



OPEN WORLD
LEADERSHIP CENTER

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

www.openworld.gov

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER | *As of December 31, 2016*

CHAIRMAN

The Honorable R. James Nicholson

APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE

The Honorable Roger F. Wicker (MS)
United States Senate

The Honorable Martin Heinrich (NM)
United States Senate

APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

The Honorable Jeff Fortenberry (NE)
United States House of Representatives

APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE

The Honorable David Price (NC)
United States House of Representatives

EX OFFICIO CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito (WV)
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate

The Honorable Tom Graves (GA)
Chairman
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives

EX OFFICIO

The Honorable Dr. Carla Hayden
Librarian of Congress

APPOINTED BY THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS FOR 2016–2019

The Honorable James F. Collins
The Honorable Ben Nelson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Honorable John O'Keefe

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER | *As of December 31, 2016*

Board of Trustees	1
Letter from the Chairman	4
Letter from the Executive Director	5
Program History	6
2016 Statistics.	7
Participating Countries.	7
Staff	7
Introduction.	8

Program Highlights

Members of Parliament

Serbia	9
Ukraine	10
Mongolia	11
Kyrgyzstan.	12

Rule of Law

Ukraine	13
Kosovo.	14
Azerbaijan.	15
Estonia.	16

Civic Leaders

Georgia	17
Turkmenistan	18
Armenia	19
Ukraine and Kazakhstan	20

Regional Highlights

Northeast

Ukraine	21
Russia	22
Ukraine	23

Mid-Atlantic

Russia	24
Ukraine	25
Russia	26

South

Ukraine	27
Tajikistan	28
Kyrgyzstan.	29

Midwest

Ukraine	30
Ukraine	31

West

Rumsfeld Fellows.	32
Russia	33
Russia	34

Additional Programs and Acknowledgements

Senator Ben Nelson Fellows	35
Open World Partners.	36
Open World Visits Ukraine and Russia in 2016.	37
Open World Alumni Results and Updates	38
Host Recognition and Alumni Events for 2016.	40
Reciprocal Visits by American Hosts	41
A Farewell Dinner for Dr. James Billington	43
2016 Grantees	44
2016 Local Host Organizations	45
A Thank You to Local Hosts	48
Open World Financial Information	49

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

to The President of the Senate and The Speaker of the House of Representatives | July 1, 2017



**SECRETARY R. JAMES
NICHOLSON**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Nicholson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker,

It is my honor to present to the Congress the Open World Leadership Center's Annual Report for 2016.

When the Board of Trustees of the Open World Leadership Center (Open World or the Center) asked me to serve as its Chairman in early 2016, I accepted the position with great honor. I believe strongly in this high-impact, well-managed, and cost-effective program which links our Congress with rising democratic legislators and political and civic leaders from strategically important countries around the world.

In 2016, I eagerly began the hard work of raising awareness of this unique legislative branch agency that works solely for the United States Congress. The Board and I want you to better understand the tremendous resources that Open World offers. Our strategy reorients the program to make a more significant impact on relations between the United States and many important countries. The key role of legislatures is creating laws and exercising accountability which impacts all aspects of lives, economies, and freedoms – these are the critical takeaways of the Open World experience.

The Center administers the only international exchange program completely controlled by the Congress. In 1999, Congress authorized the Open World program, to be administered by the Center, as a result of discussions between Librarian of Congress (Emeritus) Dr. James H. Billington and Members of Congress. The founders of the program were united in the belief that widespread, direct contact between American leaders and those of other nations would greatly benefit all involved. Open World has since expanded its reach far beyond Russia to over twenty countries.

Without collective Congressional vision and leadership, the success of the Open World program could not have been realized. Open World's work in Russia, Ukraine and elsewhere is one of the very few viable programs that still support the rising post-Soviet generation's desire for rule of law, less corruption, and more accountability of elected officials. To date, over 26,000 emerging leaders have come to the United States from the countries of Eurasia to experience the Open World program. Under my leadership, the enhanced program will work with any emerging democracy that the Congress wishes to engage in a meaningful and long term manner.

I have great confidence in this organization, and I am humbled and thankful to be serving as Chairman of the Board. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker: I thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this unique and effective Legislative Branch agency. I hope that you and your colleagues continue to support Open World for years to come.

Sincerely,
Secretary R. James Nicholson
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

WELCOME LETTER

Ambassador John O'Keefe | Executive Director of the Open World Leadership Center



JOHN O'KEEFE
Executive Director

Dear Friends of Open World,

Welcome to the Open World Leadership Center's 2016 annual report to Congress. It was a productive year; in addition to hosting 852 participants, we also adopted our Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2020, which further enhances our identity as a Legislative Branch agency supporting Members of Congress. It details our goal in reaching out to more Members of Parliament and their staffs to engage them in our immersive programming and share their unfiltered knowledge and policies with Members of Congress.

Through the Open World program, Congress has linked over 26,000 emerging leaders from countries in Eurasia to their counterparts in communities across the United States. We are incredibly proud that our emerging leaders were hosted in all 50 states, ensuring that constituents across the nation benefit from working with these remarkable young people. Open World's local hosts and their communities go above and beyond to share American values and best practices with our participants, most of whom come from Russia, Ukraine and other former Soviet states, with the goal of helping them move their countries toward a more accountable form of governance.

