

## **M·A·C AIDS FUND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

### **ABOUT M·A·C AIDS FUND**

The M·A·C AIDS Fund (MAF), the heart and soul of M·A·C Cosmetics, was established in 1994 to support men, women and children affected by HIV/AIDS globally. MAF supports innovative programs that deal directly with the most marginalised, stigmatised, and under-heard people across the globe. MAF is supported by sales of VIVA GLAM lipstick and lipgloss, from which 100% of the selling price goes to support HIV/AIDS organisations. M·A·C has a long history in HIV/AIDS grant making in the UK and Ireland with donations totalling over £7 million in these countries since 1999.

### **M·A·C AIDS FUND UK AND IRELAND MSM INITIATIVE**

In addition to the regular grants programme MAF UK is launching a Special Initiative Grants Programme to support projects for gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (MSM). In 2011, the UK and Ireland experienced the highest ever number of HIV diagnoses amongst MSM. In the same year, 40,000 MSM were living with HIV in the UK, of whom 20% were undiagnosed and unaware of their infection. Across the UK one in 20 MSM is HIV-positive with the ratio as high as one in 12 in London. In Ireland, MSM are the population most affected by HIV. The proportion of recent HIV infections attributed to MSM in Ireland has increased steadily from 38% in 2008 to 69% in 2011.

In 2013 there will be major structural changes to the way that health and care services for people with HIV are delivered in the UK. Welfare reform will also reduce the overall budget for unemployment, disability, and housing benefit. These changes in the UK and the continuing economic challenges in the UK and Ireland are likely to have a significant impact on the most vulnerable MSM living with HIV including those with limited or no income.

Effective prevention and testing continues to be a priority. Too many MSM are unaware that they have HIV and are unknowingly infecting others. Making testing simple and accessible so that MSM take an annual test or a test every three months if they have new or casual partners will help to normalise and boost the uptake of testing. There is also a need to support sustained condom use and other behaviours which prevent HIV infection in the MSM community.

Two groups of particular concern are African MSM and Older MSM. There are limited services specifically for African MSM with HIV and their invisibility is compounded by the stigma associated with both HIV and same-sex relationships in many African communities. In 2011, 16,550 (one in five) adults accessing HIV care were aged 50 years or over and this number is predicted to double over the next five years. However, older adults living with HIV have received little attention in particular those who are socially isolated and those without the financial, housing, and sexual health support they need.

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

MAF UK invites proposals from charities working in the UK and Ireland that focus on the HIV/AIDS needs of MSM. Projects that will be considered for funding include, but are not limited to, those which:

- increase testing and the prevention of the spread of HIV amongst MSM;
- ensure that the most vulnerable MSM living with HIV/AIDS receive the support and advice they need;
- provide innovative and effective ways of reaching African MSM around HIV prevention and support for those living with HIV; and
- provide services and support for vulnerable older MSM living with HIV/AIDS.

Applicant organisations may be local or national and can be working in partnership with other statutory or charitable partners. MAF UK is seeking sustainable projects with clear plans for future funding and will not normally replace or subsidise statutory income. Applications may include core or project costs, including staff salaries and overheads, that directly serve projects which fit this RFP.

### **GRANT RANGE**

MAF Special Initiative Grants range from £20,000 - £50,000.

The MAF grant should not represent more than 20% of the budget of the programme for which you are requesting support.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants must be a registered charity in UK or Ireland, have been in operation for at least three years and have a demonstrable track record of providing HIV services.

An organisation may only apply for one grant a year. MAF awards one-year grants only.

MAF does not fund: political lobbying, religious activities, events, direct medical services, individuals or research.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Organisations wishing to apply for a grant based on the priority areas outlined in this RFP must complete an online application using this link:

[http://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/ao\\_login.login?x\\_gm\\_id=2787&x\\_proposal\\_type\\_id=27613](http://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/ao_login.login?x_gm_id=2787&x_proposal_type_id=27613)

The link above will take you to a website where you will be prompted to login. If you have previously applied for a grant through our online system, you should already have a user account. Please use your past account. If you have forgotten your password, there is a link that you may click to have your password reset. If this is your first time applying for a grant from MAF, create an account for your organisation.

Your login will allow you to start a new application, save, and return to it until you submit it. Once submitted, you can login and view your submitted application. Please ensure that you receive a confirmation message indicating that your application was successfully submitted. For technical assistance, use the "Need Support?" link at the bottom of every page of the application. If there is anything that is not applicable to your organization or your work, please insert "0" or "N/A" wherever appropriate.

### **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS**

Applications must be received by MAF through the online application process by 6:00pm GMT on 28th February 2013. Grant decisions and notifications will be made by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

If you have any queries, please email [macaidsf@maccosmetics.com](mailto:macaidsf@maccosmetics.com) with attention to Amber Baker.