

5 July, 2011

Dear Friends,

This week we are introducing management software from Develate. The software is open source, free, and especially designed for NGOs. We were introduced to Develate by a grantee-partner in South Africa. If you have access to similar tools that could be helpful for other NGOs and CBOs, please feel free to share them with us!

Enjoy,
Firelight Team

Call For Proposals: Open Society Fellowship

Call for Nominations: DSC Social Change Awards

Call for Applications: Global Disability Rights Library funding

Call for Applications: Staying Alive Foundation Grants

Call for Applications: FLOW: Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women

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Open Society Fellowship

The Open Society Fellowship supports individuals seeking innovative and unconventional approaches to fundamental open society challenges. The fellowship funds work that will enrich public understanding of those challenges and stimulate far-reaching and probing conversations within the Open Society Foundations and in the world.

A fellowship project might identify a problem that has not previously been recognized, develop new policy ideas to address familiar problems, or offer a new advocacy strategy. Fellows should take advantage of the considerable intellectual and logistical resources of the Open Society Foundations and expect to contribute meaningfully to the Foundations' thinking in return.

In evaluating each proposal, the selection committee weighs three factors: the

applicant, the topic of the project, and the work product.

Proposals received by August 1, 2011 will be evaluated by November 21, 2011. The next deadline will be in early 2012 for evaluation that spring. For more information, go here: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/fellowship/grants>

Staying Alive Foundation Grants

The Foundation gives out grants twice a year – each grant is a maximum of \$12,000. The grants are for projects that last up to twelve months and grant winners must be under the age of 27 in order to apply. Applicants do not need to work for an organization, but do require to be partnered with a non-for-profit organization.

From all the applications received, the Grant Manager will select a shortlist which is then presented to a Proposal Committee – this committee is composed of select Board members, the Executive Director and the Grant Manager. The Proposal Committee selects finalists for final approval by the entire Board of Directors.

Grant winners receive the first half of their grant at the start of the project and the second half after they submit a successful mid-term report. On top of financial support, the Foundation also provides a small fund to buy technical equipment, and also sends two people on a training course designed specifically for them. In addition to the Grant Manager's support, grantees also are provided with a local mentor to help with their activities. All grants are for one year and grantees can re-apply for a three-year grant if the project proves to be successful.

Awards will be made small youth-led initiatives that:

1. Educate and/or give out responsible and accurate information about HIV and AIDS targeted at young people within their communities.
2. Eliminate or alleviate the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS.
3. Encourage young people to take concrete action to protect themselves from HIV infection.
4. Demonstrate innovation and creativity in their activities.
5. Reflect and honor the culture in which the project operates.

All Staying Alive Award winners must demonstrate credibility through independent references, government accreditation (if you have any), and verifiable banking and accounting systems.

All Staying Alive Award winners must agree to allow SAF and MTV to promote and publicize their projects. We will use compelling grantee stories to inspire other young people.

What we will not fund:

1. Organisations that work with young people but which are not led entirely by young people.
2. Scholarships or college fees
3. Doctoral or other research
4. Projects that discriminate against people because of religion, sex, race, disability or sexual orientation
5. Projects that focus principally on abstinence as a means of controlling the spread of HIV.
6. Projects with budgets that primarily reflect a focus on capital expenditure e.g. erecting buildings, creating physical infrastructure (such as schools, orphanages, community centres etc.) or the purchasing of major equipment (such as vehicles).
7. Projects with a primary focus on delivering health care, shelter, food security or other non-education focused development initiatives.

Also, see MTV's new show "Me, Myself & HIV" that follows two young people (young man from Zambia and a young woman from the USA) and their life with HIV.

For more information, go here: http://foundation.staying-alive.org/en/grants/apply/application_form

DSC Social Change Awards

Nominations for the 2011 Awards are now open. The process is simple and can be done online. DSC will produce a shortlist from each category once nominations have closed, and there will be an online public vote to pick the winners. Voting will open once the shortlist has been decided in October.

You can nominate yourself or your own organisation using a simple process which can be completed in less than 30 minutes. If you are nominating your own organisation, please complete the 'nominate yourself' application.

Nominations close in August.

For more information, go here: http://www.socialchangeawards.org.uk/nominate.html?dm_i=6S7,GM8Y,3N

Global Disability Rights Library funding

The Global Disability Rights Library (GDRL) project is a global effort to enable disability rights advocates to transform society. The GDRL team is working to build a large collection of digital knowledge on disability rights and related topics.

The GDRL is a joint initiative of the United States International Council on Disabilities (USICD) and the University of Iowa's WiderNet Project with funding support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The goal of the Global Disability Rights Library (GDRL) is to improve the lives of persons with disabilities in developing countries by using off-line digital libraries to deliver information and educational materials to disabled people's organizations (DPOs), decision makers, individual advocates, health care institutions, and other organizations and agencies that support the disability civil rights movement and that lack adequate Internet access.

The project funds the deployment of the GDRL to 60 demonstration sites in developing countries by the end of 2012.

To be considered as a deployment site, the applicants must complete the on-line application form to provide general information about their organization and must provide at least one professional reference.

For more information, go here:

<http://www.widernet.org/digitallibrary/gdrlsiteselection/>

FLOW: Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women

FLOW is a new fund initiated by the Dutch Foreign Ministry to strengthen the rights and opportunities for women and girls worldwide. Minister for European Affairs and International Cooperation Ben Knapen has reserved 70 million Euros for this fund.

FLOW will focus on three priorities: security (including violence against women and UN Resolution 1325), economic empowerment (with an emphasis on food

security, land, water and economic rights) and political participation. In these three priorities female leadership is seen as an important instrument.

