



Department of Psychiatry
and Behavioral Medicine
Center for AIDS Intervention
Research (CAIR)

9-30-08

Bojan Ilic
Anti-Drugs Association
www.stopdrogama.org

Dear Bojan Ilic:

The Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR) at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A. is an interdisciplinary center dedicated to the development and evaluation of HIV prevention programs. Our center has a specific interest in HIV prevention research collaborations in Eastern and Central Europe, and Central Asia. CAIR received a grant from the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study the effectiveness of ways to train AIDS nongovernmental organizations in how to carry out new types of research-based HIV prevention programs in their communities. The project will work with nearly 100 HIV prevention NGOs throughout Eastern and Central Europe, and Central Asia. This work reflects our Center's goal of serving as an HIV prevention resource to NGOs in the region and finding methods to link HIV prevention research and service.

Your NGO has been recommended to us to participate in this research. I am writing to inform you about the project, provide you with some general information, and ask if your NGO would like to participate.

The project is called the "Global AIDS Intervention Network Project, Phase II" or "GAIN." The directors of all NGOs in the GAIN Project will be asked to participate in three 2-hour telephone interviews with one of our staff. Interviews can be done in either the English or Russian language, and all information you provide will be kept confidential. The telephone interviews will ask detailed questions about your NGO's programs, services, priorities, challenges, and community needs. The first interview will take place during the next four months, and follow-up interviews will be repeated twice at one-year intervals. Because the interviews will be lengthy and will require your advance preparation, we will offer your NGO a payment of \$400 for completing each telephone interview (\$1,200 total).

NGOs in the GAIN Project will then be offered either face-to-face training or Internet-based training in how to carry out a community-level HIV prevention intervention. The intervention model trains popular people within a vulnerable community population (called "popular opinion leaders") in how to encourage HIV prevention steps among others in the same community. This approach has been shown effective in the scientific literature and can be used

Mailing/Correspondence Address:
8701 Watertown Plank Road
Post Office Box 26509
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226-0509

Office Location:
2071 North Summit Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
(414) 456-7700
Fax (414) 287-4209

with many populations. Some GAIN NGOs will be offered traditional training while others will receive the training by an Internet program. Also, some NGOs will receive the training during the coming year, while others will receive it in about 30 months from now. Whether or not your NGO will be offered the face-to-face or the Internet training approach—and whether it will be provided in the coming year or at a later point—will be randomly determined.

To ensure that all NGOs participating in the GAIN Project have high-speed Internet access, we will also provide your NGO with a payment of \$500 per year for three years (\$1500 total) to help support the cost of your high-speed Internet access.

Your participation in the GAIN Project does not obligate your NGO to carry out the prevention model for which we will provide training. You can stop participation at any time and for any reason. However, we believe your organization will find the project to be interesting and useful in the development of new community programs. All costs associated with your NGO's participation in GAIN will be fully paid by our grant, and there will be no expenses to your NGO.

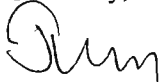
We will later provide interested NGOs with more detailed information concerning the types of training they can receive, as well as the GAIN Project timeline. In order to begin this process, we would appreciate it if you would provide us with the following information:

1. Whether you have interest in this project and would like additional information concerning it;
2. Complete contact coordinates including the official name of your NGO, the name of its Director and its Prevention Program Director, mailing address, preferred email address, telephone and fax numbers, as well as web site address if you have a web site;
3. The best telephone number at which to call you, including country and city codes; and
4. Whether you prefer to receive future communications from us in the English or Russian language.

So that we can begin our planning, we would appreciate hearing from you within the next 10 days. You can reach us by writing to Ruzanna Aleksanyan, the GAIN Project Coordinator, at rleksan@mcw.edu. If you would like to learn more about CAIR or the Medical College of Wisconsin, please also feel welcome to visit our web site at <http://www.cair.mcw.edu>.

Thank you, and we look forward to your response,

Cordially,



Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine
Director, Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR)