

PRESERVING & STRENGTHENING LOCAL AUTHORITY

Every day, the Michigan Townships Association **supports townships in their efforts** to retain local control and serve their constituents in a way that reflects their community's values. From MTA's Pillars of Prosperity initiative to **helping townships emerge stronger from the current economic challenges** they face, the MTA Board of Directors—your elected leaders—and the MTA staff are here for you!

By **connecting with our members** and **keeping abreast of changes affecting how you govern and operate your township**, we not only address your concerns, but we also provide representation and intervene on your behalf, as needs arise. Through imparting essential knowledge and sharing best practices, MTA helps you become the kind of leader that residents and businesses respect—*effective, efficient and passionate about what you do!* By **offering valuable tools, innovative programs and supportive services**, we help move your township's vision from a dream to reality—in good times and in bad.

Dedicated, reliable and committed to serving you ... **That's YOUR MTA.**

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

MTA is: 1,233 townships; 6,571 elected township officials:

1,233 supervisors, 1,233 clerks, 1,233 treasurers and 2,872 trustees;

Thousands of township employees and appointed officials,

including: 791 planning and zoning commission members and 41 managers;

65 member counties

More than 4.6 million Michigan residents live in an MTA-member township.



EXPANDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE

From accounting to zoning, MTA offers a **variety of educational programs** to help you provide more efficient services to your residents.

5,752

Total attendance at MTA educational events in past 12 months

Attendance at MTA events:

Annual Educational Conference: **1,238**

Board of Review Training: **1,353**

Regional Meetings: **1,261**

Seminars: **1,138**

Professional Development Retreats: **144**

Township Governance Academy Classes: **291**

MTA Capitol Conference: **167**

MTA Summer Legislative Forum: **160**

535

Township Governance Academy candidates

80

TGA graduates to date



ADVOCATING ON YOUR BEHALF

MTA was created in 1953 to provide a unified voice advocating for local authority that the broadest spectrum of township officials need to preserve, protect and enhance the quality of life for half of all Michigan residents. MTA's legislative liaisons represent township government before the Michigan Legislature, executive office and state agencies.

This year, MTA's lobbyists have testified and fought for changes on legislation impacting **payments in lieu of taxes, budget matters, firefighter training funding, legal notices, election issues** ... and **so much more.**

MTA is also engaging with legislators and their staff on a variety of government "reform" proposals being discussed in Lansing.

484

Contributors to MTA's Political Action Committee so far in 2010

MORE!



EFFICIENCY IN OPERATIONS

Just as townships are challenged to do more with less, such is the case at MTA. To ensure that townships receive incomparable value from their membership, the MTA Board and staff have put an emphasis in recent years on providing exceptional services—with limited resources—to keep your costs at a minimum.



MTA has:

- **Restructured employees' health insurance plan** in a manner that will save the Association some \$50,000 annually
- **Revamped Board and committee meeting schedules** to offer further savings
- **Scaled back staff salary adjustments** from 1.9 percent in 2009 to 1.4 percent increases in 2010
- **Eliminated a liaison-level position** within the communications department—while continuing to increase MTA's reach on the Internet, through media outreach and expanded member resources
- **Made increasing use of electronic communications**—offering information and updates in a more timely fashion, while saving on printing and delivery costs

BUSINESS PARTNERS SUPPORT TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

MTA's **25 Allied Service Provider partners** provide nearly \$100,000 annually to MTA, a partnership that helps defray Association costs, keeping your dues down.



EDUCATING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

\$1,000
Given annually through MTA's Robinson Scholarship program

*Look for updates in 2010 about MTA's new initiative, **Townships in the Classroom***



PROVIDING INFORMATION YOU NEED

Doing things right—and doing the right thing—is important to serving the public, transparency, and avoiding cost and lost time defending a lawsuit. MTA's Member Information Services staff provides information on all facets of township operations and responds to requests for information from members by forwarding appropriate materials, researching questions, sending written e-mail and letters, answering telephone queries, and making presentations.

8,000+
Requests for information from member townships handled each year by MTA Member Information Services staff

RESOURCES YOU CAN USE

MTA's award-winning arsenal of online and print resources keep you up-to-date on township operations, hot trends and issues, state and federal legislative news, workshops, and township activities and achievements.

9,800+

Number of township officials, employees, and state and federal legislators who receive *Michigan Township News* each month



mt@-newswire

4,014

Subscribers to MTA's biweekly electronic newsletter, *mt@-newswire*

210,442

Total page views at www.michigantownships.org over the past 12 months

Community Connection

915

Subscriptions to forums in *Community Connection*, MTA's social networking community

26

Publications in MTA's library of offerings—with new books in the works for 2010



LEGAL PROTECTION—FOR ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

1972
When MTA's Legal Defense Fund was founded

150+
Legal Defense Fund cases over the past 10 years

20
New cases in the past 12 months

90%
MTA member participation

