



## Fighting poverty and advancing social justice

### Knowledge Sharing Fund

*Supporting CARE Knowledge Sharing Initiatives*

#### Call for Proposals - FY07

##### Do you want to share knowledge?

- Do you want to start a process of reflection with your colleagues about a relevant topic?
- Do you want to begin using some knowledge your team already has?
- Do you want to invite your colleagues to share their experience and advice with you as you begin a new intervention?
- Are you the manager of a well established development project and want to share your lessons inside and outside CARE?

**If you are focused on connecting people by sharing knowledge, consider applying for CARE's Knowledge Sharing Fund!**

- **Global Knowledge Sharing Fund:** A fund for activities that will be completed within the next six months of up to \$5,000 (US) per initiative, available for any knowledge sharing initiative that advances learning throughout CARE.
- **Signature FY07 Fund: Sexual & Reproductive Health (SRH) Knowledge Sharing Fund:** A fund for activities that will be completed within the next six months of up to \$5,000 (US) per initiative for knowledge sharing activities **specific to Sexual & Reproductive Health.**

Activities should focus on connecting people. Learning processes proposed may include, but are not limited to, the following KS methods/tools:

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| ▪ Peer Assist       | ▪ Community of Practice |
| ▪ Knowledge Fair    | ▪ After Action Review   |
| ▪ Learning Exchange | ▪ Story telling         |
| ▪ Action-research   | ▪ Coaching              |
| ▪ Peer Evaluation   | ▪ Forums                |

**The application deadline for both funds is December 10, 2006.**

## OVERVIEW

Knowledge Sharing at CARE aims to create an organizational culture that prizes learning and sharing and that learns openly with others who fight poverty. Knowledge sharing is an increasing priority for CARE as a large, complex and geographically dispersed organization, as we work to effectively achieve our poverty-fighting objectives. Improved knowledge sharing that focuses on learning is critical to:

- Improving program quality and reducing duplication of efforts;
- Creating an environment that enables reflection and fosters innovation;
- Increasing cost-effectiveness and efficiencies.

## ABOUT THE FUNDS

CARE has set aside funds to support all staff in their efforts to promote innovative organizational learning and sharing. These Funds will contribute to overcoming some of our challenges and barriers to help CARE become a better learning organization. Some of the challenges and barriers we face are working in isolated “silos”; difficulty in using our local knowledge in our regional and global work; and the organizational capacity to learn from our failures and successes.

### *Global Knowledge Sharing Fund*

The Learning & Organizational Unit encourages **CARE Country Offices (COs) and COs working together on regional initiatives to apply**. COs may submit more than one proposal, and can also partner with outside organizations. The Global Fund is also open to all CARE USA divisions and units (HQ, and Field offices) as well as CARE International.

- Activities should focus on connecting people (more than only collecting information), and have clear objectives related to the learning/strategic agenda of the unit, country, region or sector. Initiatives should focus on creating or generating knowledge; transferring or sharing knowledge (inside or outside CARE); or assuring new knowledge is used in a broader group.
- New initiatives will be considered, as well as innovative or learning elements in an existing project, program or activity. However, grants offered through the Fund cannot match funding for proposals or ideas not yet funded. Initiatives must have a specific goal, process and clear end-point to be considered.
- The Knowledge Sharing Evaluation Committee anticipates funding at least five learning initiatives this fiscal year.
- Up to \$5,000 per initiative will be awarded.
- Initiatives must be completed in the next six months (By the end of this Fiscal Year).

### *Signature FY07 Fund: Sexual and Reproductive Health Knowledge Sharing Fund*

The Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) team is committed to supporting Knowledge Sharing to help give staff access to the information they need to do their job, scaling up successful program innovations and improving program quality to more effectively address the underlying causes of poor SRH in the populations we serve. To promote learning over the coming year, the SRH Team has set aside funds to support SRH staff in their efforts to promote knowledge sharing.

- Activities should have clear learning objectives related to sexual and reproductive health.
- The SRH Team anticipates funding up to five learning activities.
- Initiatives must be completed in the next six months (By the end of this Fiscal Year).

## REVIEW PROCESS

The application deadline for both funds is December 10, 2006. Proposals may be submitted in any of the five CARE languages: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese or Arabic. KS proposals must not exceed two pages, using the format attached.

**Global Knowledge Sharing Fund:** Send completed applications to Mare Fort ([mfort@care.org](mailto:mfort@care.org)). The Evaluation Committee, consisting of members inside and outside CARE, will select proposals. Contact Mare with questions before Nov. 30.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health Knowledge Sharing Fund:** Send completed applications to Jaime Stewart ([stewart@care.org](mailto:stewart@care.org)). The SRH Team and the KS Senior Advisor will review all of the applications and will fund up to five activities. Contact Jaime with questions before Nov. 30.

## REPORTING AND SHARING PROCESS

All grant awardees will be expected to provide a brief reflective summary of their Knowledge Sharing initiatives when completed. A process is under development to share and use these knowledge experiences more broadly, including potentially sharing experiences in different CARE venues.

## SUPPORT MATERIALS TO PREPARE YOUR PROPOSAL

If you need to know more about Knowledge Sharing and the different methodologies/tools you can use to enhance organizational learning, please visit [www.careacademy.org](http://www.careacademy.org)