Community Solutions Program Practicum Overview

The Community Solutions Program is thrilled to introduce a fresh cohort of leaders and partners to our expanding CSP network in 2024! CSP fellows are paired with non-profit organizations, private entities, and government offices throughout the United States. Here, they collaborate with U.S. colleagues on initiatives addressing challenges relevant to their own communities.

Community Solutions fellows work in one of four technical areas: Environmental Issues, Peace and Conflict Resolution, Democracy and Human Rights, and Women and Gender Issues. Host organization commitments are listed below.

Practicum Host Commitment
- Identify one **host collaborator** and one **peer collaborator** to support a CSP fellow's professional and leadership development
- Able to host a fellow from early August to late November
- Collaborate with the fellow on **projects of mutual benefit** for 32 hours per week
- Offer an engaging in-person practicum experience and collaborate on **substantive work**
- Participate in the **events** indicated below

Practicum Events
- **Partner Orientation** in June to prepare host collaborators for the fellowship
- **Practicum Period** from August 12 to November 29 to collaborate with fellows
- **Mid-Program Workshop** in late September to share about your practicum experience

Host Collaborator and Peer Collaborator Roles
- **Host collaborators** will co-create a practicum work plan with their fellow, hold weekly meetings, collaborate on deliverables, and facilitate networking.
- **Peer collaborators** will help the fellow feel welcome at the organization, have lunch or coffee with the fellow, and connect the fellow to other professionals.

Practicum Project Ideas
- **Communications Campaign:** Fellow designs a strategic communications plan and prepares content (social media, briefs, flyers, etc.) for an upcoming activity or event
- **Virtual Training or Webinar Series:** Fellow collaborates on the design and/or delivery of a training or webinar
- **Research or Survey Support:** Fellow conducts a literature review, develops a survey, designs and facilitates a focus group discussion, analyzes a data set, and/or produces a report
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:** Fellow identifies indicators, targets, and a data collection plan to understand the effectiveness of a program or activity
- **New Programming Proposal:** Fellow develops a concept note for a new activity including a needs assessment, strategic plan, budget, and work plan
- **Grant Support:** Fellow assists with planning, writing, and submitting a grant application

Unique Benefits of Hosting a Fellow
- **Eligibility for Collaboration for Community Impact (CCI) Grants:** The CCI Grant Program supports continued partnership among the global CSP network of current fellows, alumni, and U.S. host organization representatives.
- **Access to Customized Leadership Coursework and Networking Opportunities:** hosts will be invited to participate in free, optional professional development courses