

## **Global Partner Information PYT 2019**

### **Global Partners:**

Global Partners are youth (ages 14-17) and young adults (age 18-25) from Cumberland Presbyterian and PCUSA partner churches around the world and are hosted by presbyteries and church delegations throughout the US.

Though the event is for high school age students, global partners tend to be a little older ranging from 18-25. We ask that the global partner have modest English language skills (speaking, reading and general understanding) in order to fully participate in the PYT experience, but we can provide translation in some activities.

It is also helpful for Global Partners to travel together, and we suggest that if you decide to host that you consider hosting two youth from the same church partner. This allows the young people to feel more comfortable traveling to the US, many of whom are traveling for the first time, and allows for the global partners to have someone from their own culture to relate with comfortably and process what they are experiencing. Global Partners bring with them a global perspective and experience that truly enriches the lives of all they come into contact with at PYT. Should you have any questions about hosting please contact Reverend Rob Mueller, Global Partner Coordinator. (revrwm@gmail.com).

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### **Registration for Global Partners:**

If your presbytery or congregation is hosting a Global Partner, they should be registered as a part of your delegation. Once you have identified a Global Partner, please have him/her fill out the Global Partner Information Form and return the completed form to Rob Mueller. Should you have any questions about registering your global partner please contact Rob Mueller at revrwm@gmail.com or National PYT Registrar, Molly Atkinson at pyt2019@pcusa.org

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### **Travel Information for Global Partners:**

Arranging travel for international visitors to the US can take some time. In some cases there are steps to securing a visa or other requested paperwork. We suggest that you work with a travel agent to make travel arrangements for Global Partners. All visitors to the US will need to have a valid passport in order to enter the United States.

Likewise, some Global Partners will also need to obtain a valid visa. While there are some countries where a visa is not required, most will need to apply for a visa in their country of origin. Please visit <http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en.html> for visa information. Visas are time sensitive and allow the traveler to enter the States for a specific period of time. It may be a long process to obtain a visa, sometimes up to 3 months, and could require several interviews in order to be approved for travel. **It is imperative that you make certain that your Global Partner applies for his or her visa well in advance of travel to PYT.**

When applying for a visa, Global Partners will need a letter of invitation/intent. Please contact Rob Mueller to request a letter of invitation from the Triennium administrator. Should you have additional questions about travel related documents or need assistance locating a travel agent, please contact Rob Mueller at revrwm@gmail.com

## **Host FAQ**

### **1. Who do I contact if interested in becoming a host for a Global Partner?**

Please contact the Global Partner Coordinator (Rob Mueller) with any questions you have about hosting a Global Partner.

### **2. What does being a host entail?**

Hosting simply means that you are agreeing to provide necessary accommodations for a global partner for the duration of his/her stay in the United States including: food, lodging, transportation, etc.

### **3. How long does a Global Partner need hosting?**

Typically, Global Partners are in the US for 1-2 weeks. Sometimes the visit is as short as coming in a couple days before your delegation leaves for Triennium. Other hosts will bring in their Global Partner for a longer period of time either before or after (or both) the Triennium so that they might itinerate in the local presbytery or community. It is completely up to the host.

### **4. What is the cost of hosting?**

Registration for PYT 2016 is \$555 for youth participants and \$575 for adult participants. The price of airfare varies depending on the country but generally ranges from \$800-2000. Should your Presbytery invite the global partner to itinerate around the Presbytery that would incur additional travel and meals costs. Often, when a church or presbytery delegation decides to host a Global Partner as a part of their Triennium participation they will often budget for the Global Partner by not filling 1-2 of the usual "local" spots in their delegation total. It is a commitment to sharing ministry with a young person outside of the local or regional area but excitingly, within the larger reach of the church! We also suggest you, the PYT registrar or PYT Go Team member talk with your Executive Presbyter, Presbytery Mission Committee chair or Church based Missions committee about possible financial support. Using funds to support a younger international mission partner is an exciting venture for presbytery and church based mission committees.

### **5. How do I register my GP?**

Your GP should be registered along with the other members of your presbytery/congregation delegation. All payments for registered participants (global or domestic) must be made before the start of the event or a registration is not completely valid.

### **6. What if my Presbytery is willing to host but has questions about doing so?**

Wonderful, please have your Presbytery contact the Global Partner Coordinator (Rob Mueller). If Rob determines that you might need further assistance or information he might direct you to the National PYT registrar, Molly Atkinson or to the PYT Administrator, Gina Yeager-Buckley.

### **7. What if my Presbytery cannot host?**

Maybe your congregation or other congregations in your area would be willing to assist you with hosting a Global Partner. Please contact the Global Partner Coordinator should you like to discuss other options for hosting.

## **8.How do I pay registration for a Global Partner?**

Your presbytery/congregation will register all global partners as part of your delegation and will pay registration fees as all other registrations of the delegation are paid.

## **9.What do I need to communicate to a Global Partner?**

Initially, you will need to communicate the importance of obtaining the necessary travel documents (visa, passport). Be available to answer any questions they may have in that process. Please give the Global Partner Information Form to your Global Partner and return the completed form to the Global Partner Coordinator as soon as possible.

## **10.How do I arrange travel for my GP?**

You will need to contact a travel agent to assist you with making travel arrangements for international travel. Should you need assistance locating a reputable agent, please contact the Global Partner Coordinator.

## **11.Who can help with travel related questions?**

You and your PYT Go Team members are likely the best "brains" to determine travel related question and issues. Then, you can either contact a travel agent or work with an online based travel site. If you need a bit more help thinking through travel - please feel free to contact Rob Mueller.

## **12.Will my GP need a passport and visa to travel to the US?**

YES. All international travelers will need a valid passport to travel to the United States. Most will need visas, however, there is a list of countries that participate in a US visa waiver program. A list of these countries is available here:<http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/visit/visa-waiver-program.html> If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Global Partner Coordinator (Rob Mueller) OR you can contact someone connected to a travel agency or airline.

## **13.How long does the visa process take?**

Obtaining a visa and passport varies depending on the country. It is recommended that the global partner obtains a valid passport as soon as possible. Visas can take anywhere from 2 weeks to 3 months from the initial application to holding the document in your hand. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Global Partner Coordinator.

## **14.Who decides if a Global Partner can come to PYT?**

Your delegation, registrar or Go Team can choose to host a Global Partner. Your Global Partner can come from a connection that is based in your presbytery or church. Or, by working with the Global Partner Coordinator to identify a candidate as a Global Partner. You can also work with your presbytery (usually a Mission Committee) to identify a young person from an international partnership.

## **15. Once again - how do we identify a Global Partner?**

Global Partners can come through several avenues:

- By way of a church or mission partnership that you already have with an international school, church, church based ministry, partnership, etc.
- By being connected to a Global Partner or group of Global Partners that a national World Mission office might be aware of (this will require conversation and work with the GP Coordinator).
- By being connected to a friend of a PYT participant in your delegation - this would be a young person from an international church or directly connected to a registered PYT participant. This would require the delegation registrar to vet the potential GP in advance.

Global Partner Coordinator:

Reverend Rob Mueller  
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