

DEENA LADD

For nearly two decades, **Deena Ladd** has been working to improve wages and working conditions for primarily workers of colour, low-wage workers and immigrant workers, who are often the most marginalised and vulnerable. She has been successful in establishing partnerships and linkages to shine a light on exploitation and discrimination.

Ladd has been an organizer with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (now known as UNITE HERE) working with garment workers, home-based workers, social service, retail and manufacturing workers. She has developed and taught courses, workshops and training sessions for rank and file unionized women, young workers and workers of colour for trade unions and federations.

At present, Deena Ladd is the co-ordinator of a worker's centre called The Workers' Action Centre formerly known as TOFFE (Toronto Organizing For Fair Employment). The Workers' Action Centre works with predominantly low-waged immigrant workers and workers of colour in contingent jobs that face discrimination, violations of rights and no benefits in the workplace.

Deena Ladd serves on the advisory committees of several organizations including foundations addressing poverty. In the past she has worked at the international level with organizations such as the Maquila Solidarity Network, the [Union of Needletraders, Industrial and Textile Employees](#), and HomeNet ([International Network of Home Based Worker Organizations](#)).

HEATHER MCGREGOR

In all her activities, **Heather McGregor** is an advocate for women and children, reaches out to diverse communities and works to give a voice for those who are unable to have access to institutions. In her work with the YWCA of Toronto and in her previous leadership roles at several settlement houses, she has been an active mentor to young women and staff encouraging them to achieve their potential.

McGregor has a leadership role in the social service sector as well as in her volunteer role with many community organizations. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Social Planning Council, her daughter's Day Care, and Homes First (an organization that develops housing for the homeless), and the Campaign Cabinet for the United Way Campaign Cabinet and their Board Governance Committee. McGregor has volunteered with the Laidlaw Foundation, and as a Board Member of St. Michael's Hospital has chaired the hospital's Quality Committee and its Community Advisory Committee.

Known for her leadership within the Anglican Church, Heather McGregor was the first woman Warden in the parish of St. Mary Magdalene and continues to serve in a variety of roles. She was appointed by the Bishop to the Parkdale Commission which was established to examine the future of seven parishes in the downtown west area of Toronto. Heather has been a specialized foster parent for the Metro Children's Aid Society and taught high school in rural Saskatchewan.