Open World serves the Congress by bringing foreign legislators and other officials straight to Members' doorsteps and into the homes and communities of their constituents. American leaders and their communities share many values and a strong belief in democracy with Open World participants. One of the most efficient exchange programs in the U.S. government, and the only one in the Legislative Branch, we prioritize linking our young leaders to Members of Congress and their staff, in order to support Congress' oversight responsibilities.

I hope you enjoy this report as much as we enjoyed revisiting and compiling this selection of Open World's 2016 results. I look forward to hearing from you; our door is always open.

Sincerely,
John O'Keefe
Executive Director

PROGRAM HISTORY

About Open World

Open World Leadership Center is a Legislative Branch agency established in May 1999 by Congress to support bipartisan outreach to over 15 countries through 10-day professional exchange programs targeting emerging Eurasian leaders.

Open World was created in response to a speech given by Former Librarian of Congress, Dr. James H. Billington to senior Members of Congress on the future of Russia. In 2000, Congress created a separate Legislative Branch entity, Open World Leadership Center, to manage an exchange program, which initially focused on Russia.

As part of Open World's expansion of congressional outreach, other post-Soviet countries became eligible to participate in the program in 2003. In 2004, Congress extended its eligibility to any country designated by Open World's public-private board of trustees.

Program Types

Open World's mission is to create and sustain relationships between Members of Congress and their counterparts from strategically important countries of the former Soviet Union and other designated countries. To accomplish this mission, Open World hosts emerging Eurasian leaders through three unique congressionally sponsored exchange programs. Program types include: **Members of Parliament, Rule of Law, and Civic Leaders**. Each exchange program relates to significant themes facing each of Open World's participating countries. Delegates are matched to each program based on their professional interests and needs.

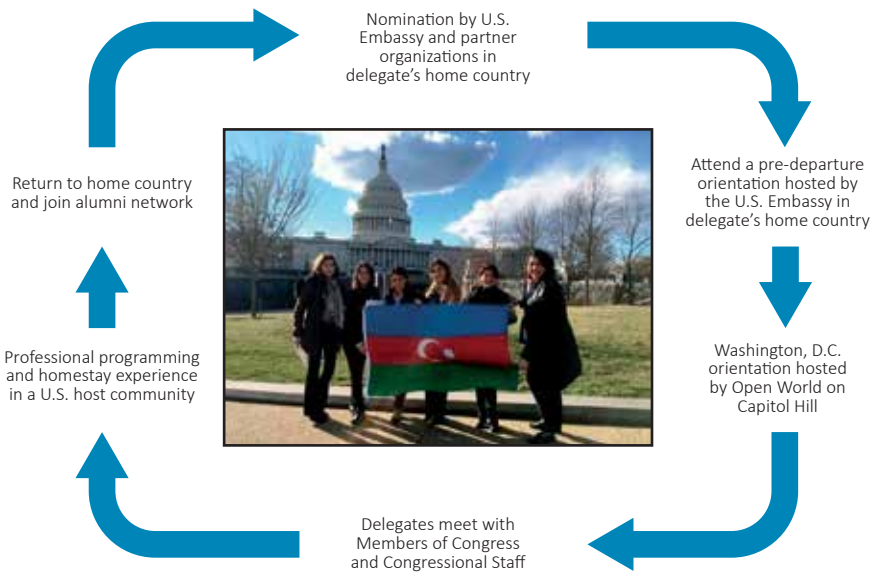
Open World, with its unique and effective exchange model, began supporting programs initiated by the **House Democracy Partnerships (HDP)** to continue thematic programming for Members of Parliament, Rule of Law, and Civic professionals in emerging democracies outside of Eurasia. In 2016, Open World hosted HDP delegates from Kenya, Liberia, and Timor Leste allowing them to see state legislatures up close.

Under Open World's Strategic Plan 2016-2020, a significant goal is to increase the participation of millennial delegates under the age of 35. The rationale behind this goal is to empower participants under 35 who are entry level professionals and introduce them to, ideas of transparency for them to carry throughout their career as they rise into positions of influence within their home country. In 2016, one-third of Open World's delegates were under the age of 30.

Life Cycle of an Open World Delegate

The flow chart outlines a delegate's nomination process, pre-departure orientation in their home country, Washington, D.C. Orientation, professional programming and homestay, and joining an alumni network after their Open World experience.

In 2016, Open World conducted exchanges across the United States for leaders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Serbia, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine.



2016 STATISTICS

Open World has brought over **26,000** current and future leaders of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan to the United States since 1999.

1/3 of the Open World delegates were under **30**.

Women constituted **50.7** percent of Open World delegates.

In 2016, Open World conducted **852** participants from **19** different countries.

Open World also hosted **5** leaders from Afghanistan under a special agreement and cost arrangement with the Rumsfeld Foundation.

Open World hosted **9** leaders from Kenya, Liberia, and Timor-Leste through the House Democracy Partnership.

