

International Human Rights Funders Group
January 9-10, 2006 Semi-Annual Meeting
Human Rights and the Media: Threats and Opportunities

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Monday, January 9

Time	Whitcomb Ballroom	Union Square	Ghirardelli
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast		
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome		
9:30 – 12:00	Education panel: Human Rights and the Media		
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch – Discussion Groups		
1:15 – 2:45	Sexual Rights: Self-expression, Bodily Integrity and Civil Liberties	Becoming a (or Becoming a Better) Human Rights Grantmaker	Evaluating Human Rights Grantmaking
2:45 – 4:15		Human Rights and the Environment	Hearing from Frontline Activists
4:15 – 4:45	Reports Back		
7:00	Dinner and WITNESS		

Tuesday, January 10

Time	Whitcomb Ballroom	Union Square	Ghirardelli	TBD
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast			
9:00 – 10:30	Business Meeting			
10:30 – 10:45	Break			
10:45 – 12:45	Networking Panel: Human Rights and the Media			
12:45 – 2:15	Lunch – Funders' Soapbox			
2:15 – 2:30	Treasury Guidelines			
2:30 – 4:45	Re-Connecting Civil Rights with Human Rights			
4:45 – 5:00	Reports Back			
5:00				

Semi-Annual Meeting – January 9-10, 2006

Ramada Plaza Downtown
1231 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

“Human Rights and the Media: Threats and Opportunities”

Independent and strong media are essential to the protection of human rights and democracy. In numerous countries, however, the media continue to be muzzled, either overtly by intimidation, arrest or even killing of journalists and reporters, or more subtly, through self-censorship, corporate monopolies that own media outlets, or political interests that promote a particular bias. In response, NGOs, funders, and media professionals in many parts of the world have developed innovative and vibrant initiatives to get human rights messages out “to the people,” encouraging civil society to participate in the protection of rights. Meeting participants will look at the challenges facing independent media worldwide, the role of the media in promoting or impeding human rights, and how we can support efforts to effectively use the media to promote and protect human rights.

AGENDA

Monday, January 9

8:30-9:00am *Breakfast*

9:00-9:30am *Welcome*

John Kowal, Open Society Institute
Shalini Nataraj, Reebok Human Rights Foundation

9:30-12:00pm **Education panel: Human Rights and the Media**

Facilitator:

Ann Cooper

Executive Director, Committee to Protect Journalists
New York, NY

Mallika Dutt

Executive Director, Breakthrough
Queens, New York

Maria (Masha) Lipman

Op-ed columnist, The Washington Post, Scholar-in-Residence, Carnegie
Moscow Center
Moscow, RUSSIA

Josh Silver

Executive Director, Free Press
Northampton, MA

12:00-1:15pm **Lunch and Discussion Groups**

Interested members can form discussion groups around issues, ideas, geographic interests, or continued exploration of morning discussions.

Breakouts (meet concurrently)

1:15-4:15pm **Sexual Rights:** Whitcomb

Self-expression, Bodily Integrity and Civil Liberties

Sexual Rights Working Group

Co-sponsored by Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues and Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health and Rights

Rapporteur: Heidi Dorow, Wellspring Advisors

United Nations' bodies such as the World Health Organization and the Human Rights Commission have recently begun to address the issue of sexuality and rights. While there is no international treaty on sexual rights, rights such as freedom from violence, the right to bodily integrity, the right to choose your sexual partner, and the right to pursue sexual pleasure are already recognized in national laws, international human rights documents and other consensus statements. This session will include small group discussions and interactive participation.

Facilitator: Barbara Klugman, Ford Foundation

Cesnabmihilo "Dorothy" Aken'ova, *Director*, International Centre for Reproductive Health and Sexual Rights
Minna, NIGERIA

William Smith, *Vice President for Public Policy*, Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS)
Washington, DC

1:15-2:45pm **Becoming a (or Becoming a Better) Human Rights** Union Square

Grantmaker

Leveraging Project Committee

Rapporteur: Michael Hirschhorn, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation

Join an engaging conversation with four grantmakers who have led recent efforts to launch, intensify, redefine or integrate human rights funding into their institutions' grantmaking priorities. The session will explore the strategies, motivations, "how to's" and hoped-for outcomes underlying their institutions' recent decisions as well as the approach to "leading the change" taken by these four grantmakers.

Stephen A, Foster, *Executive Director*, The Overbrook Foundation
New York, NY

Susan Freundlich, *Vice President*, Women's Foundation of California
San Francisco, CA

Michael Hirschhorn, *President*, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation
Baltimore, MD

Katrin Wilde, *Executive Director*, Channel Foundation
Seattle, WA

Evaluating Human Rights Grantmaking:

Are We Making a Difference?

Fund for Global Human Rights Working Group

Rapporteur: Steve Riskin, U.S. Institute of Peace

Ghirardelli

Progress in human rights work is notoriously difficult to measure. Strong human rights advocates working in highly repressive environments may run strategic campaigns only to see human rights conditions deteriorate. Campaigns to improve

respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, women, or workers may take years to build sufficient pressure to change policies and practices. This session will grapple with the challenges of evaluating the work of human rights organizations: what models exist for evaluating human rights work? How do human rights activists and those that fund them know when their tactics and strategies are effective? How can human rights funders evaluate grantees' work given the many variables outside grantee control that influence the results of their efforts? Human rights funders, evaluators and advocates will lead the session discussion. Bring your experience and your questions.

