



2025 CSP Practicum Overview

The Community Solutions Program is excited to welcome a new cohort of leaders and partners to our growing network in 2025! CSP fellows are placed with non-profit organizations, private entities, and government offices across the United States for a three-month professional practicum (**September 8 – November 26, 2025**). During the practicum, CSP fellows work with U.S. colleagues on projects of mutual interest while completing leadership and professional development coursework (virtual).

Community Solutions fellows are experienced professionals, aged 26-39, from over 60 countries, working within CSP's four thematic areas: *Energy and the Environment, Peace and Security, Democracy and Human Rights, and Women's Empowerment*.

Host Organization Role and Responsibilities

- Ensure a respectful and productive work environment
- Assign a Host Collaborator (primary supervisor)
- Assign a Peer Collaborator (secondary support role)
- Offer meaningful professional experience (32 hours per week)
- Onboard, monitor, and evaluate the fellow's experience (work plan template provided)
- Provide feedback and updates to IREX (during the practicum period)
- Facilitate learning, networking, and professional development

Practicum Events

- **Host Orientation** in August (virtual and self-paced) to prepare for the fellowship
- **Practicum Period** from September 8 to November 26 to collaborate with fellow(s)
- **Mid-Program Workshop** in late September to share about your practicum experience and engage with other members of the CSP network

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 2025 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 via fully-funded reciprocal exchanges.
- **Access to Customized Leadership Coursework and Networking Opportunities:** hosts will be invited to participate in free and optional professional development via the Community Leadership Institute (CLI) and will be eligible to participate in in-person and virtual events and networking.