In 2016, Open World's participants traveled to all 50 states in the United States. Since the program's inception, more than **8,000** American volunteer families in over **2,100** communities in all 50 states have hosted Open World alumni.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



ARMENIA



MONGOLIA



AZERBAIJAN



RUSSIA



ESTONIA



SERBIA



GEORGIA



TAJIKISTAN



KAZAKHSTAN



TURKMENISTAN



KOSOVO



UKRAINE



KYRGYZSTAN



UZBEKISTAN



MOLDOVA

STAFF

as of December 31, 2016

Executive Director: Ambassador John O'Keefe (Ret.)

Deputy Executive Director: Jane Sargus

Program Managers: Vera DeBuchananne, Lewis Madanick, and Matt Tucker

Congressional Relations Specialist: Maura Shelden

Public Affairs Specialist: Yasmine Evans

Program Management Assistants: Sean Kelly and Alexa King

Country Director for the Russian Federation: Alexander Khilkov

INTRODUCTION

Open World Across America

The Open World Leadership Center continues to impact communities across the United States through our professional exchange programs. In 2016, Open World reached a program milestone and conducted programs in all 50 states. Since Open World's inception, more than 2,100 communities generously welcomed an Open World delegate into their homes which has increased the awareness of global issues among many constituencies.

As an arm of the United States Congress, Open World works to further Congress's interests in an increasingly uncertain Eurasian region. Open World's programs for **Members of Parliament**, **Rule of Law**, and **Civic Leaders** focus on impacting and securing long lasting relationships between the U.S. and emerging leaders in the Eurasian region. Our delegates are then able to have peer-to-peer interactions with their American counterparts in fields ranging from government, law, entrepreneurship, and many more which result in future projects and areas of collaboration.

In 2016, Open World played a significant role in connecting Congress to their counterparts from Eurasia. In our programs for Members of Parliament, Open World dramatically increased the amount of engagement with Members of Congress. This year, Open World brought elected officials from Serbia, Ukraine, Mongolia, and Kyrgyzstan described on pages 9–12. For our Rule of Law programs, Open World brought judges and legal professionals from Azerbaijan, Estonia, Kosovo, and Ukraine described on pages 13–16. Additionally, Open World hosted a myriad of civic delegations with leaders from Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine as seen throughout this year's annual report.

To engage our vast network of more than 26,000 alumni across Eurasia, Open World visited Ukraine and Russia from August 24–29, 2016 hosting workshops for facilitators and alumni on page 37. Our programs have influenced the lives of our alumni and communities of the next generation of leaders on page 38.

This year was also a prominent year for local hosts who opened their homes to Open World delegates and decided to take a reciprocal visit on page 41. In our seventeen years, we celebrate the growing impact Open World has on the rising leaders from critical regions we have brought to Congress and to our country.

As Open World continues to engage more foreign members of parliament, legal professionals, and civic leaders, we increase our relevancy to Congress. Therefore, Open World plays a critical role in connecting Congress, constituents, and international leaders to facilitate open communication fostering a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect.



Delegates from Ukraine meet Amanda Dickson (center), co-host of Utah's #1 rated morning show, Utah's Morning News on KSL Newsradio in Salt Lake City, UT in February 2016.

SERBIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT VISIT COLUMBUS

Highlights from the Members of Parliament Program

Members of Parliament (MPs) from Serbia arrived for a 10-day professional development program in January. During their program, delegates discussed U.S.-Serbia Relations, transparency in government, constituent engagement, the U.S. Electoral College, and anti-corruption efforts in government. Prior to their arrival in Columbus, delegates spent three days on Capitol Hill meeting leaders of both the Executive and Legislative Branches. In Washington, delegates met **Ambassador Kyle Scott** to discuss relations between the U.S. and Serbia. Delegates also had the opportunity to meet Open World Trustee, **Senator Roger Wicker (MS)**, **Rep. Peter J. Visclosky (IN-01)** and **Rep. Robert Aderholt (AL-04)**.

In Columbus, delegates had numerous meetings with Ohio State officials. Members of the Ohio House of Representatives, **State Rep. Clifford A. Rosenberger** (District 91), **Former State Rep. William Batchelder**, and **State Rep. Michael F. Curtin** (District 17) met with the delegation to discuss their roles in State Government. There were also meetings with **Mark C. Flanders**, the Director of the Ohio Legislative Services Commission, **Randall J. Meyer**, the Ohio Inspector General, and **William A. Anthony, Jr.**, the Director of the Board of Elections. These meetings covered the U.S. Electoral College and anti-corruption in government offices.

Although the delegation spent a majority of their program experiencing how the American government operates, they also had the opportunity to see how Americans work. Additionally, delegates spent time with their host-family and attended a jazz concert.



RS

Travel Date: January 25, 2016

Location: Columbus, OH

Theme: Members of Parliament

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: International Visitors Council of Columbus



Serbian MPs are greeted by Senator Roger Wicker (MS) (center) in his Capitol Hill office in January 2016. Senator Wicker also serves on Open World's Board of Trustees.

