



BECAUSE FREEDOM CAN'T PROTECT ITSELF.

The ACLU is very busy, nationwide and across Wisconsin. You and I, as supporters of civil liberties, face a very challenging environment.

**The threats to civil liberties in Wisconsin are severe but unfortunately not unique.** Voter suppression and targeted regulation of abortion providers are threatening civil liberties in several states. After the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, police misconduct has received unprecedented attention nationwide, including in Green Bay, Madison, Milwaukee and Superior. The ACLU has affiliates in every state, so we can share resources and increase our strength.

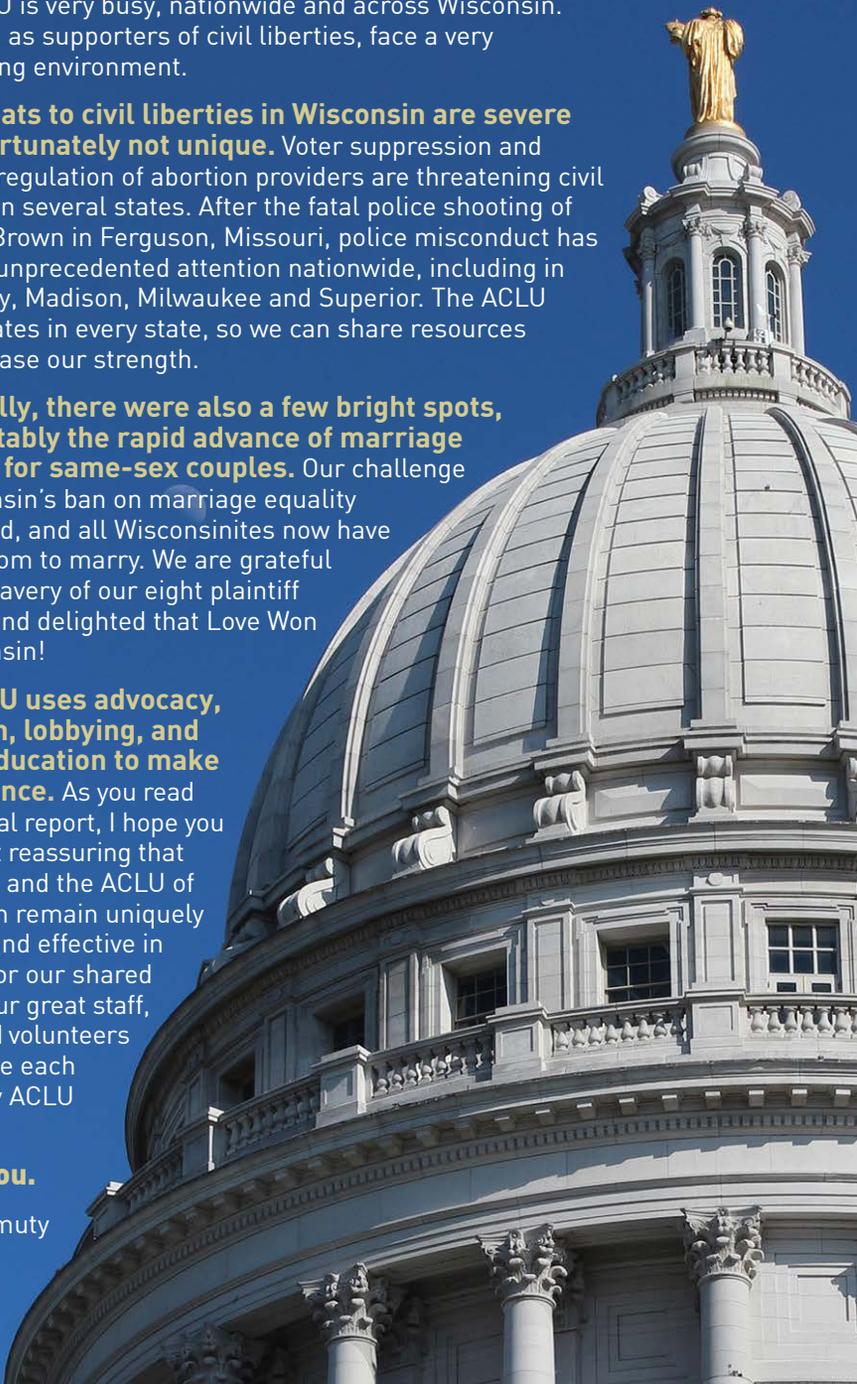
**Thankfully, there were also a few bright spots, most notably the rapid advance of marriage equality for same-sex couples.** Our challenge to Wisconsin's ban on marriage equality succeeded, and all Wisconsinites now have the freedom to marry. We are grateful for the bravery of our eight plaintiff couples and delighted that Love Won in Wisconsin!

