## GOALS

Immerse social service professionals in Chicago’s Sister Cities to spark cultural dialogue about “Best Practices” to address common social challenges and bridge cultural boundaries.

On-going 8-day exchanges with site visits to develop new strategies to address social issues. Sister Cities annually alternate hosting and visiting with a mutually chosen theme.

Delegation of 8 social service professionals that work in the Chicago Metro Area and have expertise in the exchange’s theme.

Host City covers delegation lodging and meals while visiting delegates cover their airfare.

Develop “Outside the Box” strategies to common social challenges. Gain new insights into one’s own practice. Be imbued with a broader vision from local to world-wide. Increase cultural humility & competence skills.

## COMPONENTS

2-5 week placements in agencies related to participant’s specialized field to train, observe, & experience professional social work in the host country.

Each group of 4-10 participants with 2-3 years minimum of professional experience sent to one of many diverse countries.

Lodged in host families with either no fee or under $500 fee.

Learning opportunity for reflection of practice, cultural awareness, & knowledge. Stimulate participation in reciprocal exchanges, programs, conferences, reunions.

## PARTICIPANTS

Council of International Fellowship

Fulbright Specialist Program

## FINANCES

Host City covers delegation lodging and meals while visiting delegates cover their airfare.

Lodged in host families with either no fee or under $500 fee.

Travel/per day grant funded by US Dept. & host institution covers in-country costs.

Cross-cultural experience of many profound dimensions. Way to focus on short-term, well defined overseas projects. Reaffirms how much we have in common.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION &amp; CONTACT</th>
<th>GOALS</th>
<th>COMPONENTS</th>
<th>PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>FINANCES</th>
<th>OUTCOMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People to People, Citizens Ambassador Program</td>
<td>Experience social work in another country both professionally &amp; culturally</td>
<td>Periodically offers short-termed exchanges</td>
<td>Social Worker agrees to lead the delegation &amp; get the word out to form a group with NASW</td>
<td>Approximately $5,000</td>
<td>Enhance your personal &amp; professional life all at once. Share your knowledge &amp; learn from global counterparts.</td>
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<td>Social Workers Beyond Borders</td>
<td>International development organization that places social workers in developing countries to provide direct services &amp; work on collaborative projects.</td>
<td>Placements run from 4-weeks to 6-months depending on the needs of the community and professional.</td>
<td>Individual practitioners, agencies, and professional associations that promote international social work.</td>
<td>Costs are incurred by the participant.</td>
<td>An appreciation of global priorities and strategies to advance social work knowledge, development and practice skills while strengthening local capacity through sustainable projects.</td>
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<td>University Study Abroad</td>
<td>Universities often offer international learning opportunities to students. Practicing social workers can enroll as a “special” or “nondegree-seeking” student. University Schools of Social Work are almost always able to provide CEUs supporting social work licensure.</td>
<td>Varies, look for short-term study abroad opportunities; might be offered at a winter break or during the summer semester.</td>
<td>“Traditional” and “alternative” students</td>
<td>Usually self-funded by participants</td>
<td>Learning opportunity for reflection of practice, cultural awareness, &amp; knowledge.</td>
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</tbody>
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Developed by the NASW International Committee.