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**GLOBAL CHILDREN’S RIGHTS PROGRAM**

**Advisory Services on Evaluation and Related Issues**

**Scope of Work**

**November 01, 2022**

Wellspring Philanthropic Fund’s Global Children’s Rights (GCR) Program is seeking a consultant for advisory services on evaluation and related issues. GCR has designed a new strategic plan to promote girls’ and children’s rights for 2022-2026, and is seeking a consultant to provide advice and broad support for the portfolio on evaluation and related issues.

**A. Mission and Program Overview**

Wellspring Philanthropic Fund is a private grantmaking foundation dedicated to advancing the realization of human rights and the effective advancement of social justice for all people. Our work is driven by a core belief in and respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person. Through domestic and international grantmaking, Wellspring strives to cultivate accountable social systems and structures that uphold human dignity, strengthen agency, and advance equity for all people, and to contribute to making real change that matters. Learn more at [www.wpfund.org](http://www.wpfund.org).

The Global Children’s Rights program catalyzes action to realize rights and advance social justice for all children, with specific emphasis on girls in all their diversity, and gender justice. GCR aims to encompass an intersectional feminist approach, supporting systemic change to address the root causes of age and gender inequality and to contribute to shifting adultist, racist, neocolonial, and other oppressive systems. GCR focuses on two complementary approaches: shifting public systems and influential large-scale actors to make them more responsive to the needs of children and girls; and enhancing power and movement building work that resources local girls’, children’s, and communities’ organizing and actions to influence change. Through grantmaking and philanthropic leadership, GCR supports work in four themes: Advance Girls’ Education and Skills; Prevent Violence Against Children and Girls; Shift Social and Gender Norms; and Foster Enabling Conditions for Realizing Children’s and Girls’ Rights. The GCR program team has four staff members.

**B. Background**

The GCR team has developed a 5-year strategy with a theory of change, the four themes, and corresponding goals, objectives, and five-year outcomes and has started implementing the strategy in 2022. GCR utilized an Emergent Learning Framework tool to develop implementation approaches on the selected outcomes and would like to incorporate this into our approach. GCR will develop an evaluation plan in 2023 and would like to do some pre-work which will inform our evaluation plan as described below in the Scope of Work section. GCR is also moving forward on efforts to create baselines for selected outcomes which is occurring concurrently. The team would like to learn more to develop approaches that align with social justice values. GCR’s social justice values include power shifting and sharing; intersectional feminism; locally informed, generated and led; learning and adaptability; accountability; foster authentic trusting and collaborative relationships and partnerships; and situating in evidence and experience.

**C. Scope of Work**

The consultant would:

* Review the existing GCR strategy, including the theory of change, themes, goals, objectives, and outcomes;
* Design and implement process to work with the GCR team as a group and potentially with individuals related to:
  + Review the theory of change, underlying assumptions, hypotheses, goals/objectives, and five-years outcomes, building on what already exists, and update and/or strengthen if necessary. GCR began using an Emergent Learning approach in the last two years and is open to other approaches.
  + Assess the ‘evaluability’ of each of GCR’s outcomes, and determine potential evaluation questions, approaches, and tools, and the level of effort required to carry out the evaluations. Also support team to prioritize among the outcomes.

Support the team on a process to think about how GCR might test those assumptions during the grantmaking period and how GCR might feed our learning into grantmaking, strategic reflection, and strategy adaptation.

* Explore approaches and advise on baselines, build on what is already underway, where work is not already underway; and
* Possibly advise GCR on approaches on learning more about the range of types of evaluations tools, and which are most relevant for certain kinds of outcomes, and also the relationship to learning processes.
* Utilize the social justice frame based on the most relevant and meaningful values, recommend corresponding evaluation approaches

Overall, GCR is flexible on how the consultant could approach these tasks. The consultant would work directly with the Program Director and engage with GCR team members on the design. Note the consultancy primarily focuses on evaluation and strategic approaches and is not intended to focus on day-to-day grantmaking per se.

GCR’s Learning and Evaluation team would also be engaged, and they may participate in the process as relevant and provide guidance to align this work with the broader organization approaches to evaluations at Wellspring.

The deliverables would include a document that is comprised of, based on program input:

* A revisited /or strengthened clearly articulated theory of change, objectives, and outcomes, and explicitly identified underlying assumptions that reflect the team’s thinking (if the team assesses updates are needed)
* An assessment of the evaluability of objectives and outcomes, along with potential evaluation questions and approaches, as well as prioritization assessment of level of effort required to carry out the evaluations
* Development of approaches for conducting baseline evaluations for selected outcomes
* Recommended resources for the GCR team to deepen learning about evaluations

**E. Ideal Time:** January- April, 2023: GCR would like to start this work as soon as possible through first quarter of 2023. The consultancy would include sessions with the team to kick off this process.

**F. Qualifications**

The consultant should have:

* at least 10 years of experience focused primarily on outcome or performance evaluations, especially at the program or portfolio level;
* experience in international development and social justice, and non-governmental organizations in low and middle-income countries;
* experience with facilitating team discussions and processes.

Knowledge is preferred on children’s rights, girls’ rights, adolescent girls’ education and skills, preventing violence, and shifting social norms, or ecosystem strengthening. Experience working, especially conducting evaluations, in sub-Saharan Africa and/or Latin America is preferred.

Experience is preferred on working with philanthropy, especially at the program portfolio level and not only on individual grants.

The consultant should understand and value social justice, diversity, inclusion, equity and belonging principles, and work well in cross cultural environments. It would be appreciated if you can explain in your proposal how you reflect these values in evaluation and learning practices.

GCR would welcome proposals from consultants from/in the Global South or other under-represented background in evaluation in philanthropy. GCR would also welcome consultants working with junior evaluators or evaluators, especially those in training from/in the Global South or other under-represented backgrounds.

Ability to travel to Washington DC is preferred but not required.

**G. Process:**

Please submit the following documents to Denise Bonsu, Program Associate, [DBonsu@wpfund.org](mailto:DBonsu@wpfund.org) by November 25. If you have any questions, please reach out to Denise.

1. Brief summary and description of prior experience with projects similar in nature and scope (maximum 1 page)
2. Brief description of approach for this consultancy (maximum1 page)
3. CV
4. Availability
5. Daily rate