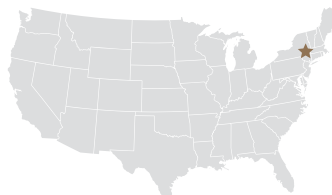
UKRAINIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT VISIT ALBANY

Highlights from the Members of Parliament Program

Members of Parliament (MPs) from Ukraine arrived for a 10-day professional development program in June. Prior to their arrival in Albany, delegates met Members of Congress and other leaders working in the Legislative Branch on Capitol Hill. In Washington, delegates met Members of Congress in the U.S. House of Representatives serving on House Democracy Partnership (HDP). Ukraine is a partner legislature with HDP. The MP delegation met HDP Chairman, **Rep. Peter Roskam** (IL-06), Ranking Member and Open World Trustee, **Rep. David Price** (NC-04), **Rep. Dina Titus** (NV-01), and Open World Trustee, **Rep. Jeff Fortenberry** (NE-01). Delegates also met **Senator Jeanne Shaheen** (NH), **Senator Joni Ernst** (IA), **Senator Rob Portman** (OH), Open World Trustee, **Senator Roger Wicker** (MS). Delegates concluded their time in Washington by meeting **Rep. Paul D. Tonko** (NY-20), **Rep. Sander Levin** (MI-09), **Rep. Marcy Kaptur** (OH-09), **Rep. Paul Cook** (CA-08), **Rep. Bill Pascrell** (NJ-09), and **David Mao**, Acting Librarian of Congress as well.

Delegates brought their own unique perspectives to meetings with Members of Congress. **MP Taras Pastukh** of the Samopomich (Self-Reliance) Party, serves on the Subcommittee on the Efficient Use of Budget Funds of the Committee on National Security Defense. Recently, Pastukh voluntarily joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine in 2014 and served in 128th mountain-infantry brigade during the armed conflict in country's east. Another MP in the Open World delegation represented the Batkivshyna (Fatherland) Party and one MP was an independent.

In Albany, delegates met **Mayor Kathy Sheehan** as well as organizations like League of Women Voters and the New York State Legislative Bill Drafting Commission. Most meetings covered themes of economic development, efficiency, and responsiveness from government.



UA

Travel Date: June 19, 2016

Location: Albany, NY

Theme: Members of Parliament

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: International Center of the Capital Region



Ukrainian MPs meet with Rep. Peter Roskam (IL-06), Chairman of House Democracy Partnership (HDP) in his Capitol Hill office in June 2016.

MONGOLIAN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT DISCUSS GLOBAL EDUCATION IN HONOLULU

Highlights from the Members of Parliament Program

Prior to departing for an accountable governance program in Honolulu, Members of Parliament (MPs) from Mongolia's State Great Hural spent two days on Capitol Hill meeting Members of Congress. In Washington, delegates met members of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP), including Chairman **Rep. Peter Roskam** (IL-06) also Ranking Member and Open World Trustee **Rep. David Price** (NC-04). The delegation also met **Rep. Dina Titus** (NV-01) and **Rep. Ander Crenshaw** (FL-04) on HDP. Also greeting the delegation were **Rep. Joe Pitts** (PA-16), **Rep. Jim McDermott** (WA-07), **Rep. Reid Ribble** (WI-08), and **Senator Jeanne Shaheen** (NH).

Delegates were very interested in learning more about the inner workings of Congress, and had productive conversations with the Senate and House Members. In addition to learning more about how Congress operates, the delegation discussed U.S. – Mongolia relations.

In Honolulu, delegates were invited to speak at Hawaii Pacific University (HPU) to students regarding the current challenges and opportunities that Mongolia faces politically, economically and socially. The delegation met **President Charles Morrison** of the East-West Center at HPU to discuss and reflect on the program before leaving Honolulu.



MG

Travel Date: February 22, 2016

Location: Honolulu, HI

Theme: Members of Parliament

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: Pacific and Asian Affairs Council



Mongolian MPs are greeted by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (NH) (center) in her Capitol Hill office in February 2016.

CONSTITUENT ENGAGEMENT AND TRANSPARENCY INSPIRES KYRGYZ MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Highlights from the Members of Parliament Program

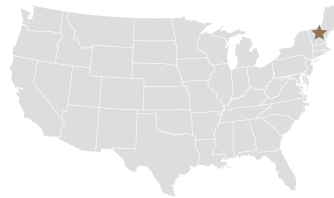
Members of Parliament (MPs) from Kyrgyzstan visited Washington, D.C. and Manchester, NH for a program focused on accountable governance. In Washington, the delegation met **Rep. Ann Kuster** (NH-02), **Rep. Peter Roskam** (IL-06), **Rep. Chuck Fleischmann** (TN-03), Open World Trustee, **Senator Roger Wicker** (MS) and **Senator Jeanne Shaheen** (NH).

In Manchester, delegates met **Sarah Holmes**, State Director, and **Scott Merrick**, Deputy State Director, at **Senator Jeanne Shaheen's** (NH) district office. They spoke about how district offices function and work with constituents. Later, delegates had meetings with State Senate and House leadership to gain an understanding of state legislative branch functions. Delegates were struck by the transparency of government as well as the dedication senators and representatives displayed for their constituents. They hoped to improve government systems in Kyrgyzstan and build better relationships with their constituents.

