Solidarity Fund
Three-Year Report
(2015-2016-2017)

From Doug Kerr & Dallas Barnes,
Solidarity Fund Co-Chairs, 2015-2017

April 2018
InterPride is committed to supporting the development and growth of Pride events around the world. One of the main ways we do this is through our Solidarity Fund. In 2015, InterPride expanded the Fund with a new outreach, application and review process. This report summarizes the three years of the expanded process from 2015 to 2017.

Currently, injustice and inequality exist around the world for many LGBTI people and communities. In much of the world, accessing funding support for even the smallest public actions and events is an enormous challenge. InterPride’s Solidarity Fund is designed to address this gap.

The mission of InterPride’s Solidarity Committee is to distribute the voluntarily collected funds from our membership and sponsors, to organizations that are helping to create change and promote a better understanding of the LGBTI communities. The committee does this by awarding grants to community-based events around the world, with a focus on places where public LGBTI events face challenges and hostility.

The fund was launched in 2013 with a few small grants awarded informally.

In 2015, InterPride expanded the Solidarity Fund. We issued a formal international call for applicants. We developed an international Advisory Group to guide our growth, evaluate our processes and provide valuable advice to our Solidarity Fund Committee.

This report summarizes our new process, funding results and recommendations for future fund development. The report also acknowledges the wonderful contributions of volunteers and donors to the Solidarity Fund at the end of the document.
Funding Criteria & Processes

From 2015 to 2017 the Solidarity Fund used the following primary granting criteria and priorities:

- Projects in the global south and east (outside the USA/Canada, western Europe and Australia/NZ) would be a priority for the fund.
- Projects must support specific local events and activities that support LGBTI communities, including local Pride events.
- Projects must be time-limited, such as political marches, parades, community gatherings, film festivals, special events, and celebrations.
- Project funding is allowed to cover costs such as staff time, advertising, space or equipment rentals, registration fees, purchase of materials.

What we will not fund:

- Individuals not connected to an organization
- Ongoing operating costs for organizations
- Ongoing program costs
- Capacity building or training
- Paying off organizational debt

These criteria were developed by the leadership of the Solidarity Fund Committee and reviewed by members of our Advisory Committee. Criteria were publicized on InterPride’s website.
Grant Review Process

In each of the three years, donations were received from Pride organizations at the previous year’s global InterPride conference. The grant review process has been run entirely by volunteers.

Each year the process was generally launched with a Call for Applications in January or February, a deadline in April and decision-making by May. Funds were generally released in June. After consultation with an international LGBTI funder body, the Co-Chairs created a shortlist of grants and then a grant review committee made the final decisions and recommendations to the InterPride Board of Directors.

All applicants were required to submit two letters of reference in addition to their online proposal. In the first year (2015) applications were accepted in English only. In 2016 and 2017, applications were accepted in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese.

Over the three years, a total of 18 volunteers were involved in the review process, including 7 people on the international funder advisory committee and 11 people on the grant review committee.

Doug Kerr (Toronto) and Dallas Barnes (Calgary) co-chaired the Solidarity Fund Committee through the three years of the expanded pilot program.

“Expressions of pride are important cultural, social and political events for our communities in much of the world. This fund has directly supported many human rights groups globally.” - Doug Kerr, Co-Chair of the Solidarity Subcommittee of InterPride, 2015-2017
Applications

Through our online application system, InterPride received the following applications by region in each of the three years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Regional Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Asia</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central &amp; South America</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South &amp; Southwest Asia</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Totals</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“The fund has been very helpful to us as there is a lack of funding resources here for us.” – Hong Kong Pride

“The Solidarity Fund is great and flexible in nature and provides room to implement programs in a dynamic way as the environment deems fit.” – TransNetwork Uganda
Funded Grants

InterPride approved the following grants by region in each of the three years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Regional Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Asia</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central &amp; South America</td>
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<td>North America</td>
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<td>Oceania</td>
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<tr>
<td>South &amp; Southwest Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Totals</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Thank you for the support that InterPride provided to us in 2015. We hope that InterPride can Continue this support.” – LGBT Centre Mongolia

Warsaw Equality Day March, 2016

Uganda Pride, 2016
Biliitis Resource Centre (Sofia, Bulgaria)

$1500 to cover expenses of Sofia Pride Art Week in June 2015, including a photo exhibit called “All Love is Equal” and a video/photo exhibition on the history of the global LGBT rights movement.

