



Susan Rees recently entered retirement after 33 years of social justice advocacy in the nation's capital. Most recently she was director of national policy and advocacy at Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW) where, since 2007, she focused on employment and training issues, income security, and fiscal policy. Throughout her tenure at WOW, Susan partnered with NAPE to support and strengthen the nontraditional accountability measure in the Perkins CTE program. She also helped draft the Women and Workforce Investment in Nontraditional Jobs (Women WIN Jobs) Act, sponsored by Reps. Jared Polis and Rosa DeLauro. Susan has convened the National Coalition on Women, Jobs and Job Training (NCWJT) and the CTE Task Force of the National Coalition on Women, Girls and Education (NCWGE).

Prior to joining WOW, Susan was director of policy and research at the McAuley Institute, a national women's housing organization and executive director of the Coalition on Human Needs. Susan led the successful "Untax the Poor" campaign in 1986. The goal of the campaign was the expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit to offset Social Security taxes paid by the working poor. She is the author of *How the Poor Would Remedy Poverty* and *Effective Nonprofit Advocacy*. She has consulted with foundations and nonprofits in Washington, D.C., and across the country. At McAuley, she and her team led the successful effort to establish transitional housing as a component of the Violence Against Women Act.

Early in her career, Susan was a reporter at her hometown daily newspaper, the Quincy (Ill.) Herald-Whig. She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Marquette University in Milwaukee and a master's degree in urban and planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Her dedication to advancing women's initiatives and reversing poverty for low-income families are just two of the many reasons why Susan Rees is honored as the 2013 Public Policy Advocate of the Year.