RISE UP LAUNCHES NEW YOUTH CHAMPIONS COHORT

Rise Up is launching the fourth cohort of the Youth Champions Initiative, in partnership with the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The Youth Champions Initiative (YCI) is an exciting initiative that is advancing innovation and quality in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights globally. Through YCI, Rise Up invests in young champions who are leading the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) movement now and for the next generation. Following a competitive selection process, Rise Up will select 22 visionary young people working in Packard Foundation priority geographies – India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Rwanda, and the United States (Louisiana and Mississippi). Rise Up has developed an innovative virtual incubator-style model for YCI that integrates intensive capacity building, leadership development, advocacy, project funding, and technical support to enable the Youth Champions to launch creative new initiatives to improve SRHR in their countries.

INVESTING IN YOUTH CHAMPIONS

In the fall of 2021 the Youth Champions will participate in the YCI Incubator. This intensive Incubator workshop includes weekly virtual training sessions between October and December and integrate hands-on capacity building in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and rights, leadership, innovation, advocacy, and project development. The Incubator will provide Youth Champions with the opportunity to strengthen their skills and leadership, learn from internationally-recognized SRHR experts, develop their own SRHR projects, and share their vision for SRHR. Rise Up will cover all costs related to program participation, including Internet costs.

SEEDING YOUTH INNOVATION

During the Incubator, Youth Champions will receive coaching and technical assistance from SRHR experts in the development of innovative initiatives to increase access to quality SRHR services, education and information. Each participant will leave the Incubator with a draft project proposal, which they will finalize with their supporting organizations. Rise Up will competitively award $12,000 USD project seed grants to participating Youth Champions and their organizations to launch the SRHR projects they developed during the Incubator. Rise Up will also provide ongoing technical support to enable the Youth Champions and their organizations to most effectively implement their innovative SRHR projects.

LEARN MORE AND APPLY HERE:
riseuptogether.org/youth-champions-initiative
APPLICATIONS DUE BY: JULY 15, 2021