The Disability Rights Fund and the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund are innovative grantmaking collaborations between the global disability community and donors, supporting the rights of the one billion people with disabilities around the world.

In 2012, DRF and DRAF gave more than $2 million in grants to 109 organizations led by persons with disabilities in 16 countries. With Fund support, these organizations use the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) to advance the rights of people with disabilities at both community and national levels. From CRPD ratification campaigns to advocacy for legislative change to rights monitoring and awareness raising, our grantees across the globe are making their voices heard and shifting the paradigm to “nothing about us without us”.

The Disability Rights Fund and the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund are proud of our grantees around the world who are shifting the paradigm to inclusion, upholding rights, and making themselves heard. Over the next years, we will continue to expand our grantmaking to support an increased demand from people with disabilities for equal opportunity for all, starting with Haiti and Rwanda in 2013. To do this, we need your help. Please join us in continuing to advocate for justice for all.

Sincerely,

Diana Samarasan,  
Founding Executive Director

In 2012, DRF and DRAF grantees advocated for “Implementing Our Rights” for example:

**In India**, Chaitanya Vikalangula Hakkula Vedika created village level legal committees to act on rights violations against women and children with disabilities.

**In Lebanon**, a new organization of women with disabilities was initiated by the National Association for the Rights of Disabled People in Lebanon.

**In Uganda**, Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities trained grassroots leaders about enforcing rights and protecting persons with disabilities from human rights violations, increasing the number of cases brought forward by persons with disabilities.

**In Mexico**, a new General Law for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities was adopted on November 30, 2012. National DPO coalition, COAMEX, also advocated for passage of amendments to the General Labor Law, forbidding discrimination on the basis of disability and mandating accommodations in the workplace.

**In Peru**, a new Disability Act, initiated by DRAF grantees, was passed on December 13, 2012, giving the National Council on Disability (CONADIS) responsibility for monitoring and implementation of the CRPD, and mandating formal participation of Disabled Persons Organizations.

The Disability Rights Fund is supported by an anonymous donor; the American Jewish World Service; the Foundation to Promote Open Society, part of the Open Society Foundations; the Leir Charitable Foundations; the Sigrid Rausing Trust; and UKaid. The Disability Rights Advocacy Fund is supported by Australian Aid. The views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the official policies of any of our donors, or the governments they represent. Photography is by Andy Isaacson, photographer/journalist.

Cover Photos | Top: A young blind woman walks along a dike in coastal Bangladesh, where climate change is one of numerous challenges for persons with disabilities. Bottom: Youth from the African Youth with Disabilities Network march in a demonstration in Nairobi, Kenya.
Key achievements since launch of the Funds in 2008 include:
- More than $10 million in grants for rights advancement to more than 500 projects in 25 countries across 6 regions of the world.
- More than half of these grants awarded to extremely marginalized groups such as women with disabilities, children with disabilities, people with intellectual disabilities, and people with psychosocial disabilities.
- National level changes in legislation, policies and government programs to accord them with the CRPD influenced by grantee input in more than 17 countries.
- Support of the first expert report on global conditions for Indigenous persons with disabilities.

ADVANCING RIGHTS THROUGH GRANTMAKING

The Disability Rights Fund is a grantmaking collaborative that empowers persons with disabilities to advocate for equal rights and full participation in society. DRF funds disabled persons organizations in the developing world for activities such as documentation of rights violations, advocacy for rights fulfillment and expansion of voice and visibility for marginalized sectors of the disability community. As a pooled fund, DRF also provides an effective way for donors to engage in this new area of rights.

“DFID is already incorporating disability into programmes across Africa and Asia, and recently committed £2 million towards an additional 3 years support to the Disability Rights Fund — the only grant-making organisation to solely and directly support disabled people’s organisations in developing countries.”

— Lynne Featherstone,
MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for International Development
Street people with disabilities meet at a park in the capital city of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

**DRF LIST OF GRANTEES**

**2012**

**Africa**

**Ghana**
- Empowerment Through Community Volunteering Inclusion Ghana
- Kekeli Foundation
- Lakeside Cross Disability Self-Help Group
- New Horizon Foundation of the Blind
- Special Attention Project

**Uganda**
- Action for Youth with Disabilities Uganda
- Gulu Women with Disabilities Union
- Hear Sounds Uganda
- Iganga District Action on Physical Disability
- Integrated Disabled Women Activities
- Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda
- Lira District Disabled Women Association
- Little People of Uganda
- Moyo District Disabled Persons Union
- National Association of the Deafblind in Uganda
- National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda
- Uganda Association for the Mentally Handicapped
- Inclusion Uganda
- Uganda National Action on Physical Disability
- Uganda National Association of the Deaf
- United Deaf Women’s Organisation
- Youth with Physical Disabilities Development Forum

**Asia**

**Bangladesh**
- Access Bangladesh Foundation
- Bangladesh Protibandhi Unnayan Sangstha
- Coastal DPO Alliance
- Dishary Protibonshi Sangstha
- Jatiyo Trinomul Protibonshi Sangstha
- Jatiyo Trinomul Protibonshi Sangstha
- Society for Education and Inclusion of the Disabled
- Society of the Deaf and Sign Language Users
- Turning Point Foundation
- Women with Disabilities Development Foundation

**India**
- Akshaya Rehabilitation Trust
- Chaitanya Vikalangula Hakku Vedika
- Chattishgarh Viklang Manch
- Network of Persons with Disabilities Organizations
- Parivar National Confederation of Parents Organizations
- People with Hearing Impaired Network
- Prathibha Vikalangula Mutually Aided Cooperative Thrift Society Limited
- Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre
- Tejaswi Mahila Vikalanula Network

**Indonesia**
- Center for Improving Qualified Activity in Life
- DPC Gerikat Kuta Surakarta
- Himpunan Wanita Penyandang Cacat Indonesia
- Himpunan Wanita Penyandang Cacat Indonesia
- Perhimpunan Jiwa Sehat
- Pusat Pemilihan Umum Akses Untuk Penyandang Cacat
- UCP Roda Untuk Kemanusiaan Indonesia

**Eastern Europe/FSU**

**Ukraine**
- All-Ukrainian Organization of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry - National Branch
- Cherkassy Youth
- Creavita
- Djerela 1
- Generation of Successful Action – Kiev
- Generation of Successful Action – Volyn Branch
- Parents Club

**Latin America**

**Mexico**
- Centro Transitorio de Capacitacion y Educacion Recreativa El Caracol A.C.
- Colectivo Chuhcan, A.C.
- Estudiantes o Trabajadores Ciegos y Dèbiles Visuales del Estado de Veracruz
- Fundación Paso a Paso A.C.
- Instituto Bilingüe Intercultural Para Sordos
- Integración Social, Familiar y Educativa A.C.

**La Pirinola: Actividades Culturales Educativas y de Desarrollo para Educación Especial A.C.**
- Nexos y Soluciones A.C.

**Nicaragua**
- Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad Fisico-Motor
- Asociación de Sordociegos de Nicaragua
- Organización de Ciegos de Matagalpa “Luis Braille”
- Red de Asociaciones de Personas con Discapacidad Psicosocial de Nicaragua

**Peru**
- Abriendo Caminos para el Desarrollo e Inclusión Social de Personas con Discapacidad y Demás Grupos Vulnerables
- Asociación de Usuarios de Servicios de Salud Mental
- Asociación Nuevo Amanecer de Personas con Discapacidad Psicosocial
- Federación Departamental de Personas con Discapacidad de Puno
- Federación Departamental en Pro del Desarrollo de la Persona con Discapacidad
- Federación Regional de Personas Con Discapacidad de Junín
- Sociedad Peruana de Síndrome de Down

**Middle East/North Africa**

**Lebanon**
- National Association for the Rights of Disabled People in Lebanon

**Pacific Island Countries**

**Cook Islands**
- Cook Islands National Disability Council
- Fiji
- Psychiatric Survivors Association

**Vanuatu**
- Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association
The Disability Rights Fund supported 79 grants in 2012 for a total of $1,392,860.

**DRF EXPENDITURES FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012**

- Program/Re-granting $1,803,324
- Administrative $184,660
- Fundraising $38,989

**DRF REVENUE FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012**

- Private Foundation $1,043,088
- Public Charitable Contributions $564,544.46
- Government $863,034.38

*The Disability Rights Fund, Inc. was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in February 2011 and started independent operations in April 2012.*
The Disability Rights Advocacy Fund (DRAF) supports persons with disabilities in the developing world to advance legal frameworks to realize their rights.

DRAF, a 501c4 organization, collaborates with the Disability Rights Fund (DRF) to strengthen the advocacy of disability movements. Grants support Disabled Persons’ Organizations (DPOs) to participate in treaty ratification and legislative advocacy. In 2012, DRAF funded 31 organizations in 14 countries to advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. DRAF also identifies and supports other efforts to advance the rights of people with disabilities at regional and cross movement levels:

**Strengthening the Movement of Youth with Disabilities**

The first grant made in the area of Regional Networking in 2012 was to the emergent regional organization—African Youth with Disabilities Network (AYWDN). AYWDN is a continental network bringing youth with disabilities together to work towards inclusion at policy levels. The grant supported the staffing of a secretariat,
development of institutional structure and policies, and conception of strategic goals and outcomes.

**Bridging the Indigenous and Disability Rights Movements**

In 2012, DRAF made its first grant in the area of Cross Movement work to the International Disability Alliance to promote the human rights of indigenous persons with disabilities by raising awareness of their situation within both the indigenous community and the disability community, and by mainstreaming their rights in UN mechanisms. The grant included the drafting of a United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues expert report on the situation of indigenous persons with disabilities around the world.

