

**NABSW Steering Committee Report**  
**National Membership Committee**  
**April 19, 2014**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana**  
**Roxanne Ellis-Denby and Traci Lewis Co-Chairs**

Committee Goal and Purpose

The primary goal and purpose of the Membership Committee is to support the growth of the National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. (NABSW). Goals and objectives have been set with a focus on “the 6 R’s”: Recruiting, Retaining, Reclaiming, Refreshing, Restoring and Resources. As well as continuing to increase membership according to the Strategic Plan and providing resources to NABSW chapters and individual members.

Special Projects

1. Members of the committee worked diligently on the following special projects
  - a. The National Website

Membership Committee Roles, Members and Regional Divisions

1. Roles of Committee Members
  - a. The role of the membership committee is to develop and implement an action plan for membership development by concentrating on new member recruitment, retention, and Organization growth.
  - b. Regional Liaisons
    - Regional Liaisons are commitment to working with potential chapters in their regions to provide guidance with the chapter affiliation process and education on the history, mission and purpose of the Organization. Liaisons also assist chapters who are struggling with membership issues and serves as a communication vehicle between chapters in their region and the National Membership Committee.
  - c. State Delegates
    - Each chapter may appoint 1-3 members to be state delegates. Delegates will mainly attend the National Membership Committee Meetings; on the state level, delegates assist with chapter development and stabilization as well as are the line of communication to the Regional Liaisons/Membership Committee regarding suggestions, recommendations and/or needs of chapters in their state. There may also be times where Delegates are asked to represent the organization at events within their state (i.e. interest meetings, celebrations, etc.)

2. Committee Members

Roxanne Ellis-Denby Co- Chair  
Traci Lewis- Co-Chair  
Toni Oliver (EC Rep.)  
Leslie Hollingsworth (Chair Inter.  
Relations Comm.)

Michael Guynn (West Liaison)  
Connie Watson (West Liaison)  
Yvonne Powell (West Liaison)  
Frankye Johnson-Shelby (Midwest  
Liaison)

Dayvid Brown (Midwest Liaison)  
 Sondera Malry (Southwest Liaison)  
 Jackie Nash (Southeast Liaison)  
 Vacant (Northeast Liaison)

State Delegates  
 Gloria Scott (NY)  
 Randy Sadler (IL)  
 Tiffany Johnson (IL)  
 Andrew Wilson (LA)

3. Regional Divisions

- a. In order to quickly and effectively serve chapters around the country, NABSW has divided the country into 5 regions. Committee members who live in the regions or states serve as Liaisons or Delegates to assist with chapter development

West	Southwest	Midwest	Southeast	Northeast
California Idaho Montana Nevada Oregon Utah Washington Wyoming	Arizona Arkansas Colorado Kansas Louisiana Mississippi Missouri New Mexico Oklahoma Texas	Illinois Indiana Iowa Kentucky Michigan Minnesota Nebraska North Dakota Ohio South Dakota Wisconsin	Alabama Bahamas Florida Georgia North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee Virginia West Virginia	Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Maine Maryland Massachusetts New Hampshire New Jersey New York Nova Scotia Pennsylvania Rhode Island Vermont

