



Telebriefing:

**FIRST DO NOT HARM: GRANTEE SAFETY FOR LGBTI, DISABILITY RIGHTS,
AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS**

April 2011, 2011

**Co-sponsored by IHRFG's Human Rights Defenders Working Group, Funders for LGBTW Issues,
and the Disability Funders Network**

Speakers:

- [Annie Hillar](#), Director of Programmes, Mama Cash - Fund for Women
- [Nguru Karugu](#), Executive Director, Public Health Innovations, Kenya
- [Diana Samarasan](#), Executive Director, Disability Rights Fund

Description:

The murders and ongoing persecution of LGBTI activists in Uganda, Honduras, and Kenya, and the growing threats faced by disability rights campaigners in Uganda and Ukraine remind us that attention must be paid to both the concerns/risks that all human rights organizations and defenders share and those that are identity- or issue-specific.

This telebriefing explored the role funders can and do play in mitigating or aggravating risks and exposure facing their grantees (particularly human rights defenders). Guest speakers offered both an introduction to general grantee safety and an examination of the distinct security issues faced by LGBTI and disability activists – two particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups of human rights defenders – and discussed the specific considerations for funders working with them.

What are some general best practices that funders can implement to avoid harm? What practical steps are there for funders working with marginalized groups?

To listen to the full telebriefing:

Visit [IHRFG's website](#) (you will need to enter the password "humanrights").