

# **Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation**

## **International Leadership Award, 2010/11**

### **Request for Applications**

#### **Background**

While the incidence of pediatric HIV/AIDS has declined in the United States and other developed nations, the number of HIV infections in the developing world, including those in children, has increased. Nearly 1,200 children are infected every day with newborns representing the vast majority. An estimated two-thirds of children and adults living with HIV globally reside in Sub-Saharan Africa, although mother-to-child transmission is increasing in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), in partnership with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, is seeking to extend its support of leadership in pediatric HIV programs through the International Leadership Award (ILA). ILAs identify and support internationally-based physicians or scientists who have the training and potential to develop pediatric HIV prevention and/or treatment programs, but lack the resources to do so. Applicants must be from a developing country, and must be performing work in a developing country in order to apply. Past Awardees have been involved in mentoring others, initiating and improving services, providing support to host governments, research, evaluation, implementation and training.

#### **Area of Focus:**

The ILA program is designed to invest in trained individuals in resource-poor countries who have the potential to develop programs that will have a direct impact on the pediatric HIV epidemic in their country, but who lack the resources to do so. This program will complement existing training programs by providing support after training is completed. The Award specifically seeks to identify individuals who are likely to have an enduring impact on control of the epidemic.

Through this letter of intent (LOI), EGPAF seeks innovative proposals to address the following issues:

- 1. Optimizing the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV by:**
  - a. Increasing the number of HIV-infected treatment eligible pregnant women who receive antiretroviral therapy (ART)**
  - b. Implementation of the revised 2010 WHO guidelines for the use of antiretrovirals for PMTCT**
  - c. Improving the uptake and retention of women, children and families in the continuum of HIV prevention, care and treatment services with particular focus on antenatal clinic attendance and postnatal follow-up of HIV-infected pregnant women and their infants through novel:**
    - i. Community or psychosocial initiatives**
    - ii. Use of technology**
    - iii. Strategies for private sector engagement**
- 2. Improving early diagnosis of HIV infection in infants, including linkages to early initiation of ART for HIV-infected children**

**Criteria:**

Award recipients are required to mentor a minimum of three additional people who would benefit from the experience and could help them achieve their goals. These are individuals who would be hired and trained to work on the project proposed by the applicant.

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation hopes that this program will foster the next generation of leaders who will then succeed in establishing programs that change the pediatric HIV epidemic in their country. We expect these leaders will in turn share their knowledge with others so that the group of leaders continues to grow. Successful pediatric programs should stimulate additional efforts to provide services to all persons with HIV infection.

**Eligibility**

Applicants must be from a developing country, and must be performing work in a developing country in order to apply. U.S. citizens or European citizens living in developing countries are not eligible to apply. The program will be restricted to applications from **Africa and India. Applicants must be living in either Africa or India, and performing work in either Africa or India in order to apply.** We are interested in applicants who have specific training or experience with HIV/AIDS. Applicants must have received an MD or PhD or country equivalent. Applicants must demonstrate commitment to continuing to work in a developing country on HIV/AIDS when the award is complete, which is a requirement of the award. Applicants are expected to be in the process of establishing successful careers and programs. Most applicants will have completed training within the past five years. Senior investigators such as Full Professors will usually not be eligible for the award. In the circumstance that a senior investigator is altering the direction of his/her career to be devoted to pediatric HIV/AIDS, and has no support for this career change, an application would be considered. Applicants must hold a position at a public or private non-profit institution [university, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), Ministries of Health, etc.] that will allow him/her adequate time and provide appropriate facilities to perform the proposed work.

The applicant must obtain the support of a senior faculty or staff member who will describe the candidate's unique qualifications, is willing to provide guidance to the applicant, and can provide evidence of the institution's or their facility's commitment to the career development of the applicant.

Awards are made to institutions on behalf of individuals. Grants can not be made directly to individuals.

### **Advisory Board**

The program will be directed by an Advisory Board composed of internationally recognized members who will select awardees, provide guidance to the awardees and ensure that the program meets its goals. The Advisory Board consists of EGPAF internal staff and external advisors to EGPAF.

