

## PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Global Mission Fellows (GMFs) are young adults from all over the world who are commissioned to serve for 24 months. Fellows will serve up to 22 months with an international placement site. The expected start of service is September, concluding 22 months later in June. Applications to become a placement site need to be made the preceding autumn i.e. October/November 2020 for a Fellow to arrive in September 2021. Placements are approved in December, then Fellows are recruited, matched to sites, and trained as an international cohort before taking up their placements.

## GLOBAL MISSION FELLOWS CORE VALUES

### ENGAGE \* CONNECT \* GROW

Global Mission Fellows **engage** with local communities. They are called to do ministry with-- not to or for-- their local partners. Fellows serve alongside churches, community groups, and individuals to address the priorities of people in the community they are serving. They discover ways in which God is already at work. Fellows live simply. As learners and co-laborers, they commit to having the same standard of living as their local partners.

Global Mission Fellows **connect** the church in mission. They tell stories in local churches about their experiences of God's gracious love. They advocate for social change, and testify about hope in the face of injustice. Fellows encourage churches to participate in mission through prayer and common action. Connecting the local church with the global church is one significant way they help to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

Global Mission Fellows **grow** in personal and social holiness. John Wesley used the terms "personal holiness" and "social holiness" to describe our inward growth in the love of God and neighbor, which in turn leads to outward works of love. Through service and contemplation, Fellows grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Following Jesus' example, they show compassion through presence, word, and deed.

## WHY BE A PLACEMENT SITE?

Unique benefits of hosting Global Mission Fellows:

- **Purposefully selected and trained:** Young Adults are matched to placement sites according to their 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:** Young adults connect the church in mission by bringing awareness to your work and elevating issues that affect your community to a larger audience.
- **Cross Cultural Perspective:** Young adults coming from different countries and regions bring 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.

## PLACEMENT SITE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CRITERIA

A placement site's primary responsibility is to provide an opportunity for Global Mission Fellows to engage in service and to support the Fellow in that service and their growth and learning. Potential focus areas include:

- Poverty
- Gender justice
- Domestic violence
- Worker's rights
- Migration
- Immigration
- Eco-Justice
- Peace building
- Health/HIV and AIDS
- Children and youth
- Racial justice
- Community organizing
- Advocacy

The Global Mission Fellows programme requires placement sites to meet the following criteria:

- The organisation shall be a church, faith-based, ecumenical or community organisation.
- The organisation shall be committed to addressing critical justice issues and involved in ministries of human liberation. Priority is given to organisations working in the areas of community empowerment, economic development, women's and children's issues, and environmental concerns.
- The organisation shall provide the Fellow with experiences that facilitate understanding and skill development related to:
  - Local cultural traditions and the ways that they influence and are influenced by political, social, and economic systems
  - Critical justice issues from the perspective of local communities
  - The role of faith-based communities in addressing critical justice issues
  - Models of social change that emerge out of local cultural contexts.
- The organisation shall engage the Fellow as part of its work community by providing a learning atmosphere of participatory education and hands-on experience.
- The organisation shall designate a person to give direct, ongoing supervision and guidance to the Fellow in areas of work, cultural education, community adjustment, housing, and other areas, which seem appropriate.
- The organisation shall have a clear understanding and commitment to the goals of the Global Mission Fellows Program of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church.
- The organisation shall be open to the Fellow's participation in the resourcing of mission education/interpretation events, as mutually agreed upon by Fellows and placement supervisors.
- The organisation and the Fellow shall have ongoing communication with Global Ministries' staff.

### Job description

The organisation shall provide the Fellow with a job description that is specific and detailed and in line with the Global Mission Fellows Programme's core values; engage, connect and grow. It should provide opportunities for leadership development and be minimally administrative. The Fellow should have the opportunity to work directly

with the community, to do organizing, advocacy, and some direct service. Due to the nature of some placement sites, leading Bible studies and worship services are regular, allowable activities, depending on assignments. Not all Fellows will be assigned these responsibilities, but some will, and it should be understood that they fall within the appropriate scope of work.

The job description submitted should be understood to be a working document, which can be modified to meet the learning goals and the particular skillset and passions of the assigned Fellow.

## **THE METHODIST CHURCH IN BRITAIN AND THE GMF PROGRAMME**

The GMF programme has been established and is run by the United Methodist Church - the recruitment and placement of Fellows and some other aspects of the programme are administered centrally by UMC's Global Ministries office in Atlanta. The Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) is an Affiliate to the programme. The Affiliate Coordinator, based in MCB's Global Relationships team, is responsible for identifying placement sites in Britain and, along with the placement site, has some involvement in the matching of Fellows to placements. Other responsibilities include accompanying and supporting the Supervisors and Fellows (once at their place of assignment) and serving as a point of contact in Britain for matters relating to the programme.

There are currently two pilot projects in MCB. A Fellow from Cambodia is placed with Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission and also working with Whitechapel Mission, a ministry for homeless people. A Fellow from Zimbabwe is placed with Birmingham District and working on youth engagement. Rev Jen Smith (Wesley's Chapel) and Rev David Butterworth (Birmingham District) are happy to be contacted and asked about their experience of the GMF programme.

Fellows in Britain are paid the Real Living Wage out of which they pay for their accommodation (with the circuit/district helping them find affordable accommodation). UMC will fund around 25% of a placement. That leaves a max of £20,000/yr. plus local programme costs. Some financial help may be available from Global Relationships, as well as support in setting up & running the programme.

If you are interested in offering a GMF placement site, or would like to find out more, please contact the Global Relationships team: [gr.admin@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:gr.admin@methodistchurch.org.uk)

Further information: [www.umcmmission.org/gmf](http://www.umcmmission.org/gmf)

A couple of short promotional videos:

<https://vimeo.com/353421717>

<https://vimeo.com/353355893>