

## 2010-2011 Youth Exchange & Study Grant Program

### ONE-PAGE REPORT on Grant Number S-ECAPY-09-GR-172(SM)

December 28, 2012

#### *Overview:*

Ayusa is happy to present this final report with notes of the positive results of the 2010-2011 YES Program. We have numerous reports indicating that these students have successfully attained the goals of the YES program.

#### *Program Activities:*

The Ayusa Consortium is proud to report that roughly 85% of students participated actively in **community service**. Cluster leaders incorporated community service into regular enhancement activities and trips. Students also conducted community service through school clubs and local events. Students reported that they learned a great deal about themselves, their community, and American culture through participating in community service, and built lasting international friendships. Many reported over one hundred hours of community service over the course of the school year.

Over 90% of all YES students in the Ayusa consortium participated in **International Education Week**, sponsored by the Department of Education, in November 2010. The majority of students made more than one presentation, and a large group even made over 10 presentations each. Students made presentations in their host schools, host communities, local religious institutions, and community centers.

30 students attended a YES Leadership Summit in Prescott, AZ, in January 2011. Students participated in workshops facilitated by Opening Minds, building their leadership and teamwork skills.

#### *Arrival Orientation:*

384 YES scholars arrived in Washington DC and attended the group arrival orientation from August 3-7, 2010. Ayusa facilitated the programming and the week was successful in helping the students adjust.

#### *Mid-Year Orientation:*

Placing Organizations conducted mid-year orientations, generally based on region and cluster groups. These orientations addressed challenges encountered on-program, completing required scholarship components, and reflecting on positive lessons learned in the first half of the program.

#### *Re-Entry Orientation and Return Travel:*

Ayusa International produced the group re-entry orientation in Washington, DC, from June 12-17, 2011. Students participated in discussions about cultural adjustment, reverse culture shock, lessons learned on-program, as well as leadership and community service opportunities in their home countries. Students also toured some of DC and participated in a Senate reception. Despite challenges around unrest related to the Arab Spring, all students were able to return home.

#### *Major Lessons Learned:*

- Better understanding of American and YES countries' culture, diversity, and people
- Greater independence, confidence, and interest in helping others through community service
- Students, host families, and communities learned to be more tolerant and open to people of different backgrounds and belief systems
- Better understanding of students' own identity and building sense of national pride



## Final Program Report - One Page Summary

**Project Title:** National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange  
**Agreement #:** S-ECAAE-10-CA-148 (EB)  
**Grant Period:** September 25, 2010 - September 30, 2011  
**Contact:** Cerise Roth-Vinson, Project Manager (541) 343-1284 (tel/tty)

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The National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange provided services and conducted activities toward the goal of increasing the participation of people with disabilities in the broad range of international exchange programs. During the grant period, NCDE made valuable inroads toward inclusion of people with disabilities in the full range of international exchange programs, particularly related to people with disabilities in EducationUSA and Fulbright programs, English language learning and disability, and conducting outreach to the disability community through conferences, social media, and other activities. The NCDE continues to build new bridges of collaboration between individuals with disabilities, disability and international exchange professionals, in local communities, national associations and on campuses.

Through successful outreach and articles in national media, dissemination of new materials including an *AWAY Topics* on English language learning, national level presentations at major conferences, and development of new online resources and success stories, the NCDE has expanded images of exchange participants to include individuals with disabilities. In addition to core activities, NCDE conducted specific initiatives, services and operations, including these highlights:

- Raised awareness of NCDE services within EducationUSA, Fulbright and English teaching communities including a disability-themed issue of the *EducationUSA Connections* journal, a plenary presentation and 4 webinars.
- Convened a one-day regional seminar bringing 45 members of the disability and international exchange communities together in Chicago.
- Published new and updated online resources including an *AWAY Topics*, 20 tipsheets, 17 featured profiles and 40 success stories and blogs of exchange participants with disabilities.
- Launched a new blog, with 20 posts from NCDE staff, and 11,000 visitors over the year.
- Presented and exhibited at 18 conferences and trainings and published 14 articles.

Federal Grant: S-ECA-PV-12-CA-031 (AR),  
 Recipient Organization: Travelers Aid International, Inc.,  
 DUNS #: 161750138, EIN #: 59-2506390  
 Project/Grant Period: 10/01/2011 – 09/30/2012

TRAVELERS AID REPORT TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Final Report – October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012

JFK & EWR

During the course of this most recent contract, beginning October 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2012, Travelers Aid International (TAI) prepared for and met a total of 239 flights at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) and Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR), and we successfully greeted and assisted a total of 564 IVLP visitors. Below is a month-by-month breakdown:

MONTH	JFK MEETS	EWR MEETS	JFK VISITORS	EWR VISITORS
10/11	16	8	32	10
11/11	10 (9 billed to DOS)	1	29	1
12/11	8	0	35	0
1/12	19	5	45	12
2/12	12 (11 billed to DOS)	7	24	10
3/12	18 (17 billed to DOS)	10	43	12
4/12	12	4	29	7
5/12	8	4	25	12
6/12	26	13	62	23
7/12	11	4	28	5
8/12	8	6	23	29
9/12	20	9	55	13
TOTAL MEETS JFK:		168 ( 165 billed to DOS)		
TOTAL MEETS EWR:		<u>71</u> ( 71 billed to DOS)		
<b>TOTAL MEETS COMBINED:</b>		<b>239 (236 billed to DOS)</b>		
TOTAL VISITORS JFK:		430		
TOTAL VISITORS EWR:		<u>134</u>		
<b>TOTAL VISITORS COMBINED:</b>		<b>564</b>		

Having offices that are staffed 365 days a year at JFK and EWR along with men and women on duty at numerous posts throughout both airports enables Travelers Aid International to handle any situation that may arise, whether usual or extraordinary. Over this past year, during snowstorms, thunderstorms, delays, cancelations, and other types of exigent circumstances, we not only met every IVLP visitor who arrived at JFK and EWR, but we also rebooked flights, made hotel reservations, booked train tickets, escorted visitors to and from hotels, airports, and train stations, and, of course, provided status updates to DOS representatives – in order to ensure the visitors' safe and expeditious arrival at their final destinations.

Looking forward, we note, here, some "lessons learned" during the past year.

The use of iPads to prepare for and conduct "Meets" will be of great help for a variety of reasons. Our Reception Officers can make welcome signs with visitors' names on the iPads, and also can make last minute additions or deletions in a professional-looking manner. Further, among other things, the iPads will allow our Reception Officers to look up information for our visitors right on the spot, to do quick translating, and to communicate with and send information to other Travelers Aid and DOS personnel.

Also, it will be helpful for us to receive on a daily basis at the beginning of each week the IVLP's information for that week's arrivals. Such regular and advance communications will enable us to better prepare for "Meets" by identifying issues and challenges in advance, and working with DOS representatives to rectify problems ahead of time.

We are proud to have represented the Department of State during the subject contract period, and to have worked closely with talented, dedicated and passionate DOS staff and program agency representatives involved in the IVLP. We thoroughly enjoy our integral role of creating a positive first impression for the men and women who travel to the United States from all over the globe to participate in the International Visitor Leadership Program, and we look forward to continuing to do so.

## Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Program Report

**Project Title:** U.S./China International Sports Programming Initiative: Youth with Disabilities

**Grant Number:** S-ECAPE-10-GR-194(EB)

**Grant Period:** September 3, 2010 - September 30, 2012

**Contact:** Lydia Shula, (541) 343-1284

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Mobility International USA (MIUSA) conducted a two-way reciprocal exchange program for professionals and young adult leaders with and without disabilities from China and the United States. The *U.S./China Inclusive Sports and Recreation for Youth with Disabilities Professional Exchange Program* was designed to increase the capacity of professionals who design and manage community or school-based non-elite youth sports programs to include people with disabilities, particularly youth and young adults, and increase inclusive sports and recreation programming and opportunities for youth with disabilities in the U.S. and China to improve their quality of life and active participation in an inclusive community.

MIUSA worked closely with the Guangzhou English Training Center for the Handicapped (GETCH), whose role was instrumental during all phases of the program. GETCH is a non-profit, non-governmental college that offers tuition-free higher education for young adults with physical disabilities in China and that specializes in accessible sport and inclusive outdoor recreation programs.

In spring 2011, in Eugene, Oregon, USA, a delegation of professionals and one young adult with and without disabilities from China participated in activities designed to increase their capacity to manage and lead inclusive sports and recreation programs. Delegates created individualized action plans outlining goals and steps for incorporating newly gained skills and knowledge into their work. In spring 2012, a delegation from the U.S. participated in a reciprocal exchange program in Guangzhou, China, designed to increase the professional understanding of how to implement strategies for inclusion in community and school-based sports and recreation programs. Delegates facilitated demonstrations and trainings in sports, education and recreation, and offered specific ideas for adapting popular activities and sports in China to facilitate increased opportunities for youth with disabilities to participate in sports, fitness and recreation activities alongside their non-disabled peers.

### **As a result of the project, participants:**

1. Increased knowledge and understanding of programs, activities, resources, and implementation of strategies on inclusion of youth with disabilities in sports and recreation community and school-based activities.
2. Generated strategy options for promoting inclusion of people with disabilities, particularly youth and young adults with disabilities in their local communities.
3. Established collaborative plans and networks for continued professional exchange, including information, expertise, resources, and technical assistance to promote active participation in sport and recreation opportunities by youth with disabilities.



### **One Page Summary**

The Climate Change Professional Fellows Program took place over two years and targeted current or potential professional leaders who were able to effect positive change in their communities.

Through the Climate Change Professional Fellows Program, The International Center and Baruch College recognized the breadth of issues associated with climate change, including reducing carbon emissions, reducing the adverse impact on health, responding to extreme weather patterns and drought that adversely affect the food supply and access to clean water and the diversity of policies nations have developed. The climate change program overlapped all of the other areas that were included in the Professional Fellows Programs funded by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs S-ECAPE-10-GR-223.

The IC/Baruch Proposal called for a total of 38 fellows – 24 from overseas and 14 from the US. The actual count was 37 – 22 from overseas and 15 from the US. Two cohorts of international fellows from Australia, China, Indonesia and Japan were introduced to experts working in nonprofit organizations, government agencies, public authorities, academic scholars and other international professionals through the U.S. Department of State Fellows Congress. Areas explored included alternative fuel development, carbon markets, the greening of real estate, national policies of the participating countries toward climate change, local governments response to climate change, federal environmental policies and programs, building sustainable communities, water policies, and economic and business development opportunities to name a few.

The selection of fellows followed a merit-based, competitive process to select participants for the program that met the US Department of State's qualifications. In selecting US fellows, the priority was given to personnel from agencies that hosted international fellows.

The project team was mindful of helping participants develop their communication skills, particularly organizing and presenting PowerPoint presentations. Specific skill trainings were provided to each of the cohorts. Fellows from the same country were required to make a presentation of the critical issues facing their country as well as a presentation about themselves. This presentation was extremely useful as several of the fellows applied for and made presentations before the group assembled at the Congresses held in Washington DC.

Reflective of the strong bonds developed during the program were the contributions international fellows made to the overseas experience of US fellows. The project team conducted an evaluation of the project via a survey questionnaire sent to all fellows. Overall, the response rate exceeded 70% with highly favorable scores from both international and US fellows. A full discussion of the survey results is presented in the report.

**FFATA: S-ECAPY-10-GR-182 (EB)**  
**Central American Youth Ambassadors Program**  
**Georgetown University CIED**  
**September 2010 - September 2012**  
**DUNS: 049515844**

**Introduction:** Georgetown University's Center for Intercultural Education and Development (CIED) was awarded the Central American Youth Ambassadors Program Cooperative Agreement on September 15, 2010. During the grant period, which ended September 30, 2012, CIED worked in close collaboration with ECA to successfully complete four (4) in-bound exchange programs for Central Americans to visit the United States and two (2) out-bound programs for U.S. citizens to visit the region. CIED also implemented reentry training and supported a small grants program for follow-on projects undertaken by the Central American alumni.

**Central American Participants' Exchange to the United States:** During the grant period, CIED carried out all programmatic and logistical activities to ensure the successful implementation of four (4) in-bound programs for 126 participants. All program participants received a thorough pre-departure orientation in their home countries to prepare them for the U.S. exchange. Orientation themes were reinforced and expanded upon during the initial program activities in Washington, DC, where the exchange began. During the group's first week in America, CIED prepared an interactive program that focused on the program's goals and expectations and provided an opportunity to visit the nation's capital. Following the week in Washington, DC, participants took part in study tours focusing on leadership and entrepreneurship at two partner universities in the United States. Partner universities for this program were Alamo Colleges (San Antonio, TX), Northern Michigan University (Marquette, MI), SUNY Cobleskill (Cobleskill, NY), and the University of Idaho (Moscow, ID). One hundred percent (100%) of CAYA participants took part in re-entry seminars upon their return to their home countries. During these two-day meetings, they reflected on their study tours, shared their vision of the United States, and talked about how to implement their follow-on projects by making use of their new leadership and entrepreneurial skills.

**American Participants' Exchange to Central America:** This Cooperative Agreement was the first under which U.S. citizens took part in exchange experiences in Central America. CIED implemented two exchanges to the region for 44 U.S. high school students and adult chaperones from Cobleskill, NY, Marquette, MI, Moscow, ID, San Antonio, TX, and Washington, DC. The goal of the program was to expose American participants to the core program themes of leadership and entrepreneurship from the Latin American perspective. It also provided the opportunity for a people-to-people interaction. The 2011 program allowed participants to travel to Honduras and Nicaragua. The 2012 program allowed participants to travel to the Dominican Republic and Panama.