



Operation Asha in Partnership with Ci3 at the University of Chicago Issues RFP

Sept. 13, 2016 | For Immediate Release

Operation Asha, in partnership with Ci3 at The University of Chicago will award grants to India-based, youth-led or youth-serving organizations to develop programs for youth that promote gender equity and family planning in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India and surrounding districts through the *Kissa Kahani Small Grants Program*.

The purpose of this RFP is to solicit and identify innovations in adolescent sexual and reproductive health interventions focused in Lucknow and neighboring districts in Uttar Pradesh. The selected innovations will receive financial support and monitoring and evaluation support from Operation Asha and University of Chicago. The innovations will be selected on the basis of scalability, innovation, feasibility, experience of team, monitoring and evaluation plan, subject area, youth involvement, and the potential to do good.

Now entering year-two, Kissa Kahani is a two-year, international project that uses multimedia approaches, storytelling, and innovative research techniques to understand youth's perspectives and experience with issues of gender equity and family planning in the urban areas of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. Last year, Ci3 received grant funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to lead Kissa Kahani using humanistic techniques to deepen knowledge on issues of gender and the daily lives of adolescents living in Lucknow and the surrounding districts. The project builds on Ci3's history of using art, design, new media, and storytelling to flesh out the full ecology of factors that influence the sexual and reproductive health of young people.

The Kissa Kahani Small Grants Program invites youth-led organizations to submit their ideas for improving sexual and reproductive health of adolescents. Youth-led organizations are defined as organizations that serve youth, whose work and programmatic activities are informed by youth, involve young people as part of the decision making process, and/or have youth as part of its staff and leadership. Organizations are invited to apply for up to 6.71 Lakh Rs (\$10,000 USD) to work with young people to test solutions to issues identified through research completed in year one of Kissa Kahani.

The release of this RFP also reflects a commitment to developing novel partnerships. Operation Asha, Kissa Kahani's lead organizational partner and an international leader in tuberculosis (TB) eradication, was founded by University of Chicago alumnus Sandeep Ahuja (MPP '06) and is renowned for their innovative approaches and outcomes-oriented research.

Founded in 2012, Ci3 is a University center established to empower young people and remove policy and systemic barriers to sexual and reproductive health and well being. Ci3 develops novel interventions using technology, games, and narrative in collaboration with youth, partner organizations, and University faculty.

The deadline for submission is Friday, September 30, 2016. [Click here](#) to learn more or download the RFP.

###

For interviews or inquiries, contact:

Valerie Reynolds, Communications Director at Ci3

VReynolds2@bsd.uchicago.edu, 773.874.8484 (desk), 773.849.6504 (cell)