

2008 Human Rights Advocates Program
HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY & GLOBALIZATION
Center for the Study of Human Rights ★ Columbia University

2008 HRAP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HRAP is a capacity building program designed to strengthen the skills, knowledge, and networks of proven human rights defenders from the Global South and marginalized communities in the United States.

HRAP's current focus has emerged in recent years as a response to the negative effects of globalization on those with the least access to decision-making processes. Given their physical and symbolic distance from centers of power, grassroots leaders are typically unable to lobby for equitable outcomes from global policymakers.

The design of HRAP is intended to help level the playing field for those lacking the access and relevant skills or knowledge to lobby effectively for their causes. The Program provides advanced training, support, and networking opportunities to respected human rights leaders. The focus is both on strengthening the skills of the individual Advocates and providing tools to build sustainable organizations that advocate for disadvantaged peoples.

PROGRAM FOCUS:

Since 2004, HRAP has concentrated its support on individuals and organizations that address issues broadly related to globalization.

The four-month intensive capacity building program based at Columbia University in New York focuses on the following key issue areas:

- ★ Environmental injustice
- ★ Labor rights violations
- ★ Abuses by multinational corporations
- ★ Ramifications of resource extraction
- ★ Public health crises
- ★ Unsustainable development
- ★ Intolerance, xenophobia, and social exclusion related to globalization

Special attention is given to the above issues and their intersection with gender, race, ethnicity, sexual identity, and/or other sources of marginalization.

STRATEGY:

To achieve HRAP's goals, a wide range of activities are offered to participating Advocates:

- ★ Skills workshops on advocacy planning and strategies, fundraising, press and media, and building sustainable organizations;
- ★ Academic courses on international human rights standards and the impacts of the globalization;
- ★ Meetings and networking opportunities with NGO staff, activists, policymakers, representatives of international financial institutions, and United Nations staff in New York and Washington, D.C.

TIMING AND COMMITMENT:

The 2008 HRAP will begin in mid-August and run until mid-December 2008. To be considered, participants must commit to full preparation for and participation in the Program.

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS:

Since its establishment at Columbia University in 1978, the Center for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR) has been committed to its core goals of providing human rights education to Columbia students, fostering innovative interdisciplinary academic research, and offering its expertise in international capacity building to human rights leaders and organizations.

CSHR actively works to ensure that local peoples and human rights advocates are included in the political and economic policy decisions that affect their lives.

By convening faculty, students, and human rights leaders from a wide variety of backgrounds, CSHR creates an environment in which research, education, and international outreach contribute to the establishment of a more just and equitable world.

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS:

The 2008 Human Rights Advocates Program (HRAP) focuses on human rights and globalization. The Program is designed for experienced lawyers, journalists, teachers, social workers, community organizers, and other human rights activists working with non-governmental organizations on labor rights, migration, health, social exclusion, environmental justice, and corporate social accountability.

Participants are selected on the basis of their previous work experience on human rights and globalization, commitment to the human rights field, and demonstrated ability to complete graduate-level studies. Full-time students or government officials will not be considered.

Advocates must originate from and reside in either the Global South or the United States. Fluency in English is required. Preference is given to those who have not previously had such opportunities to travel and study internationally.

Advocates must secure institutional endorsement from their organizations for their participation in the Program and must commit to returning to that organization upon completion of the Program.

FUNDING:

CSHR makes every effort to provide full fellowships to cover program costs as well as travel and living expenses for selected Advocates each year. CSHR staff will work with interested candidates who have been waitlisted for the Program to identify potential funding sources in cases where CSHR does not yet have the resources to provide a full fellowship.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Completed applications are due by October 9, 2007. All items must be received by the application deadline. Applications may be sent by fax, email, or post. Applicants should take into consideration the time it takes for international mail to arrive. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Applicants are strongly encouraged to send materials electronically or by fax to avoid the high costs associated with private, express mail services.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Applicants are asked to complete the following application. Those who make it to the second round of the application process will be asked to submit

additional materials including essays and letters of reference.

Please complete all sections. All requested information should be typed or clearly printed in English.

Upon receipt of a completed application, a confirmation will be sent to the applicant. While every effort will be made to notify applicants of any missing materials, due to the high volume of applications, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all required materials are received by the deadline.

APPLICATION STATUS NOTIFICATION:

Those who make it to the second round of the application process will be notified of their status in early November 2007. These candidates will be required to submit additional essays, information about their organization, and letters of recommendation. A detailed outline of these additional application requirements will be sent to short-listed candidates when they are notified of their status. Second-round applications will be due January 17, 2008.