The group's time in Manchester fostered many positive outcomes. **MP Janar Akayev** and other members of his Open World delegation are developing a program on youth leadership which will encourage self-made youth to achieve their goals. The delegation also helped to facilitate the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) congressional delegation visit to Kyrgyzstan which took place in May 2016.



Kyrgyz MPs talk to Senator Jeanne Shaheen's (NH) staff in her Capitol Hill office in May 2016.



KG

Travel Date: May 16, 2016

Location: Manchester, NH

Theme: Members of Parliament

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: World Affairs Council of New Hampshire

“I think the thing that struck them the most about their trip to New Hampshire was how transparent our government is. They could not believe that anyone can walk through our State House and visit the Governor's Office. Also, the fact that all meetings are open to the public and the public can give their input was quite the surprise. I would guess that they will certainly try to increase transparency back home based on what they saw here.”

-Tim Horgan, Local Host

UKRAINIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONALS LEARN ABOUT COMBATTING CORRUPTION THROUGH TRANSPARENCY IN FLORIDA

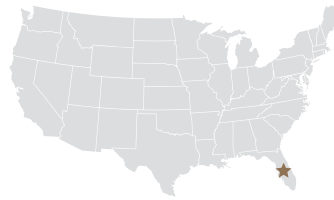
Highlights from the Rule of Law Program

Ukrainian legal professionals traveled to Longwood, FL for a program on anti-corruption measures. Delegates were hosted by **Judge Jim DeKleva** and **Judge Donna McIntosh**. Delegates observed jury selection and a trial in progress at Seminole County Criminal Court. Other meetings with the Supervisor of Elections to Seminole County, Seminole County Sheriff's Office, and Editor-in-Chief of the Orlando Sentinel provided different perspectives on how to combat corruption in multiple levels of government.

Delegates admired the high level of self-governance among lawyers and the pride judges had in the judiciary. Inspired by their time in Longwood, participants targeted the need to improve the level of legal culture and legal consciousness in Ukraine.

“The delegates welcomed the friendliness and openness of our culture and government. I believe this was a pleasant surprise. They arrived as strangers, left as friends and family. Home hosting is critical to a successful program. Additionally, every one of our presenters personally connected with the delegates. Each of our guests looks at their experience in Florida as an encouragement and endorsement for change in Ukraine. Especially the issue of corruption.”

-Clark Gwinn, Local Host



UA

Travel Date: May 12, 2016

Location: Longwood, FL

Theme: Rule of Law

Subtheme: Anti-Corruption

Grantee: Rotary

Local Host: Seminole County South Rotary Club



Ukrainian legal professionals observe a simulation of an electric ballot reading machine at work in Longwood, FL in May 2016.

ENGAGEMENT AMONG LEGAL PROFESSIONALS INSPIRES KOSOVARS

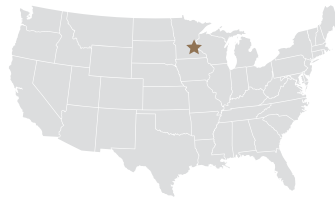
Highlights from the Rule of Law Program

A group of legal professionals from the Kosovo Bar Association (KBA) traveled to Minneapolis, MN for a program on Rule of Law. Delegates were exposed to a range of topics to help develop new laws and programs that could be adopted in Kosovo. The participants discussed opening and building law firms, specialization and certification programs, useful technology for bar associations, and methods to increase member engagement.

In Minneapolis, delegates identified the need to develop a section within the KBA for a section for young lawyers and create more opportunities for female lawyers. The average age of KBA members is around 60, which makes the establishment of a young lawyer section an important step to allowing this demographic to be represented within the organization. As women are similarly underrepresented, the delegates hope to develop strategies to engage and mentor female law students and lawyers.

“A particular, concrete benefit is that in-person visits by international colleagues are highly efficient and effective...Through site visits and in-person experiences visitors see and learn things that they would never have thought to ask about, and that the hosts would never have mentioned. For example, during a tour of Minnesota State Bar Association offices, the Kosovars took several photos of the member-recognition plaques—something important to sustain member involvement and motivation, but which would never have come up in conversation...”

-Mike Trittipio, Local Host



KV

Travel Date: May 8, 2016

Location: Minneapolis, MN

Theme: Rule of Law

Subtheme: American Bar Association/Rule of Law Initiative Nominated

Grantee: World Services of LaCrosse, Inc.

Local Host: Minnesota State Bar Association



Kosovars with Judge John R. Tunheim, Chief Judge, District Court of Minnesota in May 2016.



Delegates observe criminal court proceedings presided by Judge Diane Alshouse of the Second Judicial District of Ramsey County in Minneapolis, MN in May 2016.

