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Annual Report of Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet) February 1, 2011 - January 31, 2012

Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADNet) continues its mission to provide encouragement and resources to congregations, families, and persons with disabilities as they identify and embrace their God-given gifts and abilities in ministry to each other and to the larger church.

Resources. Representatives from ADNet spoke in churches, college and seminary classes and forums, and support groups. *Connections* newsletter and *ADNotes* were published three times each.

ADNet Board. At its October in-person meeting, the Board met with MHS Alliance consultants Orv Yoder and Mim Shirk for strategic planning. The following goals were adopted for 2012: recruit part-time administrative assistant, identify and recruit three new board members, begin regional focus for building relationships with congregations, promote ADNet more aggressively, analyze funding strategy, upgrade database and email programs. Sharon Beyer resigned from membership on the Board in October. Kevin Sauder ended his service on the Board with the end of the fiscal year after completing four years of service.

Volunteers. Christine Guth served as Program Director throughout the year on a stipend basis. Rollin Handrich served as volunteer bookkeeper and provided financial reporting. Robert Guth provided volunteer assistance with required filing of IRS forms. Merv Zook and Mim Snyder served as office volunteer part of the year.

Associates: Lora Carter Nafziger was appointed Field Associate in February, with a special interest in congregational inclusion of persons who need a disproportionate share of congregational resources. Jason Greig, a student at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, was appointed Student Associate in September, with a particular interest in bringing perspectives of persons with intellectual disabilities into theological conversations. Kathy Dickson and Sue Cassel continued serving as Field Associates.

Advocates. Fourteen congregational disabilities advocates were serving at year-end.

Partnerships. Continuing membership in **MHS Alliance** provides ADNet a formal relationship with Mennonite Church USA and two related denominations. ADNet continues as a member network of Pathways to Promise, an interfaith mental health organization. Through Christine Guth, ADNet participated in the National Council of Churches of Christ Committee on Disabilities.

Publications. Revised editions of *Supportive Care in the Congregation* and *After We're Gone* were released in July, published by MennoMedia.

Denominational contact. ADNet was an exhibitor in the MHS Alliance cluster at the Mennonite Church USA national convention in Pittsburgh. Through seminars (two for youth, two for adult), a reception, a disabilities awareness poster contest, and presence in the exhibit hall, ADNet interacted with hundreds of convention-goers.

ADNet Board: Jim Smith (Pres.), Kevin Sauder (V.P.), Milt Stoltzfus (Treas.), Sharon Beyer (Sec. part-year), Wilfred Martens, Vyron Schmidt. **Staff:** Christine Guth, Program Director. **Student Associate:** Jason Greig. **Field Associates:** Kathy Dickson, Sue Cassel, Lora Carter Nafziger. **Office Volunteers:** Merv Zook and Mim Snyder, part-year. **Bookkeeper:** Rollin Handrich.