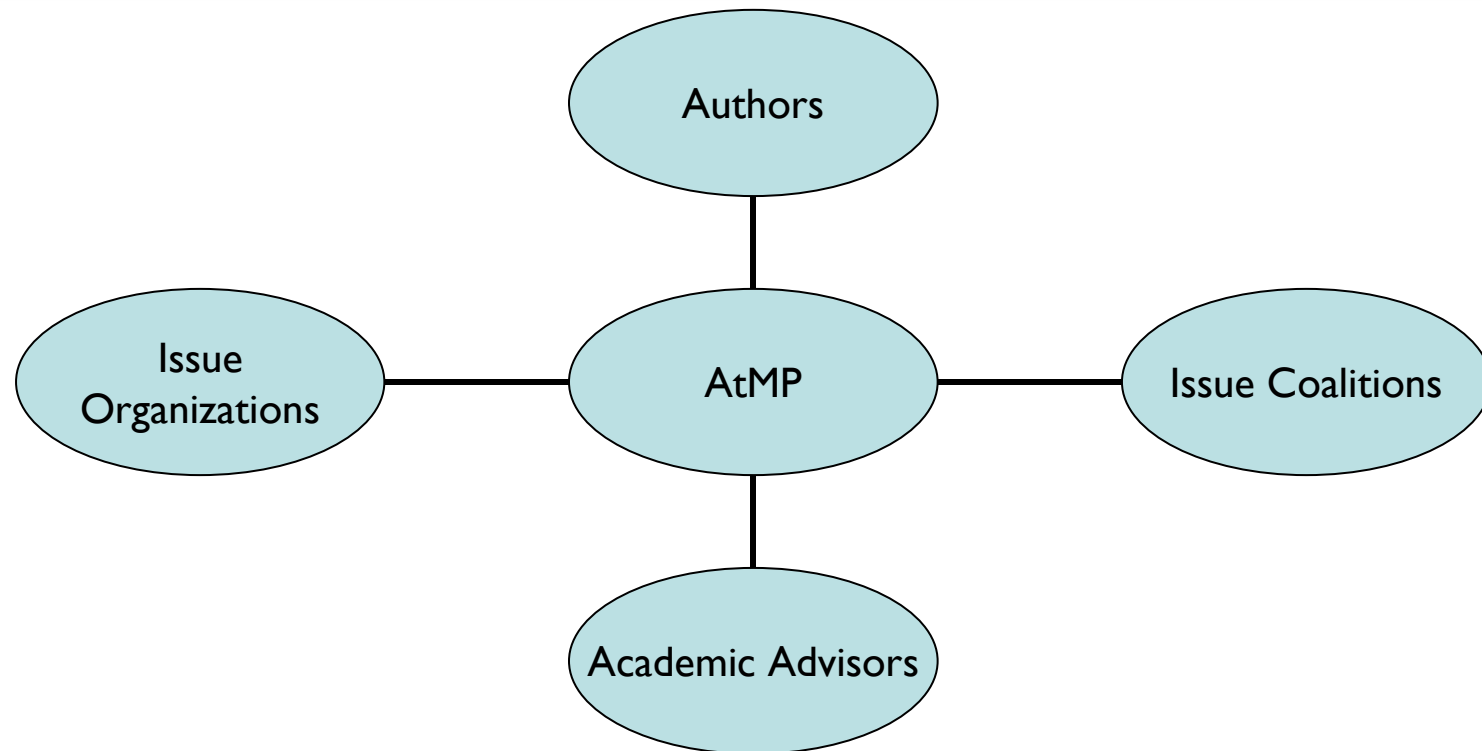
## INCOME



2009 ~ \$50,000



## About AtMP: Operating Partners



## About AtMP: 3 Major Programs

1. Support and information
2. Educate the public and policymakers
3. Fight discrimination

## About AtMP: 3 Major Programs

### I. Support and information

- Website
- Blog, Facebook, Google Group
- Get out the vote

## About AtMP: 3 Major Programs

### 2. Educate the public

- Media appearances
- Background pitches, letters to editors
- Speakers' bureau, LTE Brigade
- Reports & statistics used in classrooms

## About AtMP: 3 Major Programs

### 3. Fight discrimination

- Policy analysis
- Legislative lobbying, comment on regulations
- Member activism

## About AtMP: Early Years' Projects

Affirmation of Family  
Diversity  
*Let Them Eat Wedding  
Rings*  
MA domestic  
partnerships



## About AtMP: This Summer' Projects

- Commenting on hospital visitation rule
- Evaluating welfare-funded marriage programs and new “Fatherhood, Marriage and Families Innovation Fund”
- Assembling team for research on impact of discrimination on public health

## Section 2

*Questions? On to...*

# About Nonprofit Boards of Directors



## About Nonprofit Boards: Roles

Governance (ensure authority to act and accountability for actions)

Set Strategic Direction

Oversee, Advise and Support the Executive

Ensure Necessary Resources

## About Nonprofit Boards: Responsibilities

### Act in Accordance With Legal Standards

- Duty of Care: Stay informed and ask questions
- Duty of Loyalty: Show undivided allegiance to organization's welfare
- Duty of Obedience: Stay faithful to the organization's mission

## Section 3

*Questions? On to...*

# AtMP's Board of Directors



## About AtMP's Board: Benefits



- Networking
- Useful Information
- Training
- Trips
- Satisfaction of being unique and making a difference

## About AtMP's Board: Responsibilities

Be an active participant in the governance of the organization: show up to meetings, read board materials, stay informed, and be ready to participate in making decisions on behalf of the organization.

Join committees and task forces  
Speak to media  
Write newsletter articles  
Spread the word – positively  
Recruit your replacement

## About AtMP's Board: Fundraising

- Make an annual, meaningful personal financial contribution that demonstrates AtMP's priority in your life
- Encourage your personal contacts to become donors
- Attend local fund-raising events
- Write thank-you notes
- Visit potential funders
- Share ideas with executive director



## About the Board: Activities

- Emails: avg 22/mo to whole group
- Committee phone calls & emails
- Board meetings: goal = 2 in person, 4 by phone
  - Thursday 9/2, 8:30 pm by phone
  - Saturday & Sunday 10/30-31 in person in Los Angeles
- Fund-raising events: maybe 1/yr

## About AtMP's Board: Committees

Board membership

Fundraising

Finance

Personnel

Strategic Communications

Ad hoc (e.g. reputation / name change)

## About the Board: Members & Officers

### Members

- Currently 7, ideally 9+
- Elected for unlimited 2-year terms

### Officers

- Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary
- Elected for unlimited 1-year terms

## Section 4

*Questions? On to...*

# Your next steps

## Your next steps...

- Let's make sure we're a good match!
  - Do you have the time?
  - Do you have talents / resources that complement the current board?
  - Are there any conflicts of interest?
  - Do you agree to the responsibilities?
- Other ways to volunteer

## Your next steps...

- Your electronic info packet
- Further reading is available
  - Statistics about unmarried people
  - Bylaws
  - IRS return (call for 2009 version)  
[http://dynamodata.fdncenter.org/990\\_pdf\\_archive/043/043513466/043513466\\_200712\\_990EZ.pdf](http://dynamodata.fdncenter.org/990_pdf_archive/043/043513466/043513466_200712_990EZ.pdf)
  - What else would be useful?

## Your next steps...

### Board Application Process:

- Written Application

<http://www.unmarried.org/limesurvey/index.php?sid=35996&newtest=Y&lang=en>

- Phone / in person interview
- References
- Sit in on a meeting
- Nomination & election



*Questions?*

*Thank you!*