**The ACLU uses advocacy, litigation, lobbying, and public education to make a difference.** As you read this annual report, I hope you will find it reassuring that the ACLU and the ACLU of Wisconsin remain uniquely capable and effective in fighting for our shared values. Our great staff, board and volunteers appreciate each and every ACLU member.

**Thank you.**

Chris Ahmuty

Executive  
Director



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In January, a woman in Superior was repeatedly punched in the face by a police officer as she was being arrested. The ACLU opened an investigation of the Superior Police Department. The following day, the police chief informed us that his department would undertake an internal review and training assessment after the Wisconsin Department of Justice completes its investigation of the officer.

## Superior

Race-based mascots in public schools are government-endorsed discrimination. The ACLU is working with the Wisconsin Indian Education Association and tribes in Woodruff and Lac du Flambeau to ensure that all students receive an adequate education, free of discrimination.



## Woodruff

A man in Crivitz flew his American flag upside down in protest of the Village's denial of a liquor license for his supper club. When the police trespassed on his property and confiscated the flag, he sued with the help of the ACLU. A federal judge ruled in his favor and found that the Village of Crivitz violated the First and Fourth Amendments.

Two African-American brothers were suspended from their basketball team when a photo of them allegedly showing "gang symbols" ran in the local paper, even though white students showed the same hand signs. After the ACLU raised concerns, the suspension was lifted. We will investigate the school's efforts to comply with existing state law and new federal guidelines on discrimination.

In 2011 Wisconsin legislators passed one of the nation's most restrictive Voter Photo ID laws. We sued in federal court, arguing that the law violates the US Constitution and the Voting Rights Act, and we won. The case is now under appeal. The lead plaintiff is Ruthelle Frank from Brokaw.

## Lac du Flambeau

## Barron

During the 2013-14 fiscal year, ACLU staff members spoke to over 6,800 people, in 14 cities, covering 40 different topics. In Wausau, Chris Ahmuty spoke to the Universalist Unitarian church members about over-incarceration and voting rights.

## Brokaw

## Somerset

## Eau Claire

The ACLU has been fighting for the freedom to marry since 1972. In 2014 we sued to overturn the ban on same-sex marriage. We won in June, the appeals court agreed with us in September, and the US Supreme Court declined to hear the case in October. The ruling for equality stands.



## Wausau

The ACLU of Wisconsin is headquartered in Milwaukee, but has volunteer-led chapters serving the Northeast, Chippewa Valley, Greater Milwaukee, and Fox Valley.

## Crivitz



## Oshkosh

The ACLU is a key partner of Wisconsin Election Protection Coalition, which works to ensure that all voters have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process. During major elections, ACLU staff visit polling places in the Milwaukee area, including every polling place in the city of Waukesha.

## Taycheedah

Sometimes when the ACLU wins a case, monitoring extends for many years. We're still monitoring physical and mental health conditions for female inmates at the prison in Taycheedah, even though the case was filed in 2006 and settled in 2010.

## Sheboygan Falls

The Capitol Rotunda in Madison has long been a place for public dissent and free speech, but in 2013 Capitol police began arresting protestors as they sang and played music. The ACLU sued, and in October secured a settlement that creates a notice system, which allows groups to gather inside the Capitol without a permit. The arrests have stopped.



## Madison

The ACLU filed complaints with the Office of Civil Rights when it became known that the Somerset, Beloit, and Barron School Districts were illegally segregating students by gender. The programs violate federal and state law by relying on harmful gender stereotypes and depriving students of equal educational opportunities merely because of their sex.

## Waukesha Beloit

In July, 2013, Governor Walker signed a law that would have shut down half the state's abortion clinics, including one in Milwaukee that serves thousands of women. The ACLU sued, the law is still on hold and we are awaiting the judge's final ruling.

## Milwaukee

## Racine

ACLU program staff conducted 21 Know Your Rights workshops in cities across the state, including Racine.



\* Wisconsin Indian Education Association "Indian" Mascot and Logo Taskforce symbol, artist Barbara E. Munson (Oneida)

## Stay In Touch with the ACLU

American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin  
207 E. Buffalo St., Suite 325  
Milwaukee WI 53202  
(414) 272-4032

For information about events, membership, or donations, call extension 218.

[www.aclu-wi.org](http://www.aclu-wi.org)

Facebook: [ACLU of Wisconsin](#)

Twitter: [@ACLUofWisconsin](#) and [@ACLUPASA](#)

The state will spend nearly \$2 billion to rebuild part of I-94 in Milwaukee. They did not consider mass transit or environmental concerns, as required by law. The ACLU sued and won. The settlement requires \$13.5 million to be spent on new bus routes from Milwaukee to suburban industrial parks.

