

18 April, 2011

Dear Friends

This Newsflash! focuses on the idea of basic human rights and their accessibility to everyone. In 1948, the United Nations created the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states, "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood." It is this idea and belief that Firelight wishes to promote and advocate. This Newsflash! includes resources and information on the issues of human rights, which we hope you will find useful.

Sincerely,
Firelight Team

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(Call for Nomination) John Humphrey Award 2011

John Humphrey Award is given to an organization or individual from any region of the world including Canada for outstanding achievement in the promotion of democratic development or respect for human rights. The Award consists of a \$30,000 grant and a speaking tour of Canadian cities to increase public

awareness of the laureate's work. Deadline is April 30, 2011.

For more information, go here: http://www.dd-rd.ca/site/humphrey_award/index.php

(Call for Applications) Global Fund for Women

The Global Fund for Women plays a leading role in advancing women's rights by making grants that support and strengthen women's groups around the world. The Global Fund for Women mobilizes and redistributes resources that enable women to develop creative solutions to local, regional, and transnational challenges. It brings grantees and donors together in an international network that promotes women's action for social change, equality, peace, and justice worldwide.

The Global Fund for Women envisions a just, compassionate and equitable world in which all people, regardless of their gender, class, age, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation or physical ability may live free of poverty, violence, and all forms of discrimination. Each person and all peoples are guaranteed their fundamental human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political, and social. Women everywhere have a voice, have choices, and are able to realize their full potential within their societies. Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis and grants are awarded every 3 months.

For more information, go here: <http://www.globalfundforwomen.org/apply-for-a-grant>

(Call for Applications) The Global Fund For Children

The Global Fund for Children's mission is to advance the dignity of children and youth around the world. GFC pursues its mission by making small grants to innovative community-based organizations working with some of the world's most vulnerable children and youth, complemented by a dynamic media program that, through books, documentary photography, and film, highlights the issues affecting children and celebrates the global society in which we all live.

The needs of children and youth, though in many ways universal, are best responded to in ways that fit the particular situation on the ground. GFC therefore supports groups that are providing for the needs of children in a variety of ways—by giving scholarships to allow poor children to attend formal schools, by providing tutoring and after-school services to youth at risk of leaving formal schooling, or by establishing classroom environments on train platforms, in boats, on beaches, or at garbage dumps.

All potential grantee partners are first required to submit a preliminary letter of inquiry. Although GFC awards new grants only twice a year (in June and

December), interested organizations can submit a letter of inquiry at any time during the year. GFC uses the letter of inquiry to determine basic eligibility and fit with GFC's selection criteria. Please review our portfolios and eligibility criteria carefully before submitting a letter of inquiry.

For more information, go here: <http://www.globalfundforchildren.org/>

(Call for Application) Mama Cash Grants

Mama Cash is the oldest international women's fund - established in the Netherlands in 1983. It supports pioneering and innovative women's initiatives around the world, because it believes that social change starts with women and girls.

In the last ten years Mama Cash has awarded nearly €19,000,000 to advance women and girls' human rights. It is active in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

For more information, go here: <http://www.mamacash.org/page.php?id=2007>

(Resource) Human Rights Funders Group

Human Rights Funders Group (HRFG) is an umbrella organization of funders that focus on global human rights. HRFG functions as a global network of donors and grantmakers committed to advancing human rights around the world through effective philanthropy. Their website has resources, policy documents, information for grant-seekers, and a funder directory

For more information, go here: <http://www.ihrfg.org/funder-directory-search>

(Resource) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

On December 10, 1948 the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights the full text of which appears in the link provided. Following this historic act the Assembly called upon all Member countries to publicize the text of the Declaration and "to cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories." Here are a few of the main and important points from the Declaration:

1. Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.
2. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.
3. No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
4. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.
5. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.
6. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.
7. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.
8. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
9. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

This Universal Declaration works to ensure that every human being is given equal rights and is treated justly. We at Firelight believe it is important to educate others on these basic rights in order to guarantee a better future for all individuals.

To view the full Declaration, go
to: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>

(Resource) Child to Child: Empowering Children as Active Citizens
Child-to-Child (CtC) is an approach to health promotion and community development that is led by children. It is based on the belief that children can be actively involved in their communities and in solving community problems. CtC projects involve children in activities that interest, challenge and empower

them. In so doing, the approach "encourages and enables children to play an active and responsible role in the health and development of themselves, other children, their families and communities" Here are the two pillars that this approach is based on:

1. Popular education, or education for social change, is one of the key theoretical pillars underlying the CtC approach. First articulated by Paulo Friere in his literacy work with Brazilian peasants, popular education has been used in both poor and rich countries as a tool to raise people's awareness of how their personal experiences are linked with larger social problems.

2. Child participation is the second theoretical pillar of the CtC approach. In its broadest sense, child participation refers to children playing a meaningful role in the world around them. The principle of child participation is firmly rooted in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which asserts that children have the right to participate as full members of society. In short, the CRC recognises that children are not merely "adults in training", but people who are able to form and express opinions, to participate in decision-making processes and to influence solutions.

For more information, see the attached document titled "Child to Child A Practical Guide to Empowering Children as Active Citizens" or go here: <http://www.ovcsupport.net/s/library.php?id=454>

(Resource) Human Rights Watch

Human Rights Watch is dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world. It stands with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, to uphold political freedom, to protect people from inhumane conduct in wartime, and to bring offenders to justice. Human Rights Watch investigates and exposes human rights violations and holds abusers accountable. It challenges governments and those who hold power to end abusive practices and respect international human rights law. It enlists the public and the international community to support the cause of human rights for all.

For more information, go heret: <http://www.hrw.org/>

(Resource) Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 3 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

For more information on human rights in general or specific information about your country, go here: <http://www.amnesty.org/en>

(Resource) Youth for Human Rights: How to start a group

Youth for Human Rights International (YHRI) is a nonprofit organization founded in 2001 by Dr. Mary Shuttleworth, an educator born and raised in apartheid South Africa, where she witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of discrimination and the lack of basic human rights.

The purpose of YHRI is to teach youth about human rights, specifically the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and inspire them to become advocates for tolerance and peace. YHRI has now grown into a global movement, including hundreds of groups, clubs and chapters around the world.

Youth for Human Rights International teaches human rights education both in the classroom and in nontraditional educational settings. We aim to reach people from diverse backgrounds, with materials which often appeal across generations. By teaching human rights through all means—from conferences and workshops to hip-hop and dancing—this message has spread around the world.

For more information, go here: <http://www.youthforhumanrights.org/take-action/groups/how-to-start-a-group.html>

(Resource) Synergos Partnership Program

The name “Synergos” comes from the Greek root meaning “working together.” We address global poverty and social injustice by supporting and connecting leaders so they can work in collaboration to change the systems that keep people in poverty.

Synergos works through partnerships, networks and knowledge sharing. Over more than 20 years, we have worked in over 30 countries and regions, including Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, India, Mexico, including the U.S-Mexico border, the Middle East, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The Partnerships program aims to create breakthrough solutions to global challenges by assembling partnerships that transcend traditional social

boundaries and problem-solving methods. The program convenes people and institutions with the resources, leverage and insight to collectively solve systemic problems at scale; enables those people and institutions to think and act together; unleashes the leadership and commitment needed for sustained effort by connecting people to meaning and their highest purpose; translates ideas into action on the ground by testing innovations and institutionalizing what works; and builds collaboration among key leaders and institutions to enhance the successful implementation of innovations.

For more information, go here: <http://www.synergos.org/partnerships/>

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.