



**MOC**  
**MARIN**  
ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE

Building leaders.  
Strengthening institutions.  
Making democracy work.

MOC's goal is to build long-term citizen power in Marin County, so that concerned citizens, and the organizations and institutions they represent, have a seat at the table with local government to impact the decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities.

## Developing Effective Leaders

MOC's primary work is to develop leaders in congregations, schools, unions and non-profits both to help their institutions strengthen and grow, and help them act on the issues that are important to them.

MOC's leaders learn to build relationships, engage in action-oriented conversations with others, run effective meetings, analyze issues and power dynamics, and take concrete action on winnable issues at the local level. They can apply these skills within their own institutions, as well as in the public arena.



Founded in 2009, MOC is a broad-based network of local institutions-- faith-based, non-profit, educational, labor, and civic organizations. We have 20 current dues-paying member institutions.

- Community Congregational Church of Tiburon
- Dominican Sisters
- Fairfax Community Church
- First Presbyterian Church of San Rafael
- First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo
- First United Methodist Church of San Rafael
- St. Raphael's Church, San Rafael
- Gan Halev
- Congregation Kol Shofar
- Congregation Rodef Sholom
- Marin Lutheran Church
- Marin Environmental Housing Collaborative
- Marin Interfaith Council
- Mill Valley Community Church
- Mt. Tam United Methodist Church
- Parent Services Project
- Seniors for Peace / Mill Valley Community Church
- St. Anselm's Church
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- SEIU 1021
- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin



## Local impact, National relevance

MOC is a local affiliate of a national organization, the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the nation's oldest and largest leadership development and organizing network. The IAF believes a healthy democracy requires the active participation of ordinary people. The IAF was founded in 1940 and now includes over 50 organizations in the US, and five internationally.

**Building Regional Power:** MOC has two sister organizations in the Bay Area, who are also IAF affiliates: Common Ground, in Napa and Solano Counties, and a new organizing project in Silicon Valley and the South Bay. We also have organizations in Los Angeles and Santa Cruz.



## Case Study: St. Vincent de Paul

Both faith-based and mission-driven institutions benefit from being members in MOC, which helps them build leadership skills among their own members, as well as enabling them to work together with other institutions across the county, building a shared agenda of issues, and wielding collective power.

*After attending organizing training, I restructured our volunteer orientation process so that I now meet each volunteer individually; it's how we keep volunteers connected and how we help grow volunteer support for the SVdP mission.*

*The principles of organizing have also provided a way for volunteers to grow within the organization; it has helped grow volunteers into donors and donors into volunteers. This has done wonders for volunteer retention - as volunteers can now connect with Vinnie's on a much more personal level.*

*Being a part of MOC has been my first experience feeling like the work I'm doing can affect real change at the community level. It is inspiring to be a part of a community of people focused on making concrete, actionable change in their community, and actually having the influence to be able to implement these changes.*

— Alex Lyon, Volunteer Coordinator, St. Vincent de Paul Society

## Our Track Record

Homelessness	Housing	Immigration	Health Care
Over the last ten years, MOC leveraged millions of dollars in county funding to shift services for homelessness away from band-aid solutions and towards permanent housing and effective support. The county's first Housing First Shelter will launch this year, largely as a result of our congregations' work.	MOC marshaled community support for Victory Village, an affordable housing development in Fairfax. More recently, in December of 2017, after months of dialogue with county officials, MOC passed the first law in Marin County protecting renters, a mandatory mediation ordinance.	When the leaders at St. Raphael's in San Rafael heard stories of hardship suffered when their parishioners' cars were towed and impounded for thirty days, they organized a meeting where over 600 people shared their stories with other non-immigrant leaders. This began a two year organizing campaign that changed the policies of the City of San Rafael Police Department.	Following passage of the Affordable Care Act, our leaders became concerned by the lack of planning in Marin, and successfully pressured the County of Marin to hire an additional 20 eligibility workers. We created a monthly roundtable for all major players to meet and coordinate their implementation plans, resulting in Marin County having one of the highest enrollment rates in the state.

### MOC is currently working to...

- Continue expanding the services and options available to unhoused residents of Marin
- Establish legal protections for renters suffering from increasing rent and fear of eviction
- Work with parents and educators in San Rafael City Schools to address educational inequity
- Support and engage the immigrant community through work on citizenship, schools, and housing