## Membership In Review From April 2013 To Present

### Committee's work w/Active Chapters potential & Inactive Chapters & Other Recruitment Efforts

1. Active Chapters as of April 5, 2014

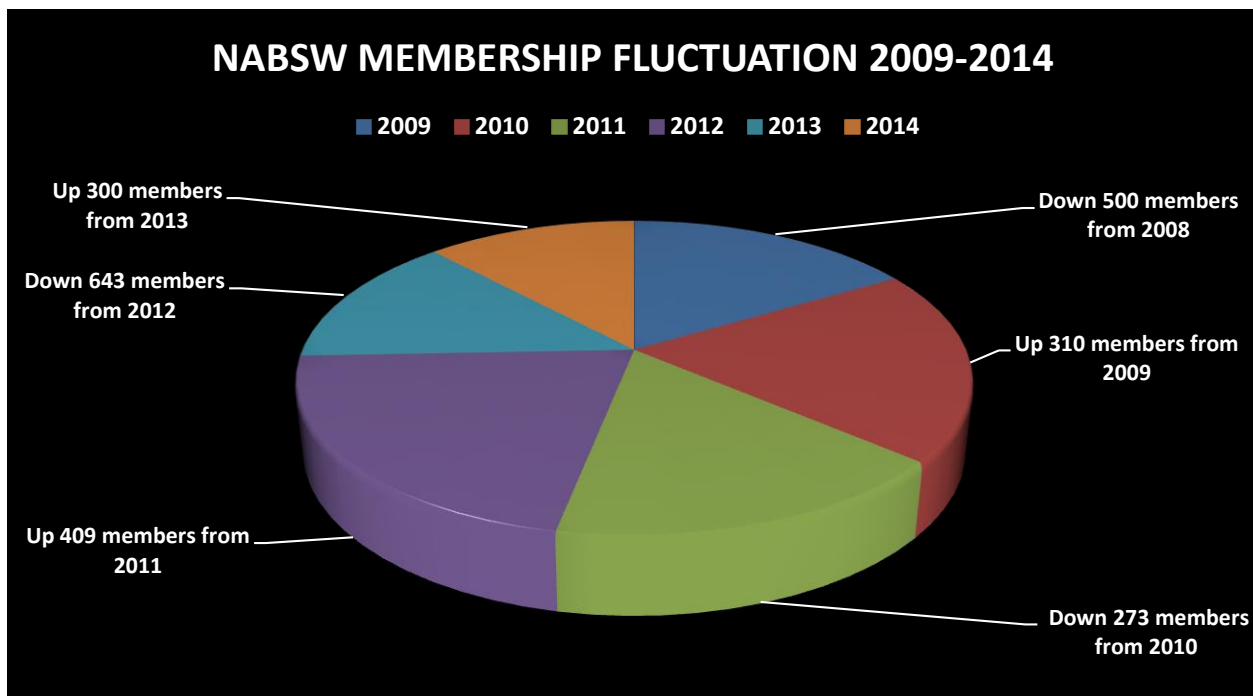
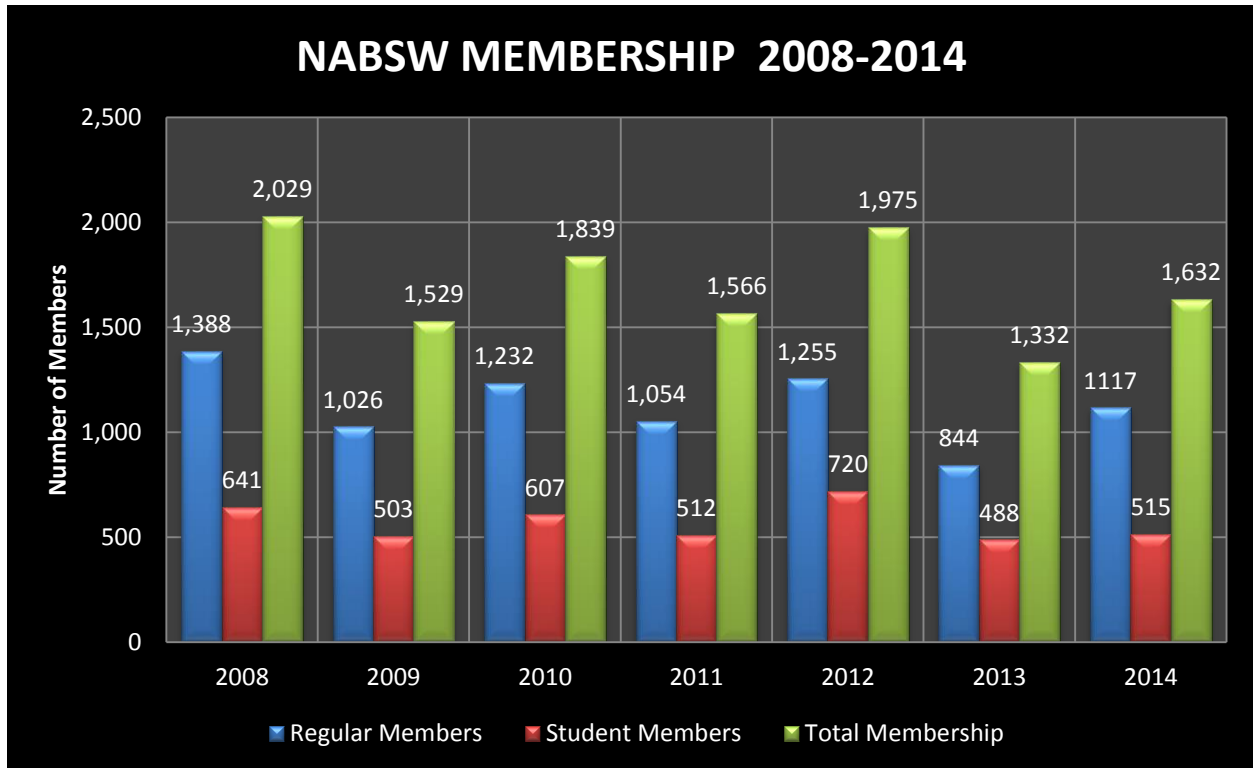
- a. 50 Regular Chapters
- b. 24 Student Chapters  
74 Total
- ❖ Initially there were three (3) chapters who were provisional status (5-9 members). Two (2) chapters have moved from provisional (Columbus and University of Missouri Kansas City). Greater Kansas City ABSW has increased membership (from 5-8) and hopes to have the other two necessary members soon.
- c. When chapters re-affiliated
  - ❖ 35 chapters re-affiliated by 10/31/13
  - ❖ 32 chapters re-affiliated after 10/31/12 but before 12/31/13
  - ❖ 07 chapters re-affiliated after 1/1/14

