



Astraea LESBIAN FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE



International  
Investment Opportunities  
with the Astraea Foundation

## ABOUT ASTRAEA

Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice is building a global movement with and for LGBTQI people, in the U.S. and internationally. We are a leading multi-gendered, multi-racial organization that supports LGBTQI communities to attain their human rights, with a focus on the leadership of lesbian and queer women, trans\* people, intersex people, youth, and people of color.

As the only public charity that exclusively funds global LGBTQI activism, Astraea is uniquely positioned to fund and connect groups across borders and issue areas, cultivating powerful networks among innovative leaders on the vanguard of social change in multiple locations. Astraea grantee partners are overturning discriminatory laws, pioneering new policies to protect LGBTQI human rights, and changing hearts and minds to bring about respect for LGBTQI people.

Since our founding in 1977, Astraea has made over 4,300 grants to over 1,700 groups and individuals in 90 countries. Always a vanguard, Astraea became the first U.S. funder to begin international grantmaking to LGBTQI groups in 1996. Astraea's knowledge on the ground, its issue expertise, and its significant and longstanding grantmaking in countries from Colombia to Kenya to India frequently serves as a model and resource to other funders.

Cited in 2014 as the top recipient of U.S. foundation funding for global LGBTQI activism, Astraea has deep experience working with both individual and institutional stakeholders on international grantmaking. For this reason, both U.S. and European-based donors have looked to Astraea since 1996 when seeking to resource those international LGBTQI groups and movements they deemed most worthy of support. A potent example is Astraea's 2015 launch of the Intersex Human Rights Fund, with seed funding provided by two American individual donors. And in 2013, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) joined forces with Astraea to create the LGBT Global Development Partnership, an unprecedented and history-making partnership dedicated to furthering LGBTQI equality in developing and emerging market countries.



## WHY CHOOSE ASTRAEA FOR YOUR PHILANTHROPIC INVESTMENT?

With unparalleled longevity and experience in the field, Astraea is widely recognized as a leader in best practice international grantmaking to LGBTQI organizations. From identifying and vetting applicants to providing technical assistance once the grant is made, Astraea ensures strategic and effective use of investments.

Astraea's wrap-around support to grantee partners exponentially extends the impact of our funding. By combining grant dollars with capacity building, leadership development, media and communications resources, and facilitation of cross-border networking, grantee partners reach new levels of efficacy and achieve broader impact.

Astraea's International Advisory Board provides a brain trust of over 40 widely-respected LGBTQI activists, strategists and philanthropists who are available as a resource in developing initiatives and evaluating existing projects.

Astraea provides opportunities for individuals and institutions making a significant investment to customize their involvement to achieve their unique philanthropic goals. Investors may choose from an array of options, including: donor briefings from Astraea staff and grantee partners; updates from the field; issue-based webinars; and ongoing consultation in person, digitally or by phone, in addition to written and in-person reporting.

Because of its 40 year history in the field and long-standing relationships with cutting edge LGBTQI activists at home and abroad, Astraea is a trusted funder and partner among these groups, with access to and an understanding of their challenges that few others possess. Quite simply, our exceptional expertise, longevity, and reputation in international grantmaking singularly qualifies Astraea to seek out, perform adequate due diligence, and meaningfully engage with grassroots leaders of the movement.

## WHAT'S THE BEST MODEL FOR ME?

### GLOBAL FRONTLINES FUND:

Despite their small size, local and national activist organizations are leading the way in making sustainable legal, policy and cultural change for LGBTQI communities. Participation in Astraea's Global Frontlines Fund offers donor-investors involvement in grantmaking, from determining strategy to working in a particular region and/or on a particular issue area. For example, a donor could choose to support LGBTQI rights in India or a trans\* human rights strategy globally. Such involvement is supported at every juncture by Astraea staff and our unique knowledge base and networks, maximizing grantmaking opportunities and effectiveness.

Because administration of the Global Frontlines Fund and gift distribution is handled by Astraea, which is a public charity, local and national LGBTQI nonprofits are free from the onerous legal and fiscal paperwork duties often associated with receiving private international funding, removing an impediment to receiving support and allowing them to focus their energies on their urgent work. Likewise, because administration is streamlined, a greater portion of the donor's gift goes directly to the nonprofit, maximizing the support

### Benefits to investor-advisors for both Astraea's Global Frontlines Fund and Donor Advisory Fund options may include any combination of the following, depending on the donor-investor's wishes:

- Ready access to Astraea's programmatic expertise and proven track record in key areas of international LGBTQI justice
- Detailed, annual report on the progress of the grant recipients and fund's progress
- Mid-year status call with select program staff who specialize in the fund's purview
- If desired, assistance by Astraea team to help donor(s) publicize the benefits of this giving opportunity, and invite others to co-invest in the fund.

received. Fees for investments in Astraea's Global Frontlines Funds range from 3% - 10% depending upon the size of the gift.

### INTERNATIONAL DONOR ADVISED FUND:

As a public charity, Astraea has capably handled donor advised funds for over three decades, and brings this expertise to our work with individual donors in the international sphere.

An International Donor Advised Fund allows an individual to reap the benefits of Astraea's global LGBTQI network, as well as its years of expertise in shepherding funds to frontline organizations, while retaining the ability to advise that the Fund support specific organizations.

Due to increased regulations tied to direct donor involvement, investments in International Donor Advised Funds at Astraea require a higher level of legal and fiscal paperwork duties on the part of both Astraea and grantee partners. Fees for International Donor Advised Funds range from 10% - 15% depending upon the size of the gift and the degree of due diligence required.

“When ADAM decided we wanted to support LGBTQ youth in the global south and east, we thought Astraea would be the right partner. Their program staff has deep knowledge of the global LGBTQ landscape. Not only did they identify and vet groups for consideration that met our guidelines, but also provided critical technical assistance after the grants. We've been very pleased by this partnership with the Astraea team.”

—Weston Milliken, Philanthropist and Management Consultant; Founding donor, ADAM Fund. *The ADAM Fund is one of Astraea's Global Frontlines Funds, focusing on LGBTQI youth in the global South and East.*



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We invite you to call Gina Taglieri, Astraea's Director of Development, to further explore international funding opportunities through Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice.