

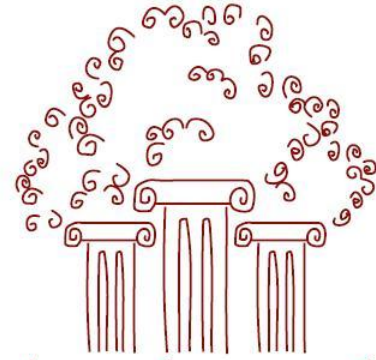
## Appleseed This Week

### Washington Appleseed Appoints New Executive Director

*ATW Recognizes an Outstanding M. Stern for Second Consecutive Week!*

**November 20, 2008** - Appleseed is proud to welcome **Marvin Stern**, appointed in mid-September as the new executive director of the **Washington Center**.

Stern has received wide acclaim for his contributions to human rights. Having completed four years of graduate work in Holocaust Studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Stern returned to Seattle in 1982 and served as Pacific Northwest Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League for nearly 13 years. A recognized expert on regional hate groups, he has been interviewed frequently by local and national media, including *The New York Times* and **National Public Radio**.



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From 1989 until 1996, Stern served as a founding board member for the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment, earning the coalition's prestigious "Faces of Courage Award" in 1998. He also has served on the board and as vice president of the Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center and currently serves as vice chair of the Seattle Human Rights Commission.

"Because of my family's history in the Holocaust," Stern said, "I believe I have an understanding of what happens in a society that does not value social justice as a starting point for its politics and policies. That understanding has informed my career and work to date . . . I am pleased to now be part of an organization that so successfully brokers partnerships between individuals, communities and government to find solutions to real problems in pursuit of the common goal of creating a more just and fair society."

To wit: The Washington Center recently launched "**Bank on Seattle/King County**," a project to facilitate access to financial services for the estimated 52,000 unbanked families in the Seattle area, led by Senior Fellow **Diana Stone**, who is coordinating the effort with the city. That project, which includes 22 banking institutions and many more community partners, is part of the Center's **Asset Building Coalition** effort.

On the horizon for the Center is potential participation in phase two of the **DREAM Act** project, which would allow undocumented high school students to obtain permanent

residency while pursuing a college education or serving in the military, as well as some form of participation in the **Parental Involvement in Education** project.

Having officially assumed executive directorship on Sept. 15, Stern takes over for **Sue Donaldson**, who led efforts to launch Washington Appleseed and has been instrumental in establishing the Center as an effective agent for social justice in the region. Donaldson is continuing to help guide the Center in a policy capacity.

For more information about Washington Appleseed, visit [www.waappleseed.org](http://www.waappleseed.org).

**For more information on Appleseed, visit [www.appleseednetwork.org](http://www.appleseednetwork.org). To support the work of Appleseed, donate [here](#).**

Appleseed, a nonprofit network of 16 public interest justice centers in the United States and Mexico, uncovers and corrects social injustices through legal, legislative and market-based structural reform. Appleseed Centers bring together volunteers from the law, business and academic professions to devise long-term solutions to problems in such areas as education, financial access and health care. For more information, visit: [www.appleseednetwork.org](http://www.appleseednetwork.org).