



# fast forward fund

*youth investing in youth for global change*

## **FAST FORWARD FUND, pioneering youth-to-youth social investment to be announced at 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clinton Global Initiative University Meeting**

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Austin, Texas: **FAST FORWARD FUND (FFF)** will be launched at 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **Clinton Global Initiative University**, amidst 1000 university students, 100 college Presidents, leading social entrepreneurs, and celebrity-activists including Matthew McConaughey and Natalie Portman. **Former President Bill Clinton will announce the program at a press conference in Austin.**

The **FFF enables youth to direct philanthropic capital to youth**-led initiatives for global change. Through peer-to-peer investments, FFF catalyzes youth giving to address the most pressing global challenges faced by this generation and our time: climate change & energy, poverty alleviation, global health, human rights & peace. **FFF aims** to transform young people into social investors for life, mobilizing this generation's financial resources, passion, energy, and drive to advance global sustainability & human dignity. FFF envisions a new generation of global citizens embracing **social investment as action** to shape the global agenda of our times, and create a vibrant, sustainable future.

"We believe **Investing is Action**," says Diana Ayton-Shenker, FFF co-founder & President, "young leaders today have the capacity, energy and imperative to truly drive global change as social investors." As a champion of **investment activism**, Ms. Ayton-Shenker, **Senior Fellow and Faculty at Bard College's Globalization and International Affairs Program** in NYC, is thrilled to be launching FFF at CGIU, saying "While we often turn to our leaders for inspiration, **CGIU & FFF remind us that we must look at each other, and at ourselves for action.**" This is the promise and opportunity of FFF: young people themselves becoming social investors to help each other solve global threats.

**WHY NOW? There's never been greater need or opportunity to galvanize youth as social investors offering new giving strategies to solve and resolve today's social problems.** The scale and scope of 21<sup>st</sup> C global problems demand additional philanthropic funding models, while Millennials enter adulthood with unprecedented enthusiasm to take on social change and spearhead our transition to a global, digital era. The FFF meets this enormous need and opportunity by mobilizing mass philanthropic participation as **investment activism** for young adults through inclusive, innovative and global social investment. **It's time to unleash the bold, fresh, irrepressible spirit that is the birthright of youth when we most need their leadership on the planet. It's time to invest in youth. It's time for the Fast Forward Fund.**

**FFF Investment Strategy:** FFF Portfolios will feature outstanding youth-led social initiatives, *prescreened and nominated only* by pipeline partners, invited from leading incubators of social entrepreneurship. FFF investment strategy focuses on two-year commitments of \$50-150K, augmented by professional mentoring and peer partnerships, directed to start-up and early stage for-profit, not-for-profit, and hybrid social enterprises.

### **FFF PARTNERS & LEADERSHIP:**

**Bard Globalization & International Affairs Program**, pilot partner for academic training & student directors;  
**Fund for the City of New York (FCNY)**, fiscal sponsor;

**FFF Founding Board Members:** Diana Ayton-Shenker, FFF co-founder; BGIA Sr. Fellow in Venture Philanthropy & Int'l Affairs; Jonathan Becker, Bard College, Dean of International Studies; Lara Galinsky, Echoing Green, Senior Vice President; Michele Kahane, Clinton Global Initiative, Director of Commitments; Miguel Perez LaFaurie, Citigroup, Vice President, Global Product Development; Deborah Leipziger, CSR consultant and author; Blair Miller, Acumen Fund, Fellows Manager; Natalia Oberti Noguera, Director of NY Women Social Entrepreneurs

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