Private voucher schools in Milwaukee, and now across the state, take tax-payer dollars but often do not provide adequate education to disabled students. The ACLU filed a complaint with the Department of Justice. The state must now ensure that students with disabilities who attend or seek to attend voucher schools "do not encounter discrimination on the basis of their disabilities."

Milwaukee

Milwaukee

## ACLU of Wisconsin and ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation

Combined Audited Statement  
of Activities for the Year Ending March 31, 2014

### UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Membership dues	\$193,702
Contributions	262,899
Event income (net)	10,283
Legal Fees	153,271
Other revenue	8,213
<b>Total unrestricted support and revenue</b>	<b>628,369</b>

### EXPENSES

Program services	660,438
Administration	186,937
Development	170,427
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>1,017,803</b>

Net assets released from restrictions	(496,185)
Change in unrestricted net assets	(46,033)

### TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Contributions	52,109
Investment return	48,980
Net assets released from restrictions	(21,445)
Change in temp. restr. net assets	(241,031)
Change in net assets	(265,164)
Net assets (beginning of year)	883,883
Net assets—end of year	\$ 618,719

### Revenue



### Expenses



## Bill of Rights Awards

**William Gorham Rice Civil Libertarians of the Year:** Michael Kissick and Sheila Shigley took a stand for freedom of speech when they became plaintiffs in the ACLU's lawsuit fighting the crackdown on protests in the State Capitol Rotunda.

**Eunice Z. Edgar Lifetime Achievement:** Joel McNally has been a national-award-winning newspaper columnist and a radio and TV commentator for more than 45 years. His syndicated column Taking Liberties appears statewide, and locally in the Shepherd Express.



Darlene Johns, winner of Rosenberg Youth Award, with Lucy Rosenberg

**Jack and Lucy Rosenberg Youth Civil Libertarian of the Year:** Darlene Johns, a Rufus King High School junior, knew from a very young age that she wanted to "be the change..." in the world. As president of the Rufus King ACLU Student Alliance, Darlene makes sure student rights are protected.

**Volunteer Attorney of the Year:** Christopher Meuler of Friebert, Finerty & St. John, S.C. dedicates this award to the memory of Bob Friebert, a mentor and a brilliant litigator whose passion for civil rights and justice was second to none.

## How will you choose to support the ACLU of Wisconsin?

**Membership:** Strengthen our lobbying efforts and grassroots activity by becoming a member of the ACLU of Wisconsin! Paying annual dues of \$35 or more entitles you to a membership in the state and national ACLU.

**Tax-deductible donations:** Your gift to the ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and supports litigation and civil rights education in Wisconsin and across the country. The ACLU receives no government funding and does not charge its clients for legal representation. Our work depends entirely on private donations and legal fees earned from successful cases.

### **Community Shares of Wisconsin and Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee:**

These organizations raise funds for nonprofits through workplace giving campaigns in both private businesses as well as the public sector through the Combined Campaign. Please ask your employer about this easy way to donate to charities like the ACLU that share your commitment to make a better world.

### **Bequests and planned gifts:**

Naming the ACLU as a beneficiary of your will, life insurance policy or retirement fund is a simple and effective way to support the future of civil liberties.

For more information on any of these ways to support the ACLU of Wisconsin, call the Donor Relations Office at (414) 272-4032, ext. 228, or check our website, [www.aclu-wi.org](http://www.aclu-wi.org).

## Board of Directors and Trustees

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**Mary Jo McBrearty** Kohler (**Vice President**)  
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**Athan Theoharis** Fox Point (**Immediate Past President**)  
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**Jeff Pugh** Madison  
**Nichole Yunk Todd** Milwaukee

## Affiliate Staff

**Christopher Ahmuty** Executive Director  
**Molly Collins** Associate Director  
**Angie Trudell Vasquez** Office Manager & Volunt. Coordinator  
**Larry Dupuis** Legal Director  
**Karyn Rotker** Senior Staff Attorney  
**Donovan Lee** Paralegal  
**Emilio De Torre** Youth & Program Director  
**Chris Piszczek** Youth & Program Associate  
**Syd Robinson** Youth & Program Organizer  
**Kristin Hansen** Development Director  
**Marion Ecks** Development Associate



Chris Ahmuty, Executive Director



**Bill of Rights celebration**



**Overpass Light Brigade was a featured artist at Gallery Night**



207 E Buffalo St., Suite 325  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-5774

[WWW.ACLU-WI.ORG](http://WWW.ACLU-WI.ORG)

### **Annual Membership Meeting**

Saturday, October 18, 2014

2:30 - 4 PM

Brocach on the Square

7 W Main St, Madison, WI

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