

Director of Programs
World Connect

29 April 2019

People Serving Girls at Risk - Recommendation letter

Equality Now is an international human rights organisation dedicated to ending violence and discrimination against women and girls around the world. We work to end trafficking in women and girls and partner with many grassroots organisations, several of which are survivor-led, to end the commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls. Our other areas of focus include working to end sexual violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sex discriminatory laws. Equality Now's work to advance global gender equality supports our efforts to get justice for survivors and victims of sexual exploitation – with the ultimate goal of preventing violence altogether and achieving substantive equality.

Equality Now initially got to know People Serving Girls at Risk (PSGR) through an international convening of anti-sex trafficking organisations, which Equality Now held in collaboration with Embrace Dignity in Cape Town, South Africa in October 2016. We were very impressed by the organisation's director, Caleb Ng'ombo, and the thoughtful analysis he shared at the meeting regarding gender inequality and sexual exploitation.

Since that time, we have collaborated on a variety of projects including the development of a legal analysis report and convening of stakeholders to assess the legal framework for addressing sex trafficking of women and girls in Malawi; awareness raising events to mark World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2018; and most recently, to support girls through the criminal justice system to seek justice against the men who trafficked and sexually exploited them.

The legal case has exemplified the passion and commitment of PSGR staff, who have gone above and beyond in ensuring that the survivors are protected, properly supported to recover from their experiences, and obtain justice. In a complex case that has at times been rapidly evolving, PSGR has swiftly reacted to crises while maintaining close communication with Equality Now staff based in Nairobi and London. Given the remote nature of Equality Now's work, the success of our partnership with PSGR can be attributed to their responsiveness in providing regular, up-to-date information so we are always aware of what is happening on the ground.

Our grant reporting requirements include an itemized budget against costs with accompanying receipts, as well as the submission of final and interim written reports, each of which has thus far

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been satisfactorily received. Where adjustments to proposed budgets have been required, this has been managed in conversation with PSGR and mutually agreed upon. Expenditures have been carefully calculated to ensure sufficient funding to complete activities in accordance with approved line items.

People Serving Girls at Risk is one of Equality Now's strongest partners in the Africa region. They are very responsive, well-organised, easy to work with, and passionate in their fight to end the sexual exploitation of women and girls. We hope to continue working with them long into the future and highly recommend them as a partner or grantee.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions at sferrell-schweppenstedde@equalitynow.org or +(44) 207304-6902.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samantha Ferrell-Schweppenstedde".

Samantha Ferrell-Schweppenstedde

End Sex Trafficking Campaign Lead Southern Africa
Equality Now