“Indigenous persons with disabilities experience multiple layers of discrimination and face barriers to the full enjoyment of their rights, based on their indigenous status and also on their disability status.”

— Catalina Devandas, Disability Rights Advocacy Fund Program Officer

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**DRAF LIST OF GRANTEES**

**2012**

**Africa**
- Ghana
  - Ghana Federation of the Disabled
- Uganda
  - Uganda National Association of the Deaf
  - Wakiso District Union of Persons with Disabilities

**Asia**
- Bangladesh
  - Federation of DPOs Sitakund
  - National Council of Disabled Women
- India
  - Centre for Action on Disabled Rights and Empowerment
  - Ganjam District Orthopaedically Handicapped Welfare Association
  - Socio Legal Information Centre
- Indonesia
  - Persatuan Penyandang Cacat Indonesia
  - Persatuan Penyandang Cacat Indonesia

**Latin America**
- Mexico
  - Coalición México por los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad
  - Confederación Mexicana de Organizaciones en Favor de la Persona con Discapacidad Intelectual, A.C.
- Nicaragua
  - Federación Nicaragüense de Asociaciones de Personas con Discapacidad
- Peru
  - Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad “Dignidad”
  - Asociación Femenina de Discapacitados del Perú
  - Asociación para la Defensa de los Derechos de las Mujeres y Niños con Discapacidad-Región Piura
  - Confederación Nacional de Discapacitados del Perú
  - Musas Inspiradoras de Cambios Sociedad y Discapacidad

**Pacific Island Countries**
- Federated States of Micronesia
  - Pohnpei Consumer Organization
- Fiji
  - Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation
  - United Blind Persons of Fiji
- Samoa
  - Nuanua O Le Alofa Inc.
- Solomon Islands
  - Disabled Peoples’ Association of Solomon Islands

**Strategic Partnerships**
- African Youth with Disabilities Network
- International Disability Alliance

**Middle East/North Africa**
- Lebanon
  - National Association for the Rights of Disabled People in Lebanon
  - Palestinian Disability Forum
  - Youth Association of the Blind

For more information on DRAF Grantees please see our website www.drafund.org.
“Because of DRAF, there are changes in civil and political participation of persons with disabilities — there are evidences of equal rights and access to voting.”
— Member of Parliament, Uganda

**TOTAL GRANTS BY REGION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>$146,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>$159,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>$246,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>$134,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Island Countries</td>
<td>$86,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Partnerships</td>
<td>$212,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Disability Rights Advocacy Fund supported **31 grants** in 2012 for a total of **$1,064,278**.

**DRAF EXPENDITURES FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012**

- Program/Re-granting: $1,281,263
- Administrative: $35,800
- Fundraising: $5,101
- Program Re-granting: 97%
- Administrative: 3%
- Fundraising: 0%

The Disability Rights Advocacy Fund is supported by Australian Aid.

*The Disability Rights Advocacy Fund, Inc. was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in February 2011 and started independent operations in April 2012.*
MEET OUR TEAM

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Michael Haroz, Compliance Officer
Emily Martinez, Treasurer
Vinay Mehra
William Rowland, Co-Chair
Diana Samarasen, ex-officio member
Catherine Hyde Townsend, Co-Chair

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Jo Cooke, UKaid
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Arlene Wilson Grant, Grants Manager
Kerry Thompson, Operations and Program Associate
Susan Kagan, Development Coordinator

*This list reflects current DRF and DRAF stakeholders. For a complete list of previous Global Advisory Panel and Grantmaking Committee members and staff, please see the Disability Rights Fund website (www.disabilityrightsfund.org).

Join us in continuing to advance rights:
There are currently one billion people with disabilities around the world - one in every seven people. 80% of people with disabilities live in developing countries and there, make up 20% of the poorest of the poor living on less than $1 a day. Children with disabilities make up the single largest group of out of school children. Despite these numbers, only 3% of all foundation funding - and 3-4% of all development funding - goes to “disability,” and much of this funding is addressed to services rather than empowerment.

The Disability Rights Fund and the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund put money in the hands of people with disabilities themselves, to increase their empowerment and raise their voices at sub-national, national, regional and international levels to ensure that the needs and the rights of people with disabilities are visible and respected. Within the next few years, we aim to add additional countries in Africa or Asia to our grantmaking portfolio; add a Program Director to increase coordination of work between the six regions where we work; and, enable leveraging of financial resources to increase the visibility of the disability community. For information on how to support our work, please visit the DRF website at www.disabilityrightsfund.org.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/disabilityrightsfund
Twitter: @dsamarasan
YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/disabilityrightsfund/videos
“The DRF is a very important partner for AusAID as it helps us to reach small and emerging DPOs allowing them to have their voices heard, many for the first time.”
— Rosemary Mckay, Former Director of Australia Aid’s Disability Inclusive Development Team