2. There are ten (10) Individual memberships as of April 5, 2014

- a. 6 regular members
- b. 4 student members

# MEMBERSHIP DATA

NOTE: Numbers are based on membership information received from the National Office



## Update on Potential Chapters January-April 2014

City, State of request	Date request received	Date responded & assigned to liaison	Liaison assigned	Action taken &/or disposition
Saginaw, Michigan	6-21-13	6-24-13	Dayvid Brown	<b>Open</b> - No report provided
Fort Wayne, Indiana	7-19-13	7-29-13	Dayvid Brown	<b>Open</b> - No report provided
Central Florida and Gyname ABSW Chapters	6-7-13	6-8-13	Jackie Nash	<b>AFFILIATED</b> - Both chapters affiliated as provisional. Since both chapters are in the Orlando area, the liaison assigned is currently working with them as the chapters are going to merge to form 1 strong chapter.
Palm Beach County, Florida	N/A	5-10-13	Jackie Nash	<b>AFFILIATED!</b>
Tampa, Florida	8-6-13	8-6-13	Jackie Nash	<b>Open</b>
Tallahassee, Florida	8-27-13	8-12-12	Jackie Nash	<b>Open</b>
Tuscaloosa, AL	12-12-13	12-16-13	Jackie Nash	<b>Open</b>
Seattle, WA <b>(NEW)</b>	2-25-14	2-28-14	Yvonne Powell	<b>Open</b> - There has been contact and a visit is being planned to meet and assist in their affiliation process.
Lawton, OK <b>(NEW)</b>	2-28-14	2-28-14	Sondera Malry	<b>Open</b> - Attempted contact...no response. Will continue to attempt to make contact
Memphis, TN <b>(NEW)</b>	3-5-14	3-6-14	Jackie Nash	<b>Open</b>
San Antonio, TX <b>(NEW)</b>	3-5-14	3-6-14	Sondera Malry	<b>Open</b> - Attempted contact...no response. Will continue to attempt to make contact
South Jersey <b>(NEW)</b>			Roxanne Ellis-Denby	<b>Open</b> - They have 10 people and continue to recruit. They are meeting and plan to be affiliated by 10/31/14.

- c. The committee is dedicated to supporting current and reclaiming as many chapters as possible. Some committee members were committed and diligent in contacting active and inactive chapters for follow-up. Due to a scheduling conflict, there was no meeting for the month of March. However, all liaisons were asked to provide the co-chairs a report on their activity for the quarter. The results of their work from the end of the January 2014 SCM until March 2014 is as follows:

- Southeast Regional Report (Jackie Nash)
  - No report provided
- Midwest Regional Report (Frankye Johnson-Shelby and Dayvid Brown)
  - No report provided
- Northeast Regional Report (Liaison resigned position)
  - No report provided

- OSA Report
  - No report provided
- West Regional Report ( Mike Guynn, Connie Watson and Yvonne Powell)
  - No report provided
- Southwest Report (Sondera Malry)
  - **Report By Sondera Malry**
    - **Houston Chapter**
      - Presently have 70 paid members, 1 student member. About 55 are active and participating.
      - Currently only Prairie View University is active. The chapter continues to support: U of Houston and TSU (both currently pending re-affiliation).
      - Steadily recruiting and providing outreach to others Chapters: assisting Dallas and Jackson. Limited contact with Tulsa and OKC, but encouraging their continuous efforts towards chapter building. Grambling continues to be inactive.
    - **Tulsa, OK**
      - Linda Thomas- contact. No contact during this Quarter
    - **Oklahoma City, OK**
      - Dianne Johnson- contact. No contact during this Quarter
    - **Mississippi Delta Chapter**
      - Dr. Baxter Wright- President. Chapter is currently active; in a re-building and recruitment effort to reclaim chapter members and momentum. He has indicated there are 15 paid members and the money would be sent into National office. Chapter is continuing to work and revise University and community partnerships. The chapter is planning to offer CEU's in the Spring 2014. Members attended the Southwest Regional Conference. They have students who are planning to attend National Conference. Challenge is to get renewed interest and commitment again.
    - **Jackson Chapter**
      - Regina Curry is the new President. The chapter is active and involved with 19 members and 2 students. They are currently seeking their 501c3.
    - **Denver Colorado**
      - No activity or response from former President Jacqueline Stanton. Chapter has been defunct for more than 2 years.
    - **TSU Student Chapter**
      - Engaged the Department Chair, Dr. Needha Queen, who has granted permission to initiate and renew the chapter for the Fall 2014.
    - **Grambling Louisiana**
      - No contact or activity during this Quarter.
    - **North Louisiana Chapter**
      - Andrew Wilson is the chapter President and they continue to make outreach efforts with the Grambling and surrounding community family. The last membership count was 45.

