

## Global Mission Fellows - International Track Placement Site Guidelines

The Global Mission Fellows (GMF) program is an initiative of The United Methodist Church that sends young adults between the ages of 20-30 out of their home context for two years of mission service. This is a faith and justice centered program that grew out of the historic US-2 and Mission Intern programs.

### Global Mission Fellows aim to live out these core values:

- **ENGAGE local communities:** They serve alongside churches, community groups and individuals to address the priorities of people in their community. They are called to do ministry with – not to or for – those they serve. Fellows live simply as an act of solidarity and humility. As learners and co-laborers, they embrace interdependence and commit to having the same standard of living as their local partners. Fellows join local initiatives to break the chains of injustice and alleviate human suffering (Isaiah 58:6-7).
- **CONNECT the church in mission:** Fellows invite churches to participate in mission projects through prayers, financial support, emotional care and common action. They share stories in local churches about their experiences of God’s gracious love and they advocate for social change, testifying about hope in the face of injustice. Connecting the local church with the global church is one significant way young adults are making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28:19-20).
- **GROW in personal and social holiness:** They understand, as did John Wesley, that transformation happens when the inner and outer life are aligned in right relationship with God, oneself and others. Through service and contemplation, fellows grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Following Jesus’ example, they show compassion through presence, word and deed. Recognizing the prophetic role of marginalized people, fellows accompany them in building just communities. They follow the call to “do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God” (Micah 6:8).

The Global Mission Fellows program develops strong young leaders who are committed to building just communities and a peaceful world.

### Why consider being a placement site for a GMF?

There are benefits when you host a Global Mission Fellow.

- **Purposefully selected and trained:** Fellows are selected for skills, interests and experiences, and Global Ministries offers training and support. They are resourced with tools to add value to your work and ministry.
- **Mission endorsement:** Fellows connect the church in mission by bringing awareness to your work and elevating central issues that affect your community to a larger audience.
- **Cross-cultural perspective:** Fellows come from different countries and regions, bringing assets of energy, creativity and curiosity. The cross-cultural connection between young adults and theological community facilitates the sharing of fresh perspectives.
- **Discipleship:** As a placement site, you have the platform to shape a young adult’s faith formation and character development as a citizen in a global, interconnected world. These young adults will become servant leaders whose rich cross-cultural experience will provide them with a deeper understanding of and commitment to justice and the global church.

**Issues the fellows address during their time of service:**

- Housing security
- Hunger
- Immigration/migration
- Agriculture/environmental
- Children and youth
- Gender
- Church outreach

**Young Adult Mission Service ministry model**



**Responsibilities**

**The Placement Site:**

- Supervises and supports the growth of the fellow with a local supervisor and spiritual mentor.
- Covers programmatic costs related to the fellow's assignment, including orientation, workspace, equipment and work-related travel.
- Covers additional expenses such as housing, furnishings, transportation options and food (encouraged but not required).
- Assists the fellow in adjusting to the placement site community.
- Makes provision for sick days and four weeks of vacation per year.

**Global Ministries:**

- Covers the training and orientation provided by Global Ministries staff, travel costs, moving expenses to and from the placement site, and health insurance.
- Provides a living stipend for the fellow which includes: stipend, housing, utilities, phone, internet, food, local transportation to and from work, miscellaneous and personal expenses.
- Provides initial training, plus the costs for any ongoing education events throughout the time of service.
- Offers quarterly webinars and accompaniment sessions for fellows.
- Provides accompaniment through the Global Ministries staff.

**Timeline**

- Placement site applications are accepted year-round.
- Applications are reviewed in consideration for the following year.
- Matches between placement site partners and fellows are confirmed by both parties from March through July.
- Training sessions help orient and guide fellows prior to departing for their placement sites.
- Fellows begin international service between August and November.
- A mid-term event is hosted between the first and second year of service.
- Fellows complete service approximately 20-22 months after they arrive.
- An end-term event is hosted to help fellows debrief and integrate back into home contexts in the last few months of service.

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