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## **Internship at BasicNeeds Middle East Foundations**

### **Based**

At interns home or Leamington office  
Unpaid internship. Out of pocket expenses may be paid according to assignment

### **Subject**

Research of newly emerging and established trusts and foundations in the Middle East.

### **Introduction**

[BasicNeeds](#) is a development organisation established in 2000 by Chris Underhill. It works in the developing world specifically with people with mental illness or epilepsy. As of December 2009 the organisation has worked with 78,036 people with mental illness or epilepsy.

### **Assignment duration**

3 months. Approximate start August 2010

### **Assignment description**

Over the past 10 years a number of very significant foundations have been formed by families, countries and specific businesses (e.g. airlines) within the middle east. These foundations tend to have quite extensive interests in funding work in the developing world. At times the funding is aimed at Africa and at other times more specifically at Muslim states. Either way there is a growing list of these foundations.

BasicNeeds works in a number of countries where these foundations fund. It also works with a number of different kinds of people that the foundations favour e.g. children, children who have missed school, unwell people from Muslim backgrounds, people with chronic illnesses such as mental illness and epilepsy.

### **Assignment outputs**

The assignment would produce a list of middle east based foundations who might be suitable for BasicNeeds to apply to.

A set of criteria will need to be developed specifying the key areas of interest for each foundation

An information sheet per foundation will be produced specifying the name, contact details, founder if applicable, board if known and other details such as the preferred area of funding.

### **Assignment Outcomes**

Whilst BasicNeeds has been recognised as having one of the largest programmes in the developing world in the specialised field of mental health and epilepsy it is true to say that insufficient donor institutions are aware of BasicNeeds and its work.

In the context of a number of our programmes becoming independently governed organisations this is an ideal moment to begin working on relationships with newly emerging funders who are themselves seeking new areas of donor investment.

A good outcome would be for a long term relationship to be developed with funding and other resources being applied over time to the work of the organisation.

### **Application Procedure**

Please send an application for this Internship to <mailto:samantha.clews@basicneeds.org>. Please ensure that you send an up to date CV and short email/letter of application, together with one name and email address/physical address of the person prepared to be a character referee.