All efforts will be made to notify applicants of their status as quickly as possible. Please be patient as the selection process can be lengthy.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Before you mail your application to CSHR, please check the following required materials to be sure your application is complete:

- Section A: Personal Data
- Section B: Curriculum vitae or resume
- Section C: Institutional Statement of Support

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

Human Rights Advocates Program
Center for the Study of Human Rights
Columbia University, MC 3365
420 West 118th Street, Room 1108
New York, NY 10027
USA

**Please Click Here to Submit
Completed Form by Email:**

Tel: +1 (212) 854-3014

Fax: +1 (212) 316-4578

Email: hradvocates@columbia.edu

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2007 HRAP APPLICATION

SECTION A: PERSONAL DATA

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Family/Last Name: _____ Given/First Name: _____
Middle Name: _____ Gender: _____
Date of Birth (month / day / year): _____ City & Country of Birth: _____
Country of Citizenship: _____ Country of Residence: _____
Country You Currently Work In: _____
How did you learn of the Human Rights Advocates Program? _____

2. PRIMARY ORGANIZATION'S INFORMATION

Name of Organization: _____
Your Title: _____ Since date: _____
Status: Full Time Part Time Volunteer Other: _____
If working part-time or as a volunteer, please provide an estimate of the average number of hours a week you spend working for this organization: _____
Organization's Physical/Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Organization's Email: _____ Organization's Website: _____

Organization's Post Office Box Address (if applicable): _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____

Mission/Purpose of Organization: _____
Founding Date or Age of Organization: _____ Number of Staff: _____
Number of Volunteers (if applicable): _____ Number of Members (if applicable): _____
Organization's Annual Budget (in U.S. dollars): _____
Primary Funding Sources for Organization: _____
Organization's Network Membership(s) or Other Affiliations: _____

3. HOME CONTACT INFORMATION

Residential Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Personal Email: _____ Alternate Personal Email: _____

Residence P.O. Box Address (if applicable): _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____

4. EMAIL

Note: Email will be the primary means by which CSHR will communicate with you, unless it is not available. It is the applicant's responsibility to notify CSHR of any changes in contact information, including e-mail address.

Preferred Email Address: Organization Personal Other: _____

5. ISSUE AREA

Note: Only applicants working on human rights issues related to globalization and marginalization will be considered for this Program.

Please mark the area(s) listed below that correspond(s) to your area(s) of expertise:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labor Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Accountability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Migration | <input type="checkbox"/> International Financial Institutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Identity/Social Exclusion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Briefly explain exactly how your organization addresses the issue areas marked above (limit 300 words):

Briefly explain how your NGO works on issues related to the global economy or globalization. Be as explicit as possible (limit 300 words):

Briefly describe your responsibilities within your organization and the greatest challenge(s) you face in your work (limit 300 words):

6. APPLICANT'S OTHER CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

Please detail other relevant affiliations you currently have in addition to your primary organizational affiliation listed above. For example, please provide information if you serve as a board member, or are acting as a consultant, trainer, volunteer, etc.

Name of Organization: _____ Your Position: _____
Date From: _____ Date To: _____
Organization's Street or P.O. Box Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____ Website: _____
Mission/Purpose of Organization: _____

Name of Organization: _____ Your Position: _____
Date From: _____ Date To: _____
Organization's Street or P.O. Box Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____ Website: _____
Mission/Purpose of Organization: _____

7. COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Please list any international organizations with which you or your organization have been working or collaborating (e.g. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Friends of the Earth, Oxfam, etc.).

Name of Organization: _____
Contact Person (Name, Title): _____
Organization's Street or P.O. Box Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Post Code: _____ Country: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
E-mail: _____ Length/dates of collaboration: _____
In what capacity have you collaborated with this organization? _____
Explain the nature of the collaboration: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Person (Name, Title): _____

Organization's Street or P.O. Box Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Post Code: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Length/dates of collaboration: _____

In what capacity have you collaborated with this organization? _____

Explain the nature of the collaboration: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Person (Name, Title): _____

Organization's Street or P.O. Box Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Post Code: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Length/dates of collaboration: _____

In what capacity have you collaborated with this organization? _____

Explain the nature of the collaboration: _____

8. ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Please rate yourself:

Speaking: Fair Good Excellent

Reading: Fair Good Excellent

Writing: Fair Good Excellent

How did you learn English (if it is not your first language)?

9. TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Country	Date From	Date To	Purpose

10. EDUCATION

Highest Degree You Hold:

Degree: _____ Name of Institution: _____

Date of Graduation: _____ Institution's City and Country: _____

Other Degrees You Hold:

Degree: _____ Name of Institution: _____

Date of Graduation: _____ Institution's City and Country: _____

Degree: _____ Name of Institution: _____

Date of Graduation: _____ Institution's City and Country: _____

Degree: _____ Name of Institution: _____

Date of Graduation: _____ Institution's City and Country: _____

Click below to submit your completed form by email. Be sure to also submit your resume or CV and that your organization submits a statement of support (see below).

SECTION B: CURRICULUM VITAE/RESUME

Please attach your curriculum vitae or resume to this application. Include dates and locations for all activities.

SECTION C: INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Note: The Program is designed for individuals who are committed to return to their organizations immediately after the four-month training period in order to implement their newly acquired skills. To be considered for HRAP, all applicants must currently be working for a non-governmental organization that protects or promotes right(s). Full-time students or government officials will not be considered.

Organizations may only support one applicant per year. Multiple applications from a single organization are not considered favorably.

On institutional letterhead, the director of your organization or your immediate supervisor is requested to write a letter of support indicating the following:

1. The applicant's title and length of employment with the organization;
2. The applicant's primary job responsibilities;
3. Why the organization decided to support this applicant for HRAP;
4. How this Program is expected to benefit the applicant, her/his organization, and the broader human rights community in which he/she works;
5. Arrangements that will be made to cover the applicant's post/responsibilities if he/she is selected for the Program;
6. How the applicant's duties are expected to change after his/her participation in HRAP.