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ECHOING GREEN SEEDS TWENTY NEW ORGANIZATIONS AND TOPS \$25 MILLION INVESTED IN SOCIAL CHANGE SINCE 1987

-Angel investor in social entrepreneurship announces 2007 fellowship winners-

New York, NY – August 7, 2007— As the newest example of its twenty year and more than \$25 million commitment to social entrepreneurs, Echoing Green announced today its 2007 fellows. The group, selected from among nearly 900 applicants, includes twenty organizations whose founders have crafted breakthrough ideas to confront some of the world's most deeply entrenched social problems. Through their newly created organizations, the fellows aim to spark social change in more than a dozen countries spanning five continents.

Echoing Green is one of the only organizations solely dedicated to investing in early-stage social entrepreneurs. The organization maximizes the likelihood of success for nonprofit innovators by providing up to \$90,000 over two years, plus comprehensive technical assistance and consulting support.

Among the most prominent issue areas addressed by the 2007 fellows are redevelopment in New Orleans, energy and water sustainability in the developing world, and education reform. Examples of the social ventures initiated by the 2007 Echoing Green Fellows include:

- ▶ **U.S. Public Service Academy:** Establishing the nation's first public service academy to stand alongside the military academies and focus on preparing young Americans to pursue careers in public service.
- ▶ **Green Power:** Creating affordable hydro-electric power systems owned and operated by rural Kenyan communities that previously did not have access to electricity.
- ▶ **CentsCity:** Building an online virtual city that strengthens young people's ability to become financially savvy adults and increases their possibilities for success.
- ▶ **Mobile Metrix:** Transforming the lives of the world's uncounted poor by employing local youth to use mobile technology to gather demographic data from those living on the margins of society.
- ▶ **Video Volunteers:** Creating a global media industry for disenfranchised communities as a tool to educate, connect, and empower individuals throughout developing nations.

"The bold and creative spirit of these entrepreneurs underscores Echoing Green's commitment to support undiscovered leaders who can make a real difference in our world," said Dr. Cheryl Dorsey, President of Echoing Green. "These fellows come to us with passion and drive; we then provide the early stage funding and vast network of social entrepreneurs to help them secure sustainability and more quickly achieve the impact of their ideas."

Echoing Green was founded in 1987 on the belief that the same entrepreneurial spirit that has driven the U.S. economy can also foster new solutions to complex social problems all over the world. By applying the principles of private investing to the social change sector, Echoing Green has nourished nearly 350 initiatives. A recent study found that fellows have raised close to \$1 billion in additional funding, delivering a return on investment of approximately forty-four times Echoing Green's seed funding.

“The Echoing Green model has repeatedly proven to be successful at helping emerging social entrepreneurs attract the support they need to be sustainable,” said Dave Hodgson, Managing Director of General Atlantic, LLC and Chairman of the Echoing Green Board of Directors. “Like traditional private equity investors, we are looking for a return. But in the case of Echoing Green investments, the ultimate return is deep and far-reaching positive social change.”

Approximately two out of three organizations founded through an Echoing Green investment reach sustainability, and more than 80 percent of the institutions launched since 2000 are still actively pursuing their missions of social change.

The addition of the 2007 fellows brings the Echoing Green global network to almost 450 fellows. With the support of Echoing Green, they have given birth to nationally-recognized organizations such as Teach For America, Working Today, Genocide Intervention Network, the Global Fund for Children, and City Year. In addition to seed capital, Echoing Green provides fellows a range of other benefits, including health insurance, strategic planning support, legal assistance, and financial modeling.

A full description of the 2007 Echoing Green Fellows can be viewed at www.echoinggreen.org/2007fellows and a list is attached below.

About Echoing Green

As an angel investor in social entrepreneurship, Echoing Green identifies, funds and supports the worlds most exceptional emerging leaders and the organizations they launch. For more information on the Echoing Green Fellowship program, the 2007 fellows and their organizations, please visit www.echoinggreen.org.