NGOs that meet the criteria as specified in the application documents are welcome to apply for a FLOW grant.

FLOW is a successor to the successful MDG3 Fund which started in 2008. The video below shows examples of the results of the MDG3 Fund. The deadline for applications is July 29, 2011.

For more information, go here: <http://www.minbuza.nl/flow>

Develate open source, free NGO software

Develate is a web-browser application that any computer can access from your local network. It has reasonable, low server requirements but can run large datasets from an average laptop. Low user PC requirements, and unlimited users with over 50 different access rights.

There are 3 different components: Management tools, financial system, and analytics.

Management tools: HR system, document management, intranet messaging, staff certification controls with audit history, live logical framework monitoring, electronic staff appraisals, time sheets

Financial system: specifically built for NGOs, advanced budgeting features, integrated funder system, payroll integration, real accounting principles, integrated to analytics (measures unit costs in real time)

Analytics (not free- requires consultancy and training): monitor outputs AND outcomes, monitor anything, multi-site projects, infinitely flexible report writer, live logical framework monitoring

For more information, go here: <http://develate.com/>

No Place For Homophobia HereSource: The Star16/06/2011South Africa has given the world some powerful ideas – foremost among them the concept of the rainbow nation, where diversity is a source of strength and everyone is entitled to equal rights and respect.By Navi PillayIt is especially saddening that the

country reborn under Nelson Mandela's watchful eye should now be the setting for a far more sinister phenomenon that undermines everything the rainbow nation stands for: so-called corrective rape. The disturbing term "corrective rape" describes the rape of lesbians or women perceived to be lesbian by men who claim to be trying to "correct" their victims' sexuality. In the worst cases, such attacks have been fatal. Rape and comparable sexual violence against anyone is a serious crime that must never be condoned nor tolerated. This kind of rape is part of a wider pattern of sexual violence that tragically affects women across South Africa and elsewhere. It combines discrimination and a fundamental lack of respect for women with deeply entrenched homophobia, in spite of some of the most progressive laws and constitutional protections in the world. In the latest reported attack, on May 4, a 13-year-old girl was raped in Atteridgeville near Pretoria. During the assault, her attacker reportedly boasted that he would "cure" her of lesbianism. In late April, the disfigured body of lesbian activist Noxolo Nogwaza was found in an alley in KwaThema near Joburg. She had been raped and killed, apparently after an argument with some men who had tried to proposition her girlfriend. Nogwaza's murder took place in the same township in which Eudy Simelane was gang-raped and stabbed to death in 2008. Simelane was a lesbian and a star player for the national women's football team, Banyana Banyana. Charges of rape and murder were eventually laid against four men, two of whom were convicted. Sadly, such convictions are the exception: very few other cases of so-called corrective rape have even made it to court. Reliable statistics on "corrective" rape are hard to come by. In the absence of a more systematic approach to monitoring, recording and investigating such crimes, it is impossible to know the true extent of the problem, let alone hold perpetrators to account. Many cases go unreported and those that are may not be properly identified as homophobic-hate crimes. The government recently acknowledged the seriousness of the situation. Following the most recent attack in Atteridgeville, a spokesperson for the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development promised a swift and thorough investigation and correctly referred to gay and lesbian rights as human and constitutional rights. The same department also recently established a task team on hate crimes against lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender and intersex people. The task team, which meets for the first time later this month, will gather information, propose possible responses and facilitate public awareness activities and training of police and court officials. These are all steps in the right direction. The contribution of community-based organisations, including groups representing victims, will be critical in identifying how the authorities can better discharge their responsibility to protect people from this kind of targeted, hate-driven violence. While "corrective" rape has become associated with South Africa, where most documented cases have taken place, the problem is not restricted to any one country. Cases of corrective rape have recently been reported in Uganda, Zimbabwe and Jamaica, and, more generally, violence against individuals perceived to be

lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender is a reality in all parts of the world, with some particularly horrific incidents reported recently in the US, the UK, Honduras and Brazil. I understand that, in some countries, homosexuality is something that runs against the grain of majority sexual mores. But healthy societies cannot approve of violence inflicted on other human beings for any reason. As High Commissioner, I must stay true to universal standards of human rights and human dignity, which are overriding. Let there be no confusion: in speaking up for the rights of those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex, we are not calling for the recognition of new rights or trying to extend human rights into new territory. We are simply reinforcing what the UN human rights treaty bodies and human rights rapporteurs have confirmed repeatedly: existing international law protects everyone from violence and discrimination, including on grounds of their sexuality or gender identity. States are responsible for ensuring that everyone can enjoy the same rights – no matter who they are, where they come from, what they look like, or whom they love. South Africans should need no convincing of this. It was, after all, the idea on which this country was renewed and which is today embedded in the constitution. South Africa's challenge is to be true to its ideals and to make real the promise of the post-apartheid era: a rainbow nation where we are all free and equal and can live comfortably with those who are different. It is a challenge the rest of the world would do well to take up. Navi Pillay is the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

For the article, go here: <http://awid.org/News-Analysis/Issues-and-Analysis/No-place-for-homophobia-here>

Census Update: What the world will look like in 2050

By Claire Suddath Thursday, June 20, 2011
Time Magazine

Here is the world in 2050, as imagined by the U.S. Census Bureau: India will be the most populous nation, surpassing China sometime around 2025. The U.S. will remain exactly where it is now: in third place, with a population of 423 million (up from 308 million in 2010). And declining birth rates in two of the world's most economically and politically influential countries, Japan and Russia, will cause them to fall from their current positions as the 9th and 10th most populous nations, respectively, to 16th and 17th.

For the article, go here: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,2080404,00.html?xid=newsletter-weekly>

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.