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1 May 2014

Dear Friends,

There are many people that help to make Firelight's work possible. Some of those people are volunteers, who generously donate their time, skills, and knowledge to increase our overall effectiveness. We greatly appreciate all they do for us, and strive to make these relationships mutually beneficial.

This week's Newsflash focuses on volunteerism, and provides resources for working with volunteers in your organization.

Enjoy!

Sincerely,

The Firelight Team

*(Resource) Volunteer Management Resource Center*

*(Resource) How to Motivate Volunteers in your NGO*

*(Accepting Applications) The Nippon Foundation Overseas Grants for NGOs/NPOs Outside Japan*

*(Requests for Proposals) Nike Foundation's Requests for Proposals: Two Great Funding Opportunities for NGOs*

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(Resource) Volunteer Management Resource Center

This resource center from [idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org) has a wealth of information and resources about working with volunteers. The topics covered include:

- Developing your volunteer program
- Finding volunteers
- Support, supervision, and retention
- Training volunteers

To access this information, visit: <http://bit.ly/1pukCj9>

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(Resource) How to Motivate Volunteers in your NGO

This article from Funds for NGOs discusses various strategies for motivating volunteers that are working with your organization. Here are some of their recommendations:

Recognize their work: Volunteers, like any of us, will feel better about their work if they feel appreciated and that they are making a positive contribution. Remind them what a positive impression they are making and share with them what would happen if they weren't there. Without volunteers paid staff would have far less time to focus on developing new projects, raising funds and managing the organisation. We recommend trying to stop at least once a day to thank them for their work, especially at the end of the day so that they go home feeling like they have achieved something.

Give Back: Your volunteers are giving up their time, skills, knowledge and experience to help your cause, you have a responsibility to give back to them and invest in them in return. For most volunteers, not all, they will need to learn how to do whatever job it is that they will be doing for your organisation. Even if it seems basic and obvious to you, it is courteous to walk them through it, answer any questions they have and ensure you are always around to support them in case of any problems, as well making sure that they do not feel abandoned. Treat your volunteer like a staff member, the better they are trained the better and quicker they will be at their tasks, allowing your organisation to do more, which is ultimately why you need and want them there in the first place.

To see the rest of their recommendations, visit: <http://bit.ly/1rppjGD>

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(Accepting Applications) The Nippon Foundation Overseas Grants for NGOs/NPOs Outside Japan

Deadline: Throughout the Year

The Nippon Foundation accepts applications from the non-profit organizations based outside of Japan throughout the year for its Overseas Grants. Any local, regional or international NGOs/NPOs including educational and research institutions based outside of Japan are invited to submit proposals on different funding areas covered by the foundation.

Funding Areas:

- Improvement of Basic Human Needs
- Human Resource Development
- Promotion of International Collaborative Undertakings

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicant must be local, regional or international non-governmental/non-profit organization (including educational and research institutions) based outside of Japan.
- Private individuals or for-profit organizations are ineligible to apply for the grant.
- Any program that is already in its operational phase is not eligible for grant consideration.
- Resubmission of previously rejected proposals is not accepted.

Application materials consists of a cover letter, an application summary form, a project budget and a project proposal to the Nippon Foundation's Overseas Grants.

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

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### (Requests for Proposals) Nike Foundation's Requests for Proposals: Two Great Funding Opportunities for NGOs

Nike Foundation has announced two great funding opportunities for NGOs all across the world to seek partnerships and provide funding to undertake advocacy for influencing the post-2015 development agenda to prioritize the issue of adolescent girls living in poverty.

Nike Foundation's Girl Declaration is a call to action to put girls at the heart of the post-2015 development agenda. It contains recommended guiding principles, goals and targets for inclusion in the post-2015 framework developed through a collaborative global process that included consultation with leading development organizations and more than 500 adolescent girls living in poverty in 14 countries around the world.

The Girl Declaration has inspired action around the world, from the Daraja Academy in Kenya to BRAC in South Sudan, both of which shared inspirational videos of their girls reading and signing the Girl Declaration within their networks. Dermalogica's FITE team gathered hundreds of supporters who signed the Declaration and raised awareness about girls by putting up Girl Declaration posters in their salons. Supporters of the Girl Declaration signatories, including Oprah Winfrey, pushed the reach of #girldeclaration to 29 million during the 10 days of activation leading up to International Day of the Girl.

The two opportunities currently open are:

- Global Advocacy Request for Proposals
- National Advocacy Request for Proposals

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

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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](mailto:newsletter@firelightfoundation.org)

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