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2007 Echoing Green Fellows

EDUCATION & YOUTH LEADERSHIP



Building Tomorrow
George Srour

Scope: Regional – Sub-Saharan Africa

Location: Indianapolis, Indiana (with an initial focus on Wakiso District, Uganda)

***The Bold Idea:** Empowering U.S.-based college students to raise funds and awareness to build schools for vulnerable children in sub-Saharan Africa.*



Cents City
Felix Brandon Lloyd

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: St. Louis, Missouri

***The Bold Idea:** Creating an online virtual city that strengthens young people's ability to become financially savvy adults and increases their possibilities for success.*



English at Work
Maile Broccoli-Hickey

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: Austin, Texas

***The Bold Idea:** Providing English instruction to low-income workers at their job sites as a tool to foster upward mobility, more democratic workplaces, and stronger communities.*



KID LLC, A Teaching Firm
Rafiq Kalam Id-Din

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: New York, New York

***The Bold Idea:** Creating college preparatory elementary charter schools based on the organizational structure of law firms.*



NOLA 180
John Alford

Scope: Local – New Orleans, Louisiana

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana

***The Bold Idea:** Transforming failing public schools in New Orleans into college preparatory schools of excellence.*



Rural China Education Foundation
Diane Geng and Sara Lam

Scope: Domestic – China

Location: Shaanxi and Shandong, China

***The Bold Idea:** Developing the first long-term teaching fellowship program to improve the quality of education in rural Chinese villages.*

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Buffalo ReUse

Michael Gainer

Scope: Local – Buffalo, New York

Location: Buffalo, New York

***The Bold Idea:** Shifting the building industry in Buffalo from wasteful demolition practices to a business model for deconstruction, in order to support sustainable, environmental development.*



Resurrection After Exoneration

John Thompson

Scope: Local – New Orleans, Louisiana

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana

***The Bold Idea:** Partnering with formally incarcerated individuals in New Orleans to learn marketable trades and launch their own businesses in order to reduce the recidivism rate.*



The Reciprocity Foundation, Inc.

Adam Bucko and Taz Tagore

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: New York, New York

***The Bold Idea:** Working with homeless young adults to launch meaningful careers in the “Creativity Economy” and permanently exit the shelter system.*



Mobile Metrix

Melanie Edwards

Scope: International

Location: San Francisco, California and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

***The Bold Idea:** Transforming the lives of the world’s uncounted poor by employing local youth to gather demographic data from those living on the margins of society.*

ENVIRONMENT



A Single Drop for SafeWater

Gemma Bulos and Kevin Lee

Scope: Domestic – Philippines

Location: Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, Philippines

***The Bold Idea:** Establishing independent community-based water organizations in the Philippines that will promote simple, affordable water treatment technologies and participatory strategies to improve community health.*



Green Power

Robert Mutsaers

Scope: Domestic – Kenya

Location: Kiangurwe, Kenya

***The Bold Idea:** Creating affordable hydro-electric power systems owned and operated by rural Kenyan communities.*

HEALTH



Seeding Labs

Nina Dudnik

Scope: International

Location: Boston, Massachusetts

***The Bold Idea:** Distributing laboratory equipment from well-funded institutions in the developed world to increase the scientific capacity of developing nations.*

HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS



Asylum Access

Emily Arnold-Fernandez

Scope: Regional – Africa, Asia, and Latin America

Location: San Francisco, California

***The Bold Idea:** Creating a new legal infrastructure in the global south to empower refugees to obtain legal status and assert their basic human rights in their first countries of refuge.*



Advocates for Workers' Economic Rights

Matthew Sirolly and Melvin Yee

Scope: Local – Southern California

Location: Los Angeles, California

***The Bold Idea:** Enforcing legal judgments of unpaid wages to America's poorest workers through strategic methods that promote sustained economic equality.*



Equatorial Guinea Rights Network

Tutu Alicante

Scope: Domestic – Equatorial Guinea

Location: Austin, Texas

***The Bold Idea:** Advocating for democratic reforms and ending impunity for human rights violations in Equatorial Guinea.*



Initiative for Human Rights in Mental Health

Sehnaz Layikel

Scope: Domestic – Turkey

Location: Istanbul, Turkey

***The Bold Idea:** Leading the first constituent-run movement to improve human rights of people with mental disabilities in Turkey.*

PUBLIC SERVICE



U.S. Public Service Academy

Chris Myers Asch

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: Washington, D.C.

***The Bold Idea:** Creating an undergraduate public service academy to change the way Americans perceive, prepare for, and pursue public service.*

ARTS, CULTURE, MEDIA



Khmer Legacies
Socheata Poeuv

Scope: Domestic – United States
Location: New Haven, Connecticut

***The Bold Idea:** Uncovering and documenting the Khmer Rouge genocide through survivor testimony as the first initiative to bridge the communication divide in Cambodian-American families.*



Video Volunteers
Jessica Mayberry

Scope: International
Location: New York, New York

***The Bold Idea:** Creating a global media industry for disenfranchised communities as a tool to educate, connect, and empower individuals throughout developing nations.*