

John M. Bouman
President
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law



Biography:

John Bouman was named President of the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law effective January 1, 2007. He also remains the Shriver Center's Director of Advocacy, his position since 1996. He joined the Shriver Center in May 1996 after twenty-one years at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, where he supervised public benefits advocacy from 1985.

Bouman also worked in several Chicago neighborhoods and held a position as a specialist in the Foundation's Elderly Law Project. Bouman has won numerous awards for his career and accomplishments in antipoverty legal and advocacy work. He is recognized for being one of the most effective and thoughtful public benefits advocates in the country. He is credited by many legislators, administrators, providers, and other advocates for his leadership in the design and implementation of Illinois's new welfare law in 1997.

Recently Bouman led the successful statewide effort to create the FamilyCare program to provide health insurance to up to 300,000 working poor parents of minor children. In November 2002 Bouman was named to Governor-elect Rod Blagojevich's key transition team committee focusing on the state's budget crisis. He is lead counsel in *Memisovski v. Maram*, a successful case establishing substantial reforms in children's health care in Illinois. Bouman is a founding and current member of the steering committee of the National Transitional Jobs Network. He is a frequent lecturer and trainer on a variety of social policy, advocacy, and lawyering subjects.

Bouman is a 1975 graduate of Valparaiso University School of Law and member of the Chicago Council of Lawyers and the Chicago Bar Association.

John Bouman
President
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
50 East Washington, Suite 500
Chicago, IL 60602
312.263.3830 ext. 250
312.263.3846 fax
johnbouman@povertylaw.org