Hong Kong Pride (Hong Kong, China)

$1000 to cover expenses of the Hong Kong Parade in November 2015, including parade promotional expenses and production of the parade including stage and sound systems.

Women’s Initiatives (Tirupati, India)

$1250 to support three public events involving song, drama, and speeches to create visibility for LGBTI communities in three southern states: Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Nazariya Foundation (New Delhi, India)

$1250 to support a two-day cultural event as a prelude to Delhi Queer Pride in November 2015. Funds will be used for performers to explore nuances of caste, religion, gender, ethnicity and sexuality.

Ishtar MSM (Nairobi, Kenya)

$1000 to support costs of a flash mob/community event for the members of the Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Kenya. The event will bring visibility to the coalition members at a major shopping mall in the central business district of Nairobi.

Mozaika EuroPride (Riga, Latvia)

$1500 to cover costs related to EuroPride 2015, the first such event in a post-Soviet country. Funds will be used for various event costs such as entertainment costs, staging and sound equipment and advertising.
Grantees (continued)

**LGBT Centre Mongolia (Ulaan Baatar, Mongolia)**
$1500 to cover costs related to Equality and Pride Days in August & September 2015, including a pride launch public concert and the Beyond the Blue Skies Queer Film Festival.

**Health Development Initiative (Kigali, Rwanda)**
$1500 to cover costs of a competitive arts event for the LGBTI community on World AIDS Day on December 1st 2015. The funds will cover the costs of prizes for best performers and artists.

**Gender DynamiX (Cape Town, South Africa)**
$1500 to cover the costs of Khumbulani Pride, an annual campaign to remember the victims of homophobia and hate crimes in South Africa. Funds to be used for a film screening of trans* stories, a panel discussion on trans* rights and a march to create awareness of issues facing trans* and gender non-confirming people.

**Arco-Iris Cabo Verde (Sao Vincete, Cabo Verde)**
$1200 to cover costs related to the Week of Equality including social, arts and cultural activities.

**Fundación Iguales (Santiago, Chile)**
$1200 to support costs related to a march for human rights.

**Colombia Diversa (Bogotá, Colombia)**
$1200 to support costs related to Bogotá’s Pride March including materials, signs, and promotions.
Grantees (continued)

I-Change (Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire)
$1200 to support a day of advocacy related to human rights for LGBTI people, including dance, art and speakers.

Kouraj (Port-au-Prince, Haiti)
$1200 to cover costs related to Massimadi Port-au-Prince, a multi-day arts and cultural festival for LGBTI people.

Harmless Hugs (New Delhi, India)
$1200 to cover costs related to an LGBTI Pride flash mob event, plus a youth leadership summit and film festival.

JFLAG (Kingston, Jamaica)
$600 to cover costs of week long series of social, athletic and cultural activities for the LGBTI communities.

Montego Bay Pride (Montego Bay, Jamaica)
$600 to cover costs of Montego Bay’s Second Pride event, including discussions, films, beach socials and a pop-up protest.

Jinsiangu (Nairobi, Kenya)
$1200 to cover the costs of community gatherings on International Day Against Homophobia & Transphobia as well as the Trans Day of Remembrance.
Grantees (continued)

**Young Queer Alliance (Rose Hill, Mauritius)**

$1200 to cover the costs of a one-day event and walk on the Trans Day of Remembrance.

**Fundacja Wolontariat Równości (Warsaw, Poland)**

$1200 to support Warsaw’s Equality Day Festival and Parade costs.

**Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality (St. Lucia)**

$1200 to support the development of rainbow flag raisings and LGBTI Pride events in four countries: St Kitts, Grenada, St Vincent and St Martin.

**Triangle Project (Cape Town, South Africa)**

$1200 for special outreach costs to support the inclusion of participants from Cape Town’s Coloured communities in Khumbulani Pride.

**Queer Youth Uganda (Kampala, Uganda)**

$1200 to support a coalition of organizations in Kampala with Pride Uganda, including a parade, social events, fashion show and other activities.

**Gay Alliance Ukraine (Kyiv, Ukraine)**

$1200 to support a ‘boot camp’ training program for security volunteers at KyivPride 2016. This Pride needs extra security because of anti-gay protests.
Grantees (continued)

Shanghai Pride (Shanghai, China)
$1000 to cover the costs of Shanghai Pride’s film festival as well as a national public fair showcasing over 40 LGBTI civil society organizations from across China.

