



## **US Human Rights Fund Distributes \$735,000 in Grants**

The US Human Rights Fund (the Fund), a collaborative fund comprised of nine national and regional donors, is pleased to announce **\$735,000** in grants to be awarded to eight domestic social justice organizations for their work to promote human rights in the United States. The Fund provides strategic, field building support to U.S. human rights organizing and advocacy, and seeks to increase overall awareness of and resources for this work amongst its members and other donor partners. In its November 2006 docket, the Fund made grants in the areas of strategic communications and human rights legal and advocacy capacity.

Eight grantees were selected by the Fund's Steering Committee for their potential to contribute to the development and strength of the U.S. human rights movement in these areas, as well as for their relation to the Fund's own strategic priorities. A grants list is attached.

The US Human Rights Fund aims to foster the development of this field wide strategy in partnership with both activists and donors. Within its grantmaking, the Fund provides support in four priority areas: human rights education and training; national and regional networking; messaging and communications; and strategic thinking and advocacy.

The November 2006 docket includes support for organizations that provide human rights legal and advocacy education and training across a wide range of issue areas and sectors, and that enable domestic social justice groups both to integrate human rights into their own organizing and advocacy work and to form the related partnerships. The docket also seeds a US human rights communications initiative, and includes a national poll and other efforts to better understand how domestic social justice organizations can more effectively message human rights values and norms within the United States, and to better coordinate the ways in which advocates in different regions and issue areas communicate about their own domestic human rights work.

A third docket is expected to be completed in June 2007. Proposals in the area of education and training, with a particular focus on sustained training initiatives in select issue areas that are also closely linked to specific advocacy and policy work, will be considered. The docket will be a closed application process, and the Fund will be in direct contact with those organizations from which it seeks to receive a proposal.

The Fund is housed at Public Interest Projects and was launched in July 2005. Its Steering Committee is comprised of members from contributing foundations, including The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Ford Foundation, The Libra Foundation, the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, the Otto Bremer Foundation, The Overbrook Foundation, the Shaler Adams Foundation, the Starry Night Fund of the Tides Foundation, and an anonymous donor.

**US HUMAN RIGHTS FUND GRANTEES  
NOVEMBER 2006**

**HUMAN RIGHTS LEGAL AND ADVOCACY CAPACITY**

***American Civil Liberties Union***

*New York, New York*

\$60,000 program grant over two years

***Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc and Georgetown University***

*Washington, DC*

\$50,000 program grant over two years

***Global Rights***

*Washington, DC*

\$100,000 program grant over two years

***Human Rights Institute, Columbia University***

*New York, New York*

\$100,000 program grant over two years

***Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights***

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

\$100,000 program grant over two years

***North Dakota Human Rights Coalition***

*Fargo, North Dakota*

\$150,000 program grant over three years

**COMMUNICATIONS**

***The Opportunity Agenda***

*New York, New York*

\$75,000 program grant over one year

\$75,000 grant for national polling and messaging research

***The Spin Project***

*San Francisco, California*

\$25,000 program grant over one year