

## HOW TO HELP THE GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN

Each year the Global Fund raises all the funds that we give away in grants, as well as our operating costs. We do not have an endowment—we rely on the support of many generous individuals, corporations, and foundations.

The Global Fund provides an efficient and convenient way to make a financial gift to support women around the world in their struggle to participate equally in their societies. By making a gift to the Global Fund, donors can assist women internationally while avoiding the administrative problems of transferring funds overseas. Cash and some in-kind contributions to the Global Fund are deductible under section 501(c)(3) of the tax code.

You can give to the Global Fund in several ways, all of which provide tax advantages.

- Cash gifts (checks may be made payable to the Global Fund for Women)
- Mastercard, Visa or American Express donations
- Gifts of appreciated securities
- Gifts of appreciated real estate
- Gifts of equipment or real property
- Transfers of assets from another foundation
- Naming the Global Fund as a beneficiary of life insurance
- Including the Global Fund in a will

Your support makes all the difference in the world. Please call the Global Fund for additional information on making a donation or volunteering your time.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

The Global Fund for Women's grantmaking program focuses on strengthening women's rights groups around the world. Our grantees address a wide variety of issues critical to women. Some of these are women's political participation and leadership, poverty and economic opportunity, women's rights in religious traditions, reproductive health and choice, lesbian rights, violence against women, and access to communications technology and to the media. We support work on emerging issues as groups make us aware of their importance to women.

Groups may apply for a grant by responding to our grant request guidelines or by sending a letter providing information about the group, its work, its financial resources and needs, and the specific grant request. The Global Fund accepts grant requests in any language. They may be handwritten or typed, and may be sent to us by mail, fax or e-mail. Grant decisions are made six times during the year, but proposals are accepted throughout the year.

The Global Fund will consider supporting organizations which: demonstrate a clear commitment to women's equality and female human rights; consist of a group of women working together rather than an individual; and are governed and directed primarily by women. Requests should demonstrate that the group is seriously working to strengthen its work over time and to raise resources from within its own community. Groups that are just forming or that need initial financing in order to receive funding from other sources may be given preference. Groups that have access to more established and larger funders are less likely to be recommended for support.

Please contact our office if you would like more information.



## THE GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN

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## MISSION AND PRINCIPLES

The Global Fund for Women, a global network of women and men committed to a world of equality and social justice, works with women and provides them with the financial means to enable them to attain this vision.

The Global Fund gives flexible, timely assistance to women's groups working on emerging, controversial and/or difficult issues. Underlying the interests and programs of the Global Fund is a set of principles:

- We believe that listening, learning, and sharing experience are essential to attaining our mission.
- We value and respect the wisdom and experience of women in all their diversity.
- We believe that women themselves know best how to determine their needs and propose solutions.
- We believe that substantive equality between women and men is critical to furthering global well being, and we recognize the current imbalance in this relationship.
- We believe that women's leadership and competence are critical to positive social change.
- We believe that women working together is an effective way of helping women achieve their fair and rightful place in the world.
- We believe that an organization's structures and processes should reflect its principles.

## THE WORK OF THE GLOBAL FUND FOR WOMEN

The Global Fund for Women is a grantmaking foundation that supports the efforts of women to transform their societies and the world. We provide grants of up to \$15,000 to women's groups outside the United States. These organizations are working to create a just and democratic world, where women and men can participate equally in all aspects of social, political, and economic life.

The Global Fund supports a wide range of initiatives that protect and defend the human rights of women around the world. We also provide funds to improve women's access to communications technology and the media, and make grants that support networking and collaboration between women's groups.

Most Global Fund grants provide general support to organizations—allowing women to make their own decisions about how to use the funds. These funds help sustain women's groups by paying for such things as computers, telephone service, rent, staff salaries, translation, conference participation, and transportation costs. Global Fund grants are often the very first funds new organizations receive and can be used to build credibility with other funders.

