

MEMORANDUM

To: U.S. Programs
From: National Security and Human Rights Campaign Staff – Nancy Chang, Sophia Conroy, and Hyon Seo Kwon
Date: May 18, 2009
Re: Anticipated Grant Recommendations between May and July, 2009

The National Security and Human Rights Campaign anticipates recommending the following grants between May and July, 2009.

I. NSHR CAMPAIGN DOCKET 2 GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS – JUNE 2009

GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS TO MASA GROUPS

The NSHR Campaign is excited to recommend its first round of grants to Muslim, Arab, and South Asian (“MASA”) organizations that are working to fight national security policies that are disproportionately directed at their communities and to promote the acceptance of their communities in American society.

1) ADC Research Institute

\$200,000 over two years

To support the expansion of ADC’s Legal Department by enabling ADC to hire an experienced attorney to increase the organization’s capacity to field requests for legal assistance on national security, law enforcement profiling, and surveillance matters, and to deepen the organization’s capacity to offer legal analyses and engage in policy advocacy on these issues. ADC Research Institute is the not for profit affiliate of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, a civil rights organization founded in 1980 that is committed to defending the rights of people of Arab descent and promoting their cultural heritage. The Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has four offices and 38 chapters across the U.S.

2) Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services (ACCESS)

\$300,000 over two years (\$200K from NSHR; \$100,000 from Immigrants Rights)

To provide renewed support to ACCESS for its National Network for Arab American Communities. Founded in Michigan in 1971, ACCESS is a human services and advocacy organization devoted to the social, cultural, and economic development of Arab American communities in the U.S. The Network strengthens grassroots institutions serving Arab Americans by encouraging civic participation, promoting economic empowerment, and enhancing communities’ ability to advocate on issues of concern. This grant will support the Network’s advocacy on two sets of issues: (a) the targeting of Arabs and Muslims for border profiling, watchlists, and police and FBI surveillance; and (b) comprehensive immigration reform and other immigration policy, field building, and civic engagement priorities identified by the Four Pillars Campaign.

3) Asian Law Caucus

\$200,000 over two years

To support the organization’s litigation, policy advocacy, and elevation of community voices on the profiling and intrusive searches of Muslims, Asians, and South Asians by the FBI, the Customs and Border Patrol, and local law enforcement. Established in 1972 in California, the Asian Law Caucus is the oldest Asian Pacific Islander civil rights organization in the country and is committed to the pursuit of equality and justice for all sectors of our society with a specific focus on addressing the needs of low-income Asian and Pacific Islanders.

4) Muslim Advocates

\$320,000 over two years

To provide renewed core support for the work of Muslim Advocates, an organization that works to end racial and religious profiling and discriminatory law enforcement policies and practices; protect the First Amendment guarantees of freedom of association, free expression, and free exercise of religion; strengthen Muslim charitable institutions; and foster the civic engagement of Muslim Americans. Founded in 2005, Muslim Advocates' mission is to promote freedom, justice, and equality for all, regardless of faith, through legal advocacy, policy engagement, and civic education, and by serving as a legal resource to promote the full and meaningful participation of Muslims in American public life.

5) OneAmerica

\$200,000 over two years (\$100K from NSHR; \$100K from Immigrants Rights)

To provide renewed general support to OneAmerica (formerly Hate Free Zone Washington), which was founded in the wake of 9/11 to counter the backlash in Washington State directed against Middle Easterners, East Africans, South Asians, Muslims, Sikhs, and other immigrants and minorities, and has since grown to become the largest immigrant advocacy organization in Washington State and a national leader in its field. The organization trains and works with targeted immigrant and minority communities to increase collaboration, civic participation, and advocacy to advance policy reform and the principles of democracy, justice, and human rights at the local, state, and national levels. .

6) Sikh Coalition

\$200,000 over two years

To support the Sikh Coalition's work on: (a) public education, grassroots mobilization, and policy advocacy to combat racial and religious profiling by national security agencies, with a special focus on the Transportation Security Administration; and (b) a new project to prepare policymakers to protect rights and liberties in the event of another terrorist attack in the U.S. and reduce the backlash that would likely be unleashed against MASA communities in such an event. The Sikh Coalition was founded in 2001 in New York City to address the violence and discrimination against Sikhs which followed the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and seek the realization of civil and human rights for all people. The organization advocates for laws and policies respectful of fundamental rights, promotes appreciation of diversity through education, fosters civic participation to promote community empowerment, and provides direct legal services to protect the Sikh community's rights.

7) South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT)

\$200,000 over two years (\$100K from NSHR; \$100K from Immigrant Rights)

To support SAALT as it works to challenge racial and religious profiling by law enforcement and national security agencies, and to advance comprehensive immigration reform. Based in Washington, D.C., SAALT was founded in 2000 and staffed in 2004 to foster civic and political engagement by South Asians in America. This grant will help SAALT more effectively: (a) engage in policy analysis and advocacy at the intersection of immigration, profiling, and post-9/11 policies; (b) collaborate with civil rights and immigrant rights organizations around national campaigns related to national security and immigration reform; (c) engage in community education on immigration reform and post-9/11 issues through "know your rights" publications and community-based town hall meetings; (d) deepen media advocacy by the South Asian American community; and (e) work with members of the National Coalition of South Asian Organizations (NCSO) to document post 9/11 profiling and due process violations for a broader report to be released in conjunction with the ten-year anniversary of 9/11.

GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS TO NON-MASA GROUPS

8) American Civil Liberties Union Foundation (ACLU)

\$500,000 over two years

To support a new project in which five ACLU affiliates and experts in the ACLU's National Office will focus on police surveillance and counterterrorism measures that intrude upon privacy and chill political dissent. The grant amount of \$250K per year will be broken out as follows: \$25K to the National ACLU, \$50K to the NYCLU, and \$175K to be divided between the Maryland, Illinois, Washington, and Massachusetts ACLU affiliates.

9) Center for Strategic and International Studies

\$65,000 over seven months

To support Sarah Mendelson of CSIS to engage in communications, networking, and other strategies to influence the Obama administration to comply with international humanitarian law as it moves toward its goal of closing the Guantánamo detention center by January 2010. Founded in 1962 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., CSIS provides strategic insights and policy solutions to decision-makers in government, international institutions, the private sector, and civil society.

10) Eisenhower Project

\$125,000 over one year

To support the Eisenhower Project as it undertakes outreach and education, targeted at students, the media, the military, policy makers, and the human rights community to increase awareness of the impact of the military-industrial complex and other forces shaping U.S. policy in the struggle against terrorism. The Eisenhower Project was founded in 2006 by Eugene Jarecki, award-winning filmmaker of *Why We Fight* and *The Trials of Henry Kissinger*.

11) National Religious Campaign Against Torture

\$130,000 over eight months (These grant terms may change following NRCAT's June board meeting.)

To provide renewed support to the **National Religious Campaign Against Torture** and its project, **Evangelicals for Human Rights**. NRCAT provides a platform for religious groups and people of faith to speak out against America's use of torture in the context of terrorism. NRCAT and Evangelicals for Human Rights seek to broaden the religious community's involvement in anti-torture work and expand opportunities for congregations to voice their opposition to America's use of torture and in support of accountability. NRCAT and EHR bridge conservative and progressive communities to work jointly to advance a vital policy agenda, and in its mobilization of evangelicals and Baptists from white, Black, and Hispanic denominations, EHR is creating a powerful alliance with new and unusual spokespersons. OSI and OSPC were instrumental in launching NRCAT and EHR in 2006.

12) New York University School of Medicine

\$188,000 over 18 months

To provide renewal support for the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture's project, "Advocating Against Torture: The Clinician's Voice." This funding will allow Dr. Allen Keller to dedicate a portion of his time to public education and advocacy against torture and for accountability, including accountability for health care professionals who participated in the torture of detainees in U.S. custody. Project activities will include: continuing to document torture and mistreatment of detainees in U.S. custody; writing on these subjects in lay and medical publications; making presentations at grand rounds, medical conferences, and public forums; and providing training to human rights organizations on the physical, psychological, and social health consequences of torture and interviewing victims of torture. The Bellevue/NYU clinic, founded in 1995, provides

comprehensive medical, mental health, and social and legal services to refugees and asylum seekers who have suffered torture and other human rights abuses, and is dedicated to ending the use of torture.

II. NSHR CAMPAIGN RAPID RESPONSE GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS – MAY 2009

1) National Religious Campaign Against Torture (This grant approved on May 14, 2009.)

\$25,000 over two months

To support NRCAT's Religious Witness Calling on President Obama to Create a Commission of Inquiry Project. In June 2009, Torture Awareness Month, NRCAT will host a press conference and procession in support of a commission of inquiry on U.S. torture and abuse of terrorism suspects. NRCAT will host this event at the National Press Club followed by a procession to the White House, where a public religious witness would take place. NRCAT will engage a wide range of religious leaders planning this event.

III. SEIZE THE DAY FUND GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Institute for Policy Studies

\$50,000 over two years (NSHR contribution to larger general support grant from U.S. Programs)

The NSHR Campaign has an interest in the Institute's writing on foreign policy and national security, and in its engagement with peace activists and a network of experts from the MASA community.

IV. DOCKET 2 GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER USP FUNDS – JULY 2009

1) William J. Brennan Center

\$200,000 over two years (NSHR contribution to larger general support grant from U.S. Programs)

The NSHR Campaign has an interest in the Center's Project on Liberty & Security. The Civil Liberties Portfolio provided \$100,000 a year in support to the Project from 2005 through 2008.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GRANTS TO FORMER JEHT GRANTEES – JUNE 2009

1) American Society of International Law

\$225,000 over one year

To support ASIL's project to promote international law training by federal and state judicial education institutions. This project, which was fully funded by the JEHT Foundation prior to its closure in January 2009, will: develop reference works, curricular materials, online resources, trainers, and presentations on international law to judicial education institutions; and seek the inclusion of tailored trainings on international law in existing judicial education fora, including Federal Circuit Court conferences, Federal Judicial Center workshops, and local Superior Court gatherings.

2) Aspen Institute

\$160,000 over one year

To provide support for the Aspen Institute's judicial trainings on international law, which were fully funded by the JEHT Foundation prior to its closure in January 2009. These 2½-day seminars will train a cadre of U.S. judges on: the history of the human rights movement and the development of international human rights standards, including declarations, treaties, and customary law; the implementation of international and foreign law in U.S. case law and in constitutional and federal statutory interpretation; international humanitarian law, with a particular focus on the Geneva Conventions and the obligations of the U.S. as a state party; and the implementation of international

human rights law in the European system, the Inter-American system, and the UN, and the role of non-governmental organizations in those systems.

3) Amnesty International USA

Up to \$125,000 over one year (No proposal will be sought until further due diligence is completed.)

To provide support for AIUSA's membership development and the work of its Counter Terror with Justice Campaign. The NSHR Campaign has made a significant investment in AIUSA's Counter Terror with Justice Campaign, and the JEHT Foundation had been a significant supporter of this work. Consultant Carrie Rae Boatman is working with NSHR staff to conduct due diligence on this recommendation.