

## **GIBS Colloquium for Social Entrepreneurs August 2006 Newsletter**

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*"Every community has produced its own breed of Social Entrepreneurs; people who, when confronted by problems in their communities, do not hesitate to take action. They may do so alone or work with others towards creative solutions. The important point is that they take responsibility for finding solutions to community and wider social problems, especially those affecting the poorest of the poor. "*

(Zanele Mbeki, First Lady of South Africa as quoted in The Social Entrepreneur)

## **COLLOQUIUM FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS (CSE)**

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006)**

- Create and implement a basic financial management system for your organisation (budget, cash flow, income statement, balance sheet)
  - Better understand and manage your organisation's financial risk
  - Read and interpret financial statements
  - Understanding financial management trends in the development sector
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The 1-day "Financial Management" course has been designed to assist non profit leaders to communicate within a financial context and better understand the impact of finances on organisational decision making.

There is growing pressure on non profit leaders to be well versed in financial aspects of their organisation and reporting this in a clear and knowledgeable manner to various stakeholders. This course will provide a solid platform for delegates to increase their financial knowledge as well as include specific insights into issues relevant to development sector organisations in South Africa.

The programme will include:

- Interpreting financial statements and understanding what the key financial indicators are
- Lessons from a Social Entrepreneur
- Financial problem solving skills with the help of a case study
- A discussion on financial management trends within the South African development sector

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2006  
Time: 8h00 – 17h00  
Venue: Hacklebrook, 1 Conrad Drive, Blairgowrie (cnr Jan Smuts)  
Application Deadline: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2006  
RSVP: Bridgit Evans, Tel: 011 771 4167, E-mail: [evansb@gibs.co.za](mailto:evansb@gibs.co.za)  
Cost: R500 per person

### **MEASURING IMPACT (16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006)**

Research into the South African social entrepreneurship sector by the CSE has revealed that many social entrepreneurs are faced with the challenge of quantifying their organisational effectiveness to key stakeholders.

The sustainability of social entrepreneurial activities is ultimately determined by initiative's impact in the community. Social entrepreneurs are coming under increasing pressure to quantify their organisational impact and results. This information supports donor decision-making and informs strategic planning. The 1-day seminar on Measuring Impact will look at the fundamentals behind creating and implementing a measurement system in your organisation. The workshop will include tools, case studies and best practise sessions to assist in taking this knowledge home.

### **CSE BREAKFAST – LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR NGO'S (3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2006)**

The details of the breakfast are still to be confirmed, and the aim is to assist organisations in the social sector to be set up in a way that makes the most sense from a tax and legal point of view in order to ensure maximum efficiency.

### **INTERFACING WITH GOVERNMENT (20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2006)**

"Interfacing with Government" will be a one-day module focused on the relationship between civil society and social entrepreneurs on the one hand and government in South Africa on the other. This module has been designed on popular demand from a large number of CSE participants, who, in a stakeholder mapping session, named government as the stakeholder about whom they lacked the most knowledge and with whom they had the most difficulty in engaging.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARDS DINNER**

The Social Entrepreneurship Awards dinner was a very special event held on 13th July 2006. The judges included Zohra Darwood (Executive Director; Open Society Foundation), Futhi Mtoba (Deputy Chair of Deloitte), Mille Bojer (Co-founder; Pioneers of Change) and Ferial Haffajee (Editor; Mail & Guardian). It was a wonderful celebration of achievement and we were privileged to have Mrs Zanele Mbeki as our honoured guest. The awards categories are listed below. Our sincere congratulations go to the winners in each category.



The Honourable First Lady: Mrs Zanele Mbeki

### **THE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR ON THE BRINK: WINNER – GLEN STEYN**



The First Lady, Glen Steyn and Mrs Zohra Darwood

Social entrepreneurs were questioned in some depth as to whether they go through phases in their lifecycle. From this, we were able to deduce with confidence that there is an initial phase which comes with the birth of the idea; a second phase that involves drawing human and financial resources to test what has become the plan and a third phase in which the social entrepreneur enjoys a level of success and recognition. At this point, we believe the SE is on the brink of taking his/her organisation to the next level through replication strategies and significantly expanding the base.

GIBS wished to award an “SE on the brink” because we realised that this can be a watershed moment in the lifecycle of an SE and we were satisfied that both the idea and the organisation would benefit from appropriate recognition and further growth at this juncture.

### **THE BEQUEATHING LEADER: WINNER – CHARLES MAISEL**

One of the most difficult struggles of a Social Entrepreneur is letting go of the organisation or idea that they have given birth to and nurtured, usually over a number of years. This is not to suggest that it is always necessary for the founder SE to move on, but in some instances it can be best for both the organisation and the social entrepreneur to do so. It is for this reason that GIBS chose to award those who are setting the example of leaving thriving organisations in their wake and moving on to even more suitable uses of their talent.



Charles Maisel

### **THE BELIEVER: WINNER – SHEREEN USDIN**



Shereen Usdin with Zorha Darwood

More often than not, there is a second in command who comes on board quite soon after the social entrepreneur has voiced an idea and stands by them and helps build the organisational capacity. This person in a supportive role joins and commits to the organisation because he or she is convinced of the merit of the idea.

### **THE BENEFACTOR: WINNER - INVESTEC**

Many of the social entrepreneurs interviewed, referred with gratitude to a business partner that came along either quite early on in the organisation’s history when seed funding made the difference between going ahead or throwing in the towel or at some other turning point when an injection of financial assistance was crucial to the project taking a necessary next step. This financial assistance almost always came with taking a risk, suspending scepticism and having faith in the social entrepreneur’s vision.