

# LOCAL - NGO BA FUTURU

## Ba Futuru receives Outstanding Leadership Award

Dili, Timor-Leste – NGO Ba Futuru, a prominent local peace building organization in Timor-Leste, has received the 2013 Association for Conflict Resolution International Outstanding Leadership Award.

Ba Futuru is one of two recipients of the 2013 International Outstanding Leadership Awards from the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) International Section.

The Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) is the professional organization dedicated to enhancing the practice and public understanding of conflict resolution. Each year, the ACR International Section honors exceptional work promoting conflict resolution in development projects around the world. The award aims to celebrate leadership in the field and draw attention to the importance of conflict resolution in creating stronger democracies, economies, and communities.



Ba Futuru was selected in recognition of the organization's extraordinary contributions to advancing conflict resolution internationally. Ba Futuru's vision is best reflected by its name, which means "for the future" in Tetun, the official language of Timor-Leste. Ba Futuru seeks to build a culture of peace and non-violence to promote a positive future in Timor-Leste.

Joana dos Santos Camoes, Sierra James and Leilani Elliot started Ba Futuru in 2004. Since then, the organization has provided quality training to more than 25,000 people in the areas of human rights, children's rights, women's empowerment, child protection and non-violent conflict transformation.

Ba Futuru's work in Timor-Leste equips youth with skills and knowledge necessary to build and sustain peaceful lives for themselves and their communities, through providing education and psychosocial support for children and young people afflicted by conflict. Ba Futuru's Transformative Arts and Human Rights Education Project teaches children and young adults skills in conflict resolution, and assists them in healing from violent conflict.

The awards will be presented on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at ACR's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ba Futuru's Program Manager and Co Founder, Sierra James, will be attending the conference, called "Making Peace Happen: New Normals." On behalf of Ba Futuru, Ms. James will speak about the successes and experiences of Ba Futuru over the years.