- **Alexandria, Louisiana**
  - Deborah Graham is the chapter President. Chapter affiliated 2012 and continues to be active although they have some challenges.
- **Dallas**
  - The chapter reportedly has re-affiliated, but has not been connected with the SW Region.
- **Albuquerque, New Mexico**
  - Recent contact made with former President Kalongi Mwanga after more than 2 years absence. He has indicated a sincere interest in re-establishing the defunct chapter by the end of 2014.
- **Central Arkansas (Little Rock)**
  - Laverne Tolliver- President. They have an active membership of 13 and continue with ongoing outreach and recruitment efforts.
- **New Orleans ABSW Chapter**
  - Stephanie Jackson- President. Chapter is active. This Chapter hosted the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Regional Conference in New Orleans from November 6-8, 2014. Well attended by over 100 members and participants.
- **University of Missouri-Kansas City**
  - New Provisional chapter student chapter. Professor Ill Higgins has agreed to serve as Faculty Advisor.
- **Greater Kansas Chapter**
  - Presently under provisional. There were some concerns/disagreements noted during their December meeting; awaiting feedback and opportunity to host a Conference Call or an onsite visit by the Liaison to aid with addressing any concerns.

## **Presidents and Leadership March 16, 2014 Quarterly Meeting Report**

### **1. Chapter Reports**

- a. Greater New Heaven ABSW-** Onya Harris: The chapter has 26 paid members. As a way to recruit, they have been asking members to bring a friend to the meetings. **Challenges-** Some compare to NASW and want to know what incentives NABSW has. People not holding yup to their commitments. **Successes-** Christmas toy drive, anti-violence stakeholders meeting and looking at gun violence.
- b. Nassau/Suffix County ABSW-** Naomi Ellis: 13 paid members. They have revitalized newsletter in an effort to keep members informed and involved and to reclaim old members. They have had a good response, but they have not joined. They have made t-shirts and handout card with mission and vision in an effort to recruit. They had approximately 15 people call into inquire. The winter weather has affected their activities.
- c. Lansing ABSW-** Delois Caldwell: The chapter has 17 paid members. Unfortunately, 2 members passed away at the beginning of the year. Weather has affected the meeting attendance. They are trying to get a chapter at the university, but the director who was helpful to them has stepped down and they are unsure of the new director. They want to invite the students to an off campus meeting.
- d. L.A. ABSW-** Mike Guynn: The chapter has 40 members on the roll.

e. Greater Hartford, Connecticut-Roxanne Ellis-Denby: The chapter has 29 members. They just hosted their black history month program and were able to recruit 3 people. They are ready to host the July SCM and they will be collaborating with the New Heaven Chapter.

f. Barbara Pollack: the chapter had 14 paid members and they just had an informational for students. The chapter offered a zwadi to a local African American museum. They will be holding a forum regarding a student with special needs who had been tazed. The chapter went to the state capital on March 4<sup>th</sup> and was recognized from the floor.

g. San Diego, California -Dr. Yvonne Powell: The chapter continue to reach out to bring in members. The chapter is having problems with recruiting and getting members out to meetings and events.

2. Discussion surrounded the new website. Some Presidents mentioned a few members having difficulty, but overall, feedback was positive.
3. General Leadership Challenges:
  - a. Keeping in touch with inactive members
  - b. Bringing in new members
  - c. Difficulty in contacting members/former members
  - d. Getting students to join the chapter
  - e. Getting members to actively participate in meetings and sponsored events
  - f. Little response to member outreach
  - g. Difficulty for members to buy into new ideas
  - h. No consistency in leadership turn over
  - i. Lack of support between seasoned and new members
4. Next Meeting: **June 15, 2014 at 7pm EST.**

Respectfully submitted by Traci Lewis and Roxanne Ellis-Denby, April 19, 2014