



14 November 2013

Dear Friends,

Are you working on a youth program, and find that there are more boys than girls participating? Are you starting or expanding a girl-focused program? The following resources may be helpful for you as you consider reaching out to adolescent girls.

We hope you enjoy this week's edition of the Newsflash!

Sincerely,

The Firelight Team

(Toolkit) Girl-Centered Program Design: A Toolkit to Develop, Strengthen & Expand Adolescent Girls Programs

(Lessons Learned) Selecting and Recruiting Adolescent Girls

(Website) UNFPA Adolescent Girls Initiative

(Coalition) The Coalition for Adolescent Girls

(Accepting Applications) The African Women's Development Fund (AWDF)

(Toolkit) Girl-Centered Program Design: A Toolkit to Develop, Strengthen & Expand Adolescent Girls Programs

Typically, general programs for youth do not include adolescent girls. In order to reach them, programs must be designed with adolescent girls as the target audience.

This toolkit is meant for those interested in working with adolescent girls ages 10–24. It can be used by anyone who is designing or running a program, someone writing a proposal to work with girls, or staff working directly with girls who need fresh ideas on how to strengthen program activities. It can be used by people who are starting to work with girls in a targeted way for the first time, or those who already have a girls program but are trying to strengthen or expand it.

The toolkit has three main sections: the first focuses on structure, the second on content, and the third on monitoring and evaluation. Within each chapter is an introduction to the topic, examples from existing programs for girls, and practical, user-friendly tools.

For more information and a link to download the toolkit, visit: <http://bit.ly/1bbeMd1>

(Lessons Learned) Selecting and Recruiting Adolescent Girls

Determining which girls to work with and deciding how to recruit them are initial steps in program design. In many places these tasks are complicated by restrictive conditions and norms that govern the lives of girls and young women. When trying to attract girls into a program, consider these lessons that can make the selection and recruitment processes more “girl-friendly”.

This link will bring you to a short handout (4 pages) that shares key lessons learned from different programs working with adolescent girls in developing countries. This is one of the many resources that are part of The World Bank: Adolescent Girl Initiative website.

To view or download the pdf, visit: <http://bit.ly/1dQSuh7>

(Website) UNFPA Adolescent Girls Initiative

This site provides information, links, toolkits, and case studies of organizations that have worked with the UNFP Adolescent Girls Initiative.

UNFPA and its partners recognize that simply increasing conventional youth programming will not reach the large population of marginalized, disadvantaged girls who are in greatest need of services and support. Through joint programming and active partnerships, such as the Coalition for Adolescent Girls (www.coalitionforadolescentgirls.org), they are attempting to take a more integrated and comprehensive approach that considers the social and economic environment in which young people live, their education, their health, and the opportunities that can help them improve their own lives.

UNFPA is also active in the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) (www.ungei.org), which aims to close the gender gap in primary and secondary education and to ensure that by 2015, all children complete primary schooling, with girls and boys having equal access to all levels of education.

Visit the website at: <http://bit.ly/1bfF24m>

(Coalition) The Coalition for Adolescent Girls

The Coalition brings together more than 40 international organizations that design, implement and evaluate programs that benefit girls throughout the developing world who are trapped in cycles of poverty. When adolescent girls are educated, healthy and financially literate, they can create lasting change within communities and end generations of poverty.

The Coalition provides a unique platform for organizations to share information, tools, and resources; to find points of intersection and opportunities for collaboration; build technical capacity; and to strategize on best practices.

For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/1c3ogFF>

(Accepting Applications) The African Women's Development Fund (AWDF)

AWDF's grant-making ensures resources reach the hundreds of African women's organisations that are working in diverse ways to improve the lives of women and African society at large. Our grant-making is innovative, flexible and creative. Through our main grants programme we support established women's rights organisations, our small grants programme supports small, locally based organisations, and our solidarity fund enables us to facilitate learning and networking opportunities whilst our legacy fund celebrates the contributions and achievements of many un-sung African heroines

Types of grants available in AWDF:

Main Grants: The AWDF Main Grants Programme is pan-African and supports local, national, sub-regional and regional organisations in Africa working towards women's empowerment. AWDF will give grants for projects related to any of our thematic areas, applicants are expected to build in reasonable core costs into their project proposals. Grants can be given to support the capacity and institutional strengthening of organisations including grants for strategic planning, governance systems and fundraising/communication strategies.

Small Grants: The AWDF Small Grants Program (SGP), currently operates in some selected countries in Africa, namely Ghana, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria. The objective of this programme is to support small, community/rural based grassroots women's groups, which are most likely not to have access to any financial support or meet the eligibility criteria for AWDF'S main funding programme. Beneficiaries should, however, be running projects that fall within AWDF's six thematic areas. The SGP also supports emerging or emergency issues, such as community disasters, activities that require a rapid response, and others.

Solidarity Fund: The Solidarity Fund has been established to create an additional source of funding for current or potential AWDF grantees, to enable them engage in activities which promote learning and the sharing of experiences on a local, national and

international level. To this end, the Solidarity Fund will support African women to participate in exchange visits, conferences, seminars and workshops, thereby providing valuable opportunities for networking and information, all of which are vital to the strengthening of the African women's movement.

Legacy Fund: The Legacy Fund has been established to create an additional source of funding for current or potential AWDF grantees, to enable them immortalize the contributions of outstanding African women to the development of their communities. The idea of a Legacy Fund evolved out of a meeting with AWDF's Regional Advisers in Addis Ababa, July 2004. One of the issues which were discussed at this forum was the lack of mechanisms to document the experiences and contributions of African women who have committed their lives to the women's movement and to democratic values and struggles in their countries. Many African women in our social movements pass away with no comprehensive record of their accomplishments for others to learn from. In addition, those women who are doing their valuable work away from the limelight will never have books written about them or students studying them. This special fund within AWDF will enable African women's organisations document the lives of African women through documentaries, films, photographs, memorial lectures, books and monographs. Other long-lasting initiatives such as contributions to scholarship funds for young girls and support for building projects can also be considered.

For information on how to apply, visit: <http://bit.ly/1d0d7X2>

Welcome to our new subscribers this week!

Music Therapy Community Clinic (MTCC), South Africa
SOS Youth and Childhood in Distress, Burundi
Community Volunteers Association
Flying Medical Service, Tanzania
Seeds of Hope International Partnerships, Zambia

As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website:

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/resources/newsflash/>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at newsletter@firelightfoundation.org.

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