



Dear Training Centres,

We are writing on behalf of Educateurs sans Frontières (EsF) to invite you to support the AMI outreach programme by sponsoring a delegate to attend EsF's Sixth International Assembly in Stellenbosch, South Africa, August 4-18, 2018. In this way, you will be making an important contribution to bring about social change in the world.

*EsF is a key component of AMI's third pillar – **Outreach**. It is the division of AMI that brings Montessori principles to children and families in crisis and difficult circumstances all over the world.*

EsF was initiated by Renilde Montessori in 1999 in Italy. Since then, EsF Assemblies have been held in Spain (2004), the United States (2011), Thailand (2015), and India (2016).

The theme of the upcoming Assembly in South Africa (August 2018) is: **“Strengthening Communities for a Sustainable Future”**. The Assembly will be held on the campus of the Sustainability Institute, which runs a Montessori programme for children from birth to age 6, an “agroecology” school that guides young farmers in developing ecological food production, and Masters and PhD programmes in Sustainable Development.

There is no doubt that attendance at an EsF Assembly is an inspiring, life-changing experience. Participants from around the world spend two weeks living and working in a campus environment, studying Montessori's work, meeting with influential speakers and activists, sharing experiences and ideas, visiting local initiatives for children, and developing innovative ways of reaching out to those in need inside and outside their own communities.

The powerful creative energy generated by these Assemblies has led to its rapid growth. EsF work can be found flourishing in many parts of the world, with expansion into new territories annually. The initiatives undertaken call for educators to expand their parameters beyond borders meaning that you will find them working with children and parents in all situations, for example in refugee centers, prisons, with immigrant parents in their homes, in camps for displaced persons and in indigenous communities. In recent years, EsF work has also embellished Montessori work with the elderly living in care facilities.

*Many of those engaged in this meaningful work, often in difficult circumstances, do not have the resources to participate in an EsF assembly, which is the reason for this letter.*

Our goal every year is to raise funds to sponsor a number of Assembly participants who could otherwise not afford to join us. Not only does an EsF broaden their network, it enables them to take their new knowledge and inspiration back home to share with their co-workers and it also empowers them to implement the acquired skills in all their future work together. Just think how great the impact would be if every AMI Training Center made the commitment to sponsor one person!

***A sponsorship donation of \$2,500 will cover all costs for one person in terms of, airfare lodging, meals, and the two-week programme.***

To donate, visit the EsF website [www.montessori-esf.org](http://www.montessori-esf.org), click on “Donate” and on the Donation Page select “Educateurs sans Frontières.” In the “Comments” section, specify that your Affiliate's donation is dedicated to sponsoring a participant for the 2018 EsF Assembly.

If you would like to support this work, but your organization cannot afford a full sponsorship, then please contribute what you can! We are also asking you to reach out to you alumni and local schools to bring awareness of AMI's worldwide outreach projects.

Please contact one of the following friends of EsF should you require any additional information. No donation your organization will make this year will have a greater impact than your investment in the work of EsF. May we count on you to support our mutual goal of using Montessori principles to bring about a more just and peaceful world, starting with its young citizens.

With kind regards,

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