AZERBAIJANI LAWYERS DISCUSS LEGAL ETHICS IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Highlights from the Rule of Law Program

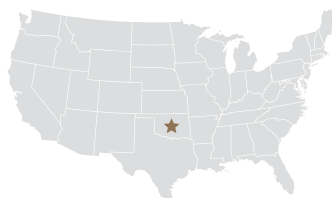
A delegation of legal professionals from Azerbaijan traveled to Oklahoma City, OK for a program focused on Civic Rule of Law. Delegates were hosted by **U.S. Magistrate Judge Suzanne Mitchell** of the Western District of Oklahoma and **Special Judge Lisa K. Hammond** of the Oklahoma City District Court. Delegates were able to gain a comprehensive view of the American legal system through meetings with attorneys, judges, forensic scientists, and NGOs such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and Oklahoma Bar Association.

In Oklahoma City, delegates observed a jury trial at the Oklahoma County Courthouse and a naturalization oath ceremony presided over by **Chief Judge Joe Heaton** at the William J. Holloway, Jr. Courthouse. Discussions focused on issues such as jury trial strategies, complex litigation issues, and ethical challenges. Delegates met **Austin Manger**, Field Representative for **Senator James Lankford** (OK), former **Governor David Walters**, and **State Rep. Kevin Calvey** (District 82).

Throughout their experience, delegates were impressed by information technology's ability to transform the legal profession. They appreciated how dependent the justice system was upon the moral values of the practitioners. Judges, prosecutors, investigators, and other legal professionals were the key to having fair trials.

“Through this program delegate Aytan Alizamanli learned about best practices in the U.S. justice system. She saw firsthand how real courts operate and what their challenges and advantages are. This experience was great asset for Aytan, since as a member of Transparency Azerbaijan, she contributes to legislative policy papers.”

-Huseyn Panahov, Facilitator



AJ

Travel Date: November 9, 2016

Location: Oklahoma City, OK

Theme: Civic Rule of Law

Subtheme: Bar Association and Civil Rights Advocacy Lawyers

Grantee and Local Host: Rotary Club of Oklahoma City



Azerbaijani Bar Association and Civil Rights Advocacy Lawyers at the Oklahoma City University School of Law in November 2016.



The Azerbaijani delegation with Oklahoma Bar Association members in Oklahoma in November 2016.

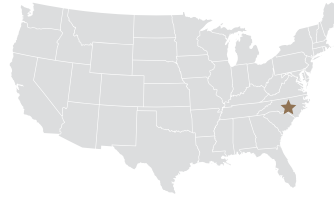
ESTONIAN JUDICIAL DELEGATION TRAVELS TO RALEIGH

Highlights from the Rule of Law Program

Prior to their departure to Raleigh, a delegation of Estonian judges attended an orientation at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington, D.C. In Washington, delegates attended presentations outlining the U.S. Judiciary, including how judges are appointed and the judicial process. Presenters included **Jeffrey Minear**, counselor to **Chief Justice John G. Roberts**, **Federal District Judges Richard D. Bennett**, and **Anthony J. Trenga**, and **Bob Deyling**, Assistant General Counsel of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Court. These meetings with judges and lawyers gave the delegates a strong background on the American legal system. Following these meetings, delegates toured the Supreme Court.

In Raleigh, the delegates met with various officials, visited historic sites, and attended several presentations. **Judge Allyson K. Duncan**, U.S. Court of Appeals and Chair of the International Judicial Relations Committee (IJRC) of the Judicial Conference served as host judge to the Open World delegates for their visit. Delegates met with **Rep. David Price (NC-4)**, **Chief District Judge James C. Dever III**, **Magistrate Judge James E. Gates**, **Justice Paul M. Newby** of the North Carolina Supreme Court, and **John Bruce**, Acting North Carolina State Attorney.

The delegation visited the North Carolina Supreme Court, Duke University School of Law, Wake County Detention Center, the North Carolina Museum of Art, and observed a federal criminal hearing. The exchange was made possible through a cost share with the Judicial Training Department of the Supreme Court of Estonia.



EN

Travel Date: April 20, 2016

Location: Raleigh, NC

Theme: Rule of Law

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: Judge Allyson K. Duncan, U.S. Court of Appeals and International Focus



Delegation of Estonian Judges meeting with Judge Allyson Duncan (third from right) in Raleigh in April 2016.

GEORGIANS DEVELOP RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE IN BIG CANOE AND ATLANTA

Highlights from the Civic Leaders Program

Two Georgian delegations traveled to Big Canoe and Atlanta, GA to learn about American civil society and responsive governance to improve existing systems in their communities. Prior to their arrival in Georgia, delegates completed an orientation on Capitol Hill. In Washington, delegates met **Jim Purekal**, U.S. Maries Corps Congressional Fellow for **Senator David Perdue** (GA).

In Georgia, the delegation was divided into an Atlanta and a Big Canoe bound groups. In Big Canoe delegates enjoyed a potluck dinner the night prior to meeting **Mayor John Weaver**. They also met with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Good Samaritan Health and Wellness Center.

In Atlanta, the delegation met **State Rep. Rick Jasperse** (District 11) to discuss water management and education. The delegations also met with the Boys and Girls Club of North Georgia while other notable events included a visit to the Fulton County Jail, Leadership Atlanta and a tour of the Jimmy Carter Center.

“...all the meetings were relevant to our delegations.”