### **Annual Meetings**

Awardees will be required to attend an annual meeting/think tank with the Advisory Board where their work would be discussed and they will be given opportunities to develop collaborations and mentorships with others in the group.

### **Term**

The period of performance for the Award is three years.

### **Amount of Award**

The Award provides up to US\$105,000 in total costs per year for three years for a total of US\$315,000. Funding in years two and three is dependent on progress in year one and is not guaranteed. Funds support the salary of the applicant (up to 100% effort), salaries for those hired and mentored as part of the project, and direct costs related to the project itself such as travel, supplies, and equipment. Indirect cost is limited to 5% (included in the total). Salary support per individual investigator may be a maximum of US\$45,000 per year, and must be commensurate with the level of experience of the investigator, the salary structure in the country and the level of commitment to the project. Awardees must agree to spend at least 50% of their time on the project related to the International Leadership Award. Final determination as to the amount of the award is made by the Advisory Board depending on the scope of the project.

### **Method of Selection**

Applications will be competitively reviewed internally and by the Advisory Board.

**LETTER OF INTENT SUBMISSIONS: Please note your application must be sent as ONE attachment. If not, it will be returned to you.**

**Interested applicants are asked to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI).** The LOI review is a screening process that is competitive. Only LOIs of the highest caliber will be asked to submit a full grant application. Submission of a Letter of Intent (LOI) is not a guarantee of eligibility to submit a grant application.

The LOIs must be submitted via e-mail. The document name should be 'applicant last name and country.doc' We do not require specific forms, as they often do not translate well into other word-processing programs. Please follow the instructions below carefully, and make sure that the LOI is easy to read. All text must be submitted in 12-point font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. **The LOI must be assembled in the following order**, adhering to the page limitations below.

## **6 PAGES TOTAL**

### **1. FACE PAGE including ABSTRACT (1 page)**

- Provide the complete name, title, mailing address, phone number, FAX number, and e-mail for the applicant.
- Provide the full legal name of the applicant's organization.
- Please indicate the title of your project.
- Please include an Abstract of one-half page (or less) that summarizes the project you propose. Please be specific in defining the population to be addressed in improving coverage for HIV infected pregnant women and their infants.

### **2. BIOSKETCH including narrative on QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING (2 pages)**

Eligibility requirements are described in the eligibility section of this RFA. Please submit a brief biosketch and describe your qualifications and training. Please explain the specific training you have had that prepares you to complete the activities outlined in your Project Description. What specific skills or experience make you uniquely qualified to complete this project?

### **3. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT (1 page)**

Briefly describe the facilities of the applicant organization, (university, NGOs, c, CBOs, Ministries of Health, etc) and personnel currently available. Please provide background of the magnitude of the pediatric HIV epidemic in your city or country, including seroprevalence in pregnant women, number of children living with HIV, and the existing system of care and support upon which you wish to impact.

### **4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (2 pages)**

Please provide a description of the program you wish to create or build upon to change the pediatric HIV epidemic your country within the constraints of the funds provided. Please include attainable, specific, time-phased objectives for your program. All proposals must have a direct relevance to the area of focus specified for this LOI.

Award recipients will be required to mentor a minimum of three additional people who would benefit from the experience of participating in the project and could help them achieve their goals. These are individuals who would be hired and trained to work on the project proposed by the applicant. Describe the staff you hope to mentor and train as part of the program, including their names, descriptions of their positions and titles.

**BUDGETS ARE NOT REQUESTED AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCESS.** HOWEVER, PROJECT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS SHOULD REALISTICALLY BE BASED ON THE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD OF THE GRANT.

### **PROCESS FOR SUBMISSIONS**

**Applications must be submitted electronically to Chris Hudnall at [chris@pedaids.org](mailto:chris@pedaids.org).** Applications that are incomplete or do not follow the instructions will be returned.

### **Timeline:**

- **Letters of Intent are due 5pm Pacific Standard Time on December 10, 2010**
- **Full applications will be solicited December 22, 2010**
- **Full applications will be due January 24, 2011.**

Questions concerning the ILA program should be directed to:

Chris Hudnall

Senior Program Coordinator, Research

Phone: 310-314-3154 FAX: 310- 314-1469

E-mail: [chris@pedaids.org](mailto:chris@pedaids.org)