

24 August, 2011

Dear friends,

Greetings from Firelight Foundation! We hope this message finds you all well this week. We are sharing a variety of resources this week that can encourage you, your staff, and your peers to grow in different areas of your work. It is important to constantly challenge ourselves so that we continue to grow and so that the environments around us continue to improve. We hope you find these helpful!

Sincerely,
Firelight Team

"Don't believe everything you think"
-African proverb

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(Call for nominations) ONE Africa Award

The ONE Africa Award aims to recognize, reward, and advance the exceptional work of organizations, founded by Africans and based in Africa, dedicated to helping Africa achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The \$100,000 award will bring recognition to innovative African efforts to fight poverty and will incentivize more of such efforts (The award may be split into two prizes in order to award two smaller organizations better able to absorb a smaller monetary award.)

Award recipients can be exceptional individuals, organizations or other groups demonstrating commitment and success in assisting Africans in meeting one or more of the MDGs through innovative advocacy based programs.

- Qualified recipients may be engaged in direct services to achieve any of the MDGs but must demonstrate a strong advocacy component integral to the delivery and success of their programs.
- Qualified recipients may be advocacy/pressure groups and think tanks

engaged in governance activities such as the monitoring of flows of resources and/or holding governments accountable to commitments to MDG attainment.

2011 Award Criteria

The 2011 ONE AFRICA Award will award best practice by an African organization or individual addressing social development issues through innovative advocacy in promotion of MDG attainment.

Nominated individuals/organizations will be graded in 5 categories and will be awarded between 1-10 points in each of these categories:

1. Extent to which the individual/organization has designed and implemented an innovative advocacy program that employs new approaches to impact in a given sector(s).
2. Ability to demonstrate and communicate specific indicators of progress and impact linking work to a given sector(s) in a clear results framework;
3. Demonstration of the ability to replicate efforts of the individual/organization to take intervention to scale;
4. Demonstration of strong accountability mechanisms i.e. community leadership consultations/involvement in programs, transparency of operations.
5. Extent to which the individual/organization has employed creative partnerships to achieve its goal and ensure coordination with other development actors. These partnerships may include public and/or private sector players.

The eligible organizations must be founded by Africans and be based in Africa. Evidence of success in previous projects as well as funding support for previous project activities must also be included.

ONE will informally review the award winner's project activities and progress a year following the receipt of the award.

For more information, go here: <http://www.one.org/c/international/hottopic/3788/>

(Call for applications) Commonwealth Foundation Grants

Our responsive grants are designed to promote international or intercultural exchange, co-operation and sharing of skills, knowledge and ideas between people from developing Commonwealth countries.

Hundreds of non-governmental organisations around the Commonwealth benefit from our responsive grants. We award funding of up to £12,500, although the average award is about £5,000. In exceptional cases, we can award grants of up to £25,000.

They support activities such as short training courses, workshops, conferences, festivals, study visits or voter education activities.

Eligibility

Responsive grants are awarded primarily to support the participation in an event of people from more than one developing Commonwealth country.

The grant may be used for the cost of airfares, accommodation and subsistence, and monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

We cannot support:

- Participation by citizens of developed countries.
- Exchanges between developed countries.
- Projects lasting longer than one year.
- Training courses taking place in a university in a developed country.
- Academic study or research.
- Publication of books and films, unless they are learning tools developed as a result of an activity supported by us.

Responsive grants are awarded on a quarterly basis. Applications should be submitted by 30 June, 30 September, 31 December or 31 March.

Unfortunately we cannot accept applications from individuals. Only registered or incorporated non-profit or cultural organisations are eligible to apply. For more information visit our FAQs.

Your application should be submitted using our standard application form. You may find it useful to refer to our grant guidelines as you are completing the form.

Please also use the supplementary voter education application form when applying for grants for voter education activities.

Your application, together with any relevant supplementary material can either be submitted via our contact form or by post to the address at the foot of the page marked "Grant applications"

For more information, go

here: <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/Howwedeliver/Grants/Civilsociety/responsivegrants>

(Resource) SlideRocket Online Presentation Service

SlideRocket is an online tool for creating, managing, and sharing visual presentations. Similar to a beefed-up PowerPoint, SlideRocket lets you build multimedia slideshows. Presentations can be shown in person, presented live to up to 25 viewers on SlideRocket's website, or embedded into your own site so anyone can watch and interact with them any time.

SlideRocket has teamed with TechSoup to offer its online presentation service to nonprofits and public libraries. Organizations can use SlideRocket's service to create presentations within a web browser, share them securely online, and measure their effectiveness.

SlideRocket offers both donations and discounts for one-year user subscriptions to its online service (from \$24 to \$144). Eligible organizations may request two donated products and an unlimited number of discounted products per fiscal year (July 1 to June 30). Requesting multiple products provides additional user subscriptions for a SlideRocket account acquired through TechSoup.

For more information, go

here: <http://home.techsoup.org/stock/pages/category.aspx?category=SlideRocket>

Whether you choose to use SlideRocket, or other means of compiling a presentation for your nonprofit, you can access Techsoup's tips on creating a good presentation. For more, go

here: http://www.techsoup.org/learningcenter/training/page6702.cfm?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=nplive&utm_content=aug3&utm_campaign=btc

(Resource) CREA: 2nd Disability, sexuality, & rights online institute

The Disability, Sexuality, and Rights Online Institute provides a study of theory and practice for disabled and non-disabled people working in areas such as development, health, sexuality, media, and rights. The aim is to create awareness about the intersection of disability and sexuality, and build a political perspective on disabled people's sexual rights. The Institute runs from October 17- December 17, 2011.

Deadline for applications: September 17, 2011.

For more, go here: <http://apps3.creaworld.org/creaforms/node/5>

(Resource) Social Welfare Workforce Webinar Series

The Social Welfare Workforce Webinar Series, funded by PEPFAR and implemented under the auspices of the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance by USAID partner CapacityPlus, is intended to encourage the sharing information, expertise, and promising practices for addressing the needs of the social welfare workforce through a series of facilitated discussions.

Initial webinar topics were suggested by participants who attended the PEPFAR-funded Social Welfare Workforce Strengthening Conference held in Cape Town, last November. Six priority topics were then selected through an online survey and will be presented in six installments every six to eight weeks.

The topics refer to specific initiatives for improving strategies for planning, training, and supporting the broad variety of different workers – paid and unpaid, governmental and non-governmental – who make up the social service workforce and are responsible for the care and protection of vulnerable populations, including children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.

The next webinar on 8 Sept, will focus on "Social Welfare Workforce Training Curricula". It is essential to have a well trained and well motivated workforce to address the social service needs of vulnerable children and their families.

Recognizing that many countries have a limited supply of professionals with advanced degrees to address child support needs, a number of models have evolved that provide basic skill training - so community members can extend the social workforce under the supervision of professionals. Training models include classroom based learning, field based supervision as well as distance modalities.

While country and community specific training approaches need to be tailored to local needs, this webinar will present some best practice models that provide content and some of the lessons learned in development and implementation. If successful these models will help extend the reach of existing social service systems as well as help community workers develop new skills that may form the basis for further education and professional development.

Participants may log onto the webinar by following the instructions described at the following link.

<https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?password=M.4D3B3816E57A7EA6985305EE86AD4E&sid=2011113>.

Please ensure that your computer or laptop has a speaker. Alternatively, participants may participate in the webinar as a country team at the following locations. (Please contact the webinar session host listed below to RSVP and for further directions.)

- Lesotho, UNICEF
Brenda Yamba, yambaBM@state.gov
- Namibia, UNICEF
Matthew Dalling, mdalling@unicef.org
- South Africa, USAID
Anita Sampson, asampson@usaid.gov
- Tanzania, USAID,
Jacky Gayle, jgayle@usaid.gov
- Uganda, International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Uganda
Lydia Khaweka, lkhaweka@allianceuganda.org
- Zambia, USAID
Mwaba Bota, mbota@usaid.gov
- Zimbabwe, UNICEF
Elayn Sammon, esammon@unicef.org
- United States, CapacityPlus
Dana Singleton, dsingleton@capacityplus.org
- Additional counties are being confirmed and will be added

For further information, log onto <http://www.ovcsupport.net/s/index.php?c=114>
You may also contact: SWWS.Webinars@capacityplus.org

(Report) Devastating Impact: Explosive Weapons and Children

Thousands of children were killed in 2009 as a direct consequence of explosive weapons. Many more have died or will die because of the damage caused to health services and infrastructure. Many thousands more will have to live with the physical, mental, environmental and economic consequences.

The general inattention to the impact of explosive weapons on children sets a dangerous precedent and must be challenged.

This report outlines:

- the impact of explosive weapons on children and their communities
- the international human rights and legal framework that could and should be implemented to protect children
- three steps towards minimising the impact of explosive weapons on children and recommendations to the international community, governments and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

For the report, go here: http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/en/54_14963.htm

(Resource) Facing History and Ourselves

Facing History and Ourselves delivers classroom strategies, resources and lessons that inspire young people to take responsibility for their world. Internationally recognized for our quality and effectiveness, Facing History harnesses the power of the Internet and partners with school systems, universities, and ministries of education worldwide.

Each year we reach more than two million students through our global network of more than 29,000 trained educators, staff, adjunct faculty and international fellows, who facilitate hundreds of seminars and workshops annually, and we reach the public through community events and extensive online resources. In 2010, our website received more than 740,000 visits from people in 215 countries and territories, with more than 2.5 million page views.

For more information and resources, go here: <http://www.facinghistory.org/>

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/newsflash.php>.

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