– Lana Chkhartishvili, Facilitator



GE

Travel Date: March 30, 2016

Location: Big Canoe and Atlanta, GA

Theme: Accountable Governance

Grantee: Friendship Force International

Local Host: Friendship Force of North Georgia and Friendship Force of Greater Atlanta



Open World's program manager for Georgia, Lewis Madanick (first from left) and the Georgian delegation meet with Jim Purekal (fourth from left) from the office of Senator David Perdue (GA) in April 2016.



Mayor Frank Auman (center) and Counsel William Rosenfeld (at Auman's left from right) meet with members of the Georgian delegation in April 2016.

TURKMEN LIBRARIANS VISIT OHIOAN LIBRARIES

Highlights from the Civic Leaders Program

A delegation of librarians from Turkmenistan traveled to Willoughby Hills, OH to observe how libraries are operated and provide services for the public. Prior to their homestay experience, delegates visited the office of **Rep. Marcia Fudge** (OH-11) for a meeting with her staff.

In Willoughby Hills, delegates visited a diverse set of libraries including Willoughby Public Library, the Mudd Library at Oberlin College, and the research library at the Western Reserve Historical Society. At each library, delegates learned new aspects of library services ranging from community events hosted by libraries, to the electronic media resources they can provide. Given the wide range of libraries the delegates visited, delegates were able to gain new skills pertaining to each of their careers.

The second half of the visit focused on meeting local leadership. Delegates traveled to Cleveland to visit Cleveland's Municipal Court. There delegates gained insight into Cuyahoga County's judicial process. Delegates also had the opportunity to meet members of Cleveland's local government including **Mayor Frank G. Johnson**, and **Valarie J. McCall**, Chief of Government and International Affairs. The meeting focused on the linkage between the Mayor's office, city council, and other city services.

"All participants were amazed by the level of volunteerism in the U.S. All the libraries we visited had lots of volunteers, both young and senior. It was mind-blowing for participants to find out that all these volunteers are not paid anything; they just do it for free. Participants said that they will try to involve volunteers in their library activities..."

-Merdan Annamanov, Delegation Facilitator



TM

Travel Date: May 19, 2016

Location: Willoughby Hills, OH

Theme: Library Services

Grantee: Friendship Force International

Local Host: Friendship Force of Northeast Ohio



The Turkmen delegation visits at the Cleveland Municipal Court to learn about Cuyahoga County's judicial process in May 2016.



Turkmen librarians meet with Mayor Frank G. Johnson in Cleveland in May 2016.

ARMENIANS OBSERVE SOCIAL INCLUSION IN CAMBRIDGE

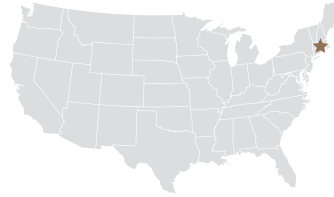
Highlights from the Civic Leaders Program

In May, a delegation of civic leaders from Armenia traveled to Cambridge, MA to observe techniques designed to expand social inclusion in Armenia. Prior to their arrival in Cambridge, delegates met **Levon Avdoyan** from the African and Middle East Division/ Near East Section at the Library of Congress to discuss Armenian literature collections. **Ted Massey**, U.S. Department of State, Armenia Desk Officer joined the group for dinner during their orientation.

In Cambridge, delegates met **Kelsey Perkins**, Deputy District Director of **Rep. Katherine Clark's** (MA-05) district office. Delegates also visited the Massachusetts State House to meet members of the state legislature including **State Rep. Jonathan Hecht** (29th Middlesex District), **State Rep. Kay Khan** (11th Middlesex District), and **State Senator Jason Lewis** (5th Middlesex District).

Later, delegates spent an afternoon at Cambridge City Hall greeted by **Mayor E. Denise Simmons** and the City Council of Cambridge. Topics discussed included legislative functions and the relevance of female leaders in politics.

Highlights from the visit to Cambridge include visiting Perkins School for the Blind, the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities and the Disability Law Center of Massachusetts.



AM

Travel Date: May 19, 2016

Location: Cambridge, MA

Theme: Expanding Social Inclusion

Grantee: Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Association



Delegates meet Kelsey Perkins (third from right) at the district office of Rep. Katherine Clark (MA-05) to discuss the role of representatives in Cambridge, MA in May 2016.



Mayor E. Denise Simmons (seated, center) meets with delegates at Cambridge City Hall to discuss women's role in leadership within the government in May 2016.

UKRAINIAN AND KAZAKH DELEGATIONS EXPLORE NONPROLIFERATION AT OAK RIDGE AND LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABS

Highlights from the Civic Leaders Program

Two delegations of nonproliferation experts from Ukraine and Kazakhstan traveled to Oak Ridge, TN and Los Alamos, NM in early November. Prior to their arrival in Oak Ridge and Los Alamos, delegates arrived in Washington, D.C. for an orientation. In Washington, delegates met with Members of Congress, and representatives of various governmental agencies.

