

GUYANA FORUM FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNING (GFLL)

Date established	October 25 2000
Date and type of registration	Not-for-profit NGO, registered under the Company's Act
Primary contact person	Wilfred Gomes, President
Address, telephone and email	c/o YWCA Building, 106 Brickdam, Georgetown Tel 223-0970 Email gfl@sdnp.org.gy
Secondary contact person	Ms Myrtle Richards, Secretary
Address, telephone and email	Kuru Kuru Cooperative College, 128 Durban Street, Durban Backland. Tel 2258433; 2273940; 2273927 Email myrtlerichards@yahoo.com
Number of active members	
Number of paid staff	1 part-time
Number of regular volunteers	40
Estimated annual budget	-
Main sources of funding	Fees and small contributions from Members; a small disbursement from Ministry of Education in 2002 only ; Special projects on single issues e.g. National Literacy Campaign (Carter Center/USAID); Community Leadership (CASRI); Office equipment & furniture (CIDA).
Geographic scope of activity	Region – Region #2, 4, 5 &10.

Mission or primary goal of your organization:

To provide a Forum for Adult Education providers and other stakeholders; to promote and support programmes and activities which will empower our people for human and national development through life-long education and training.

Main subject areas of activity or programmes

- x Economic/income generation
- x Education/training
- x Student/youth issues
- x Advocacy

Major projects in last two years, including current projects

Project #1 Name/Goal **National Literacy Strategy** - To substantially reduce the level of illiteracy among youth and women by the end of 2010 through the development and implementation of a National Literacy Plan.

Start date July 2003

End date January 2004

<u>Main activities</u>	Series of conferences and awareness raising activities leading to design of literacy strategy document, advocacy with Ministry of Education to achieve agreement on collaboration with GFLL, and on National Literacy Plan
Main source(s) of funding	The Carter Center
Project theme or sector	Education and advocacy
Project partners	
Geographic scope	National
Results of Project	Designed national literacy strategy, but still negotiating with MoE to finalize agreement on strategy and collaboration in its implementation.

Other Projects

Caribbean and African Self-Reliance International (CASRI)

GFLL signed a Memorandum of Agreement with CASRI in late 2002. CASRI is an international development agency with a mission to motivate and develop leadership for community transformation that leads to self-sustaining and equitable development among people of the Caribbean and African heritage.

There is a close alignment of the missions of GFLL and CASRI and in their participatory approach to development. The purpose of the partnership is to develop leadership through education, training and collaborative initiatives in communities for self-sustaining, human and national development with equity.

This partnership is expected to strengthen GFLL to become a true umbrella organisation of adult education providers and as Guyana's sponsor and overall coordinator of the civic leadership development programme. CASRI will also assist GFLL in fundraising especially from international sources.

Work has started already on:

- i) The strengthening of GFLL
- ii) The leadership development programme for community leaders
- iii) GFLL's Five Year Plan

CESO

One area in which GFLL expects to be of great help to its members is in curriculum design, development and review. The Forum has made a start with the assistance of a CESO Volunteer Advisor Mr. Albert Heckel. A training programme for about 20 persons from member organisations was implemented during 2001. The training lasted for a cumulative period of three months and participants were taught how to design programmes, which were relevant to customer needs and which will also contribute to their own and to national development.

Canadian Crossroads International (CCI),

GFLL approached CCI, a Canadian based organisation which is supported by CIDA, with a view to obtaining a number of Netcorps Volunteers to train staff in different areas of information technology, such as website design and maintenance. Our approach was successful and three Netcorps Volunteers were assigned to GFLL over a seven-week period

to conduct information technology classes for nine member organisations. The training course was well received.

Collaboration with Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions - Book and Craft Exhibition
On the occasion of the launching of the local chapter of the Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions, GFLL sponsored a book and craft exhibition at the Public Free Library. The event was well attended. The purpose of this activity was to promote the role of GFLL as a key player in adult education and life-long learning.

Major projects planned for at least next two years

Project #1 Name/Goal

Name: Community Leadership (Leadcom)

Goals:

- To strengthen leadership in communities.
- To develop a collaborative style and culture of leadership so as to have an influential voice and foster community engagement.
- To build a broad community capacity for self-reliant development, greater participation and influence.

Start date

October 2004

End date

2006

Main activities

- Organise 4 – day training programme followed by regional/community group engagements among persons trained.
- Work is on-going in pursuit of the above objectives.

Main source(s) of funding

CASRI

Project theme or sector

Project partners

GFLL/CASRI/potential leaders across Regions in Guyana.

Geographic scope

Regions # 2-6, 10

Results of Project

73 Participants who were trained have been meeting in their various communities.

Collaboration with Faculty of Education, University of Guyana

Discussions commenced with the Faculty of Education, University of Guyana with a view to the establishment of a Certificate Programme in Adult Education similar to the one at UWI. It is intended for persons desirous of pursuing this aspect of education. This would strengthen the delivery of programmes in institutions engaged in adult learning activities. Significant progress has been made and a date for the introduction of the programme at UG has to be decided.

Section V Networking

What other NGOs would you like to share information with or collaborate with in your activities?

1. All NGOs that are members of the Forum including the Adult Education Association- Head Office & its Berbice Branch & Centres in Corentyne, Bartica etc., IDCE –

Georgetown, Linden, Essequibo, Guyana Prison Service, CBR, Kuru Kuru Cooperative College, YWCA, Volunteer Youth Consultancy.

2. NGOs whose representatives are involved in the Leadcom project including for example: Women Across differences, Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association, UN Peace Council (AEA), Youth can move the World, Vilvoorden Women's Group, Anna Regina support group, Kababuri Craft Group, Guybernet, Evergreen Nature Study Group, Central Islamic Organisation of Guyana, Youth Challenge – Guyana, Rights of the Child, Women's Artists Association, Women against Violence Everywhere, Guyana Organisation of Indigenous People et al.