The Global Fund was founded in 1987 by three visionary women who worked in philanthropy and recognized the dearth of funding directed to women's issues worldwide. The Global Fund makes over 200 grants, totaling more than \$1.5 million, each year. During the past decade, we have given \$8.1 million to almost 1,000 women's rights groups in 123 countries and territories. An international advisory council helps the staff and board identify potential grantees and evaluate grant requests.

### Supporting Women to Transform the World

Our funding helps strengthen women's rights initiatives around the world. The circumstances and issues that women face vary widely across communities, cultures, religious traditions, and nations. As a result, our grantees also vary in the issues they address and the approaches they use. We believe that women themselves know best how to determine their needs and propose solutions for lasting change.

Here are brief profiles of a few Global Fund grantees:

#### **Adefra: Black German Women, Black Women in Germany, Munich, Germany**

Adefra, which means "the woman who shows courage," is an organization of black German women and black immigrant women in Germany. It is creating a mobile computer school that will travel to different cities and offer low-cost training courses for women of color. Adefra also holds workshops and other events that explore critical issues for black women in Germany, including racism in the professional world, the impact of media, labor rights, and anti-discrimination legislation.

#### **Arab Women's Forum "AISHA," Tunis, Tunisia**

Headquartered in Tunis, AISHA is working to create a support network for Arab women's organizations. It publishes a newsletter that chronicles the Arab women's movement. The group also studies discriminatory laws in Arab countries and mobilizes women to confront them. AISHA's current membership includes women's groups from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, and Tunisia.



*Members of Adefra: Black German Women, Black Women in Germany, in Munich, Germany*



*Some of the children served by Sanlaap: A Women's Rights Centre, in Calcutta, India.*

#### **Cooperativa de Mujeres Artesanas "Corazón de la Tierra", Yajalón, Mexico**

These Mayan women, who met through their daughters' school, formed a group to educate themselves. The *Cooperativa* invites speakers from other groups to talk about sexuality, health and women's rights. Its members are teaching themselves to read and write in Spanish. They learn about and make their voices heard on political issues such as the injustices of the conflict in Chiapas. The group also sells embroidery to raise money for their daughters' schooling.

#### **International Federation of Women Lawyers-Kenya (FIDA-K), Nairobi, Kenya**

FIDA-K, an organization of women lawyers and law students, is producing a 30-minute video on domestic violence. The video will be used to educate police officers about women's rights and gender issues. FIDA-K's legal center, staffed by four full-time lawyers, helps needy women with free legal advice and court representation.

#### **Sanlaap: A Women's Rights Centre, Calcutta, India**

Sanlaap has established a set of interlinked programs that help trafficked women and girls in Calcutta's red light districts. They include a shelter for girls rescued from the sex trade, education and counseling for children, legal aid, job training, and seminars on health and HIV/AIDS awareness.

### Giving Money with Respect

The Global Fund for Women believes that the way in which we do our work is as important as what we do. This philosophy underlies every step of our flexible, respectful, and responsive style of grantmaking.

- Grant requests are accepted in any format—from handwritten applications to e-mail requests—and in any language.
- Grants may range in size from as little as \$500 to a maximum of \$15,000.
- We review requests in a timely and non-bureaucratic manner.
- We rely on our global network of advisors for detailed information on local context, political developments, and other factors that may affect the work of women's groups.
- We are able to transfer money in a variety of ways, using the method that works best for each country.
- We have the flexibility to make discretionary grants to support urgent and time-sensitive requests.

### Making Women's Experience Known

The Global Fund listens every day to the concerns of women all around the world. They tell us of the injustices they have seen and felt, and how they are organizing to fight them. In addition to making grants, the Global Fund educates donors, other philanthropic institutions, and the public about the many difficult issues confronting women around the globe. We do this through publications, events, the internet, and the media. And, because our grantees have valuable strategies and inspiration to share with each other, we help make connections between them.