Santamaria Fundación (Cali, Colombia)
$1000 to cover costs related to increasing the visibility and participation of lesbian and transgender women in the Cali Pride Parade and festival.

Zagreb Pride (Zagreb, Croatia)
$1000 to cover technical, safety and security costs for the Zagreb Pride March.

Grupa Artemisa Honduras (Tegucigalpa, Honduras)
$1000 to support Arte Mujer, an arts and cultural community festival and gathering for lesbians and bisexual women.

Community Empowerment Self-Support Initiative (Nairobi, Kenya)
$1000 to provide a cultural and community event for LGBTI refugees from across Africa living in Nairobi.

LGL (Vilnius, Lithuania)
$1000 to cover the costs of Rainbow Days Reception at Vilnius Town Hall, an event for LGBTI community leaders, and politicians.
Grantees (continued)

**SEED Pertubuhan Pembangunan Kebajikan dan Persekitaran Positif (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)**

$1000 to cover the costs of a trans community gathering, social event and remembrance of trans people who have been murdered.

**Mesa Nacional LGBTI Nicaragua (Managua, Nicaragua)**

$1000 to cover costs related to bringing LGBTI community activists from all around Nicaragua to travel to the capital, Managua for Pride events.

**Metro Manila Pride (Manila, The Philippines)**

$1000 to cover the costs of several Pride speakers and volunteer appreciation event.

**Tonga Leitis Association (Nuku’alofa, Tonga)**

$1000 to cover the costs of a Pride celebration event including decorations, promotion and volunteer costs.

**Trans Network Uganda (Kampala, Uganda)**

$1000 to cover the costs of a Trans Day of Remembrance Community Event.
Recommendations for the Future

The following are three key recommendations for the future development of the Solidarity Fund from the 2015-2017 Co-Chairs:

**Recommendation 1:** Expand the funding base of the Solidarity Fund through the development of funding proposals to a diverse range of international foundations, corporations, governments and individual donors outside of the InterPride membership.

**Recommendation 2:** Enhance the connections between Solidarity Fund grantees with InterPride membership. This could involve creating partnerships between Prides globally, engagement in regional Pride associations, or new webinars and conference calls for emerging Prides and other LGBTI cultural events.

**Recommendation 3:** Explore the possibility of linking, aligning or merging the Solidarity Fund with InterPride’s Scholarship Fund, so that emerging Prides funded through Solidarity have the opportunity to attend the annual global conference.
Acknowledgements

We would acknowledge the contributions of the following individuals through the 3-year pilot:

**InterPride Solidarity Fund Advisory Committee:**
Namita Chad, Astrea Lesbian Foundation for Social Justice
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Ilana Landsberg-Lewis, Stephen Lewis Foundation
Erica Lim, Arcus Foundation
Zohra Moosa, Mama Cash Foundation
Addison Smith, Wellspring Advisors

**InterPride Solidarity Fund Review Committee**
Dallas Barnes, Co-Chair
Doug Kerr, Co-Chair
Cain Williamson
J. Andrew Baker
Sue Doster
Heather Hay
Brett Hayhoe
Michele Irimia-Bernabe
Justin Long (Human Rights Campaign)
Alan Reiff

Equality and Pride Days, Ulan Batar, Mongolia, 2015
Gratitude

The Solidarity Fund would not be possible without the generous contributions of individual and organizational donors. A huge thank you to the following who supported the fund between 2015 and 2017:

Pride Organizations:
- Atlanta Pride
- Albuquerque Pride
- Austin Pride
- Boston Pride
- Capital Pride DC
- Charlotte Pride
- Delta Foundation
- Fierté Canada Pride
- Fierté Montréal
- Fierté Simcooe Pride
- Heritage of Pride NYC
- Human Rights Campaign
- Iceland Pride
- Kentuckiana Pride
- Long Beach Pride
- Pride Toronto
- Queen’s Pride
- San Diego Pride
- Santa Fe Pride
- Vancouver Pride
- Wilton Manor Pride

Individual Donors:
- Alan Reiff, NYC
- Anna Schlect, WA
- Chris Eckles, PA
- Chris Bryan, PA
- Doug Kerr, Toronto
- Eric Pineault, Montreal
- Michele Steven, UT
- Wilbur Turner, BC