

**CIF The Netherlands "International Professional Exchange Program 2017"  
for Professionals from the Field of Social Work / Human Services, with special  
focus on "*neighborhood oriented collaboration*" provided by the University of  
Applied Sciences, School of Social Work and Law in Amsterdam.**



CIF The Netherlands invites Professionals from the Field of Social Work / Human Services to apply for its 29<sup>th</sup> Exchange Program in the period 1 – 14 October 2017.

The "International Professional Exchange Program" is organized by CIF The Netherlands in close co-operation with the University of Applied Sciences, School of Social Work and Law in Amsterdam.

The purpose of the Council of International Fellowship (CIF Int.) of which CIF The Netherlands is a member, is to promote professional, cross-cultural and educational exchange for those working in the field of social services. The learning and sharing generated by these exchanges provide opportunities for broadening professional as well as personal development and so contribute to peace and understanding. The program combines practical and theoretical information about the social and cultural environment. Cross-cultural exchange is a crucial part of the program as participants come from different countries.

To make the program even more challenging and rewarding, CIF The Netherlands and the School of Social Work and Law have chosen "***neighborhood oriented collaboration***" as theme for its 2017 program. The present changes and challenges in the social field provide a unique opportunity to look at innovative methods to offer a suitable array of services usually centered in the neighborhoods to citizens who are unable to fully participate in society on their own. These ideas about reaching out to people are set in the present social and political reality of the Netherlands. It will give a unique chance to experience both the theoretical and practical side of this approach and relate it to one's specific field of work.

**The program** is divided in a 'general program' from 1-7 October and an 'individual program' from 8-14 October.



The '**general program**' for all participants is organized by the School of Social Work and takes place in Amsterdam. The participants will be introduced to "neighborhood oriented collaboration". They meet and interact with students and visit organizations working with this approach. The participants will be asked to relate this approach to their own work, or the organization they work for.

As accommodation is shared, the participants will have an excellent opportunity to get to know and support each other, to exchange views and experiences and to explore the city of Amsterdam.

During the '**individual program**', organized by CIF coordinators, the participants will be placed in different parts of the country and get an exposure to different agencies in their chosen field of work. All set against the changes that take place in our care system, which is asking a lot of all professionals and volunteers that are part of our system.

Participants will stay and interact with host families, a great way to learn more about the culture of the Netherlands.

Please note that it is not possible to actually work in the agencies.

**Language:** The working language is **English** which the participant has to master sufficiently to be able to participate and gain fully.

**Number of Participants:** CIF Netherlands will select **6** participants. In case there are applications for the same kind of work related experience / professional background, they will be grouped together to maximize the opportunity to learn from the visits to the agencies as well as from each other.

**Financial conditions:** The **participant's fee is € 350**. The fees are used to cover the costs related to the organization of the program. Please note that no grants can be provided to participants. Visa (when needed) and travel costs to and from the country are for the participant.

**Support:** Accommodation will be provided during the whole period, in the form of shared apartment housing in Amsterdam and host family living during the individual program.

**Applications:** The applications need to go through the CIF National Branch (NB) or Contact Person (CP) in your country, using the international application form. The National Branch or Contact Person will send your application together with their recommendation to us. Addresses of NBs and CPs can be found on the CIF International website: [www.cifinternational.com](http://www.cifinternational.com) under organization. Only when there is no CIF Branch or CP in your country, you can contact CIF Netherlands directly. The **application form** can be downloaded from the CIF International website: <http://www.cifinternational.com> under programs/how to apply.

The application and recommendation letter have to reach us **before 15 May 2017** at [info@cifnetherlands.nl](mailto:info@cifnetherlands.nl).

More information about CIF International, its National Branches and Programs  
[www.cifinternational.com](http://www.cifinternational.com)

CIF is a voluntary organization for international exchange in the field of human services.

Registered at the chamber of commerce Breda no. 41103817

[www.cifnetherlands.nl](http://www.cifnetherlands.nl) / [info@cifnetherlands.nl](mailto:info@cifnetherlands.nl)