2:45-4:15pm **Human Rights and the Environment Working Group** Union Square
Rapporteur: Valentine Doyle, Lawson Valentine Foundation

Join this brainstorming session to discuss how human rights and environmental grantmakers can work together to strengthen both movements.

Hearing from Frontline Activists Committee Ghirardelli
Rapporteur: Shalini Nataraj, Reebok Human Rights Foundation

The Hearing from the Frontline Activists Committee aims to bring the voices and concerns of frontline human rights activists directly to members of the IHRFG in a variety of ways. We invite you to participate in thinking through strategies for this committee to derive the greatest benefit to both the funding community and frontline activists.

4:15-4:45pm **Breakout sessions:** reports back

7:00pm **Dinner and multi-media presentation**
Sponsored by The Overbook Foundation

Introduction by Stephen A. Foster, Executive Director of The Overbrook Foundation

The potential of tactical media for human rights
Gillian Caldwell, Executive Director, WITNESS

Tuesday, January 10

8:30-9:00am *Breakfast*

9:00-10:30am ***Business Meeting***

10:30-10:45am *Break*

10:45-12:45pm **Networking Panel: Human Rights and the Media**
Funder discussion of the meeting theme

12:45- 2:15pm ***Lunch ... and The Funders' Soapbox!***
Facilitator: Valentine Doyle, Lawson Valentine Foundation

An opportunity for participants to speak extemporaneously on their philanthropic passions (people, projects or programs), promote a favorite organization, appeal for advice, etc.!

2:15- 2:30pm *Update on Treasury Guidelines*
Conrad Martin, Stewart R. Mott Charitable Trust

2:30- 4:45 *Breakouts* (meet concurrently)

Corporate Social Responsibility

Union Square

Rapporteur: John Taylor, Wellspring Advisors

This session will explore the convergence of human rights and corporate social responsibility (CSR). Panelists will discuss methodologies that the human rights and business communities are developing and employing to ensure that corporations respect human rights and successfully balance competing economic, environmental, and social priorities. As international rights mechanisms increasingly acknowledge corporate complicity in gross human rights violations, CSR may offer new ways to promote and protect human rights.

International Human Rights Funding

Ghirardelli

Rapporteur: Regan Ralph, Fund for Global Human Rights

Attendees will candidly discuss funding grassroots human rights organizations in Africa, the Middle East and Asia with a focus on media issues, infrastructure needs and capacity building. The session will address practical issues such as local offices and staff and determining how to make funding decisions in this context.

Re-Connecting Civil Rights with Human Rights

Whitcomb

US Human Rights Working Group

Rapporteur: John Kowal, Open Society Institute

This session will explore the history behind the fractured relationship between human and civil rights movements in the United States and the how funders can support advocacy and organizing that re-integrates these movements. Participants will discuss how to engage in bilateral funding and strategies for cross issue advocacy with regards to human and civil rights. As a precursor to Close to Home: Bringing Human Rights to California, which takes place on January 11, presenters will also discuss utilizing a human rights framing within domestic social justice advocacy in order to advance civil rights within the United States. Participants will discuss how to engage in bilateral funding and strategies for cross issue advocacy with regards to human and civil rights.

Facilitator: Sara Ríos, Ford Foundation

Carol Anderson, author of *Eyes off the Prize: The United Nations and the African-American Struggle for Human Rights*
Columbia, MO

Wade Henderson, *Executive Director*, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Washington, DC

4:45-5:00pm **Breakout sessions:** reports back

5:00pm **Closing Cocktail Reception**

NOTE: This is a separate meeting in a different location. To RSVP contact Gia Gordon at gjag@womensfoundca.org or (415) 837-1113, ext. 340.

Allied meeting

Human Rights at Home: Building the Human Rights Movement

In partnership with The Ford Foundation, The Libra Foundation, The Rosenberg Foundation and the U.S Human Rights Fund, the Women's Foundation of California is hosting
Human Rights at Home: Building the Human Rights Movement.

Join us for an action-oriented convening on Human Rights in the United States

Wednesday, January 11, 2006

10:00am – 4:30pm

Hyatt Regency Hotel, 5 Embarcadero Center

San Francisco

The convening will also serve as the West Coast release of the Ford Foundation publication *Close to Home: Case Studies of Human Right Work in the United States*.

KEYNOTE

Dr. Carol Anderson

Author of Eyes off the Prize and Visiting Professor, Harvard University

HUMAN RIGHTS 101: USING A HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK IN THE UNITED STATES

Widney Brown, Human Rights Watch
New York

LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Monique Harden, Co-Director & Attorney
Advocates for Environmental Human Rights
New Orleans

PANEL: APPLYING THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK

- Karen Musalo, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies
- Krishanti Dharmaraj, Women's Institute for Leadership Development for Human Rights
- Lourdes Rivera, National Health Law Program
- Penny Newman, Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Opportunity to apply the human rights frame in your work.

CLOSING REMARKS: NEXT STEPS FOR THE MOVEMENT

Larry Cox, Senior Program Officer, The Ford Foundation

Visit www.womensfoundca.org to RSVP to this free convening. For more information, contact Gia Gordon at gjag@womensfoundca.org or (415) 837-1113, ext. 340.