The groups met the staff of **Rep. Jeff Fortenberry** (NE-01), a member of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) and Open World Trustee. The Ukrainian delegation also met professional staff members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade. The delegation was also greeted by the staff of **Senator Chris Murphy** (CT), **Senator Chris Coons** (DE), **Rep. Brad Sherman** (CA-30), and **Rep. Steve Chabot** (OH-01). Before departing Washington, delegates attended a presentation by the National Nuclear Security Administration, and met with individuals from the Proliferation Prevention Program.

The Ukrainian delegation was hosted in Oak Ridge, TN, by the Sister City Support Organization of Blount County. The delegation received a warm welcome by **Rep. Chuck Fleischmann** (TN-03). Delegates were able to tour the University of Tennessee campus, the Blount County Public Library, and the greater Oak Ridge area. The delegates also met with **Dr. Mathew Murray**, a professor of Economics at the Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research.

The Kazakh delegation was hosted in Los Alamos, NM by the Santa Fe Council on International Relations. The delegates were welcomed with meetings at the offices of **Senator Tom Udall** (NM), **Senator Martin Heinrich** (NM), Open World Trustee, and **Rep. Ben Ray Lujan** (NM-03). Delegates visited the Sandia National Laboratory on Nuclear Nonproliferation, and attended a presentation at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Afterwards, delegates toured the Bradbury Science Museum, and Bandelier National Monument.



UA



KZ

Travel Date: November 2, 2016

Location: Oak Ridge, TN and Los Alamos, NM

Theme: Accountable Governance – Nonproliferation and Nuclear Waste Disposal

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: Sister Cities of Blount County and Santa Fe Council on International Relations



The Kazakh delegation meeting with Johnathan Lowe, (center) Legislative Correspondent of Rep. Steve Chabot, in Washington D.C. in November 2016.



The Ukrainian delegation meeting with a local police officer (center) in Alcoa, TN in November 2016.

UKRAINIANS EXPERIENCE BEST PRACTICES FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION IN HARTFORD

Northeast Region

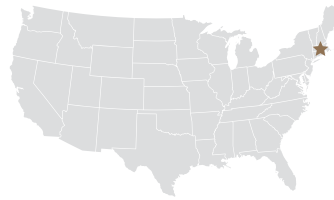
Delegates from Ukraine visited Hartford, CT to observe government transparency and access to public information.

Prior to their arrival in Hartford, delegates met **Senator Chris Murphy** (CT) in Washington, D.C. to discuss the political climate in Ukraine and ways to facilitate transparency.

During their program, delegates had the opportunity to meet **Rep. John Larson** (CT-01) and **Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman** as well as other state representatives and senators. The meetings enabled the delegates to gain an understanding of the various systems that ensure legitimate and democratic voting systems in Connecticut. Delegates heard lectures at the Yale Media Freedom and Information Access Clinic, where they expressed their interest in developing a partnership to implement similar organizations in Ukraine.

“The delegates were involved each and every day with the program. The home hosts truly bonded with this group and were sorry to see them leave. They arrived as strangers and left as friends.”

-Betty DeAngelis, Local Host Coordinator



UA

Travel Date: April 27, 2016

Location: Hartford, CT

Theme: Government Transparency

Subtheme: Access to Public Information

Grantee: Friendship Force International

Local Host: Friendship Force of Connecticut



Ukrainian delegates meet with Senator Chris Murphy (CT) (center) in his Capitol Hill office in April 2016.



Delegates meet with Rep. John Larson (CT-01) (center) at his district office in Hartford, CT in April 2016.

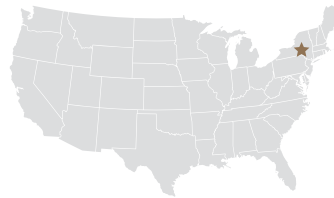
DELEGATES FROM RUSSIA LEARN INTERDISCIPLINARY MODELS FOR DISABILITY TREATMENT IN ROCHESTER

Northeast Region

A delegation of professionals focused on intellectual and developmental disabilities from Novgorod, Russia traveled to their sister city of Rochester, NY. Delegates' program focused on community planning and services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Prior to arriving in Rochester, delegates met with the office of **Rep. Louise Slaughter** (NY-25) in Washington, D.C.

In New York, delegates toured numerous facilities and engaged with panelists discussing topics ranging from early childcare programs, skills training, social adaptation to complex care, crisis intervention, life transitions, and special education. Highlights included visits to Daystar for Medically Fragile Children, Mary Cariola Children's Center, Cerebral Palsy Rochester, and Heritage Christian Services.

This program inspired several new projects in addition to strengthening the longstanding Novgorod-Rochester Sister City relationship. Delegate, **Anna Sipyagina** works at the Center for Inclusive Education, part of the Novgorod Regional Government, plans to organize a series of seminars for her colleagues to share some of the methods and techniques she observed in Rochester. All delegates were interested in the interdisciplinary models and collaboration between agencies to care for both individuals and families of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The participants expressed hopes to train additional specialists in disability services to facilitate a transition to an interdisciplinary model in Novgorod.



RS

Travel Date: October 26, 2016

Location: Rochester, NY

Theme: Accountable Governance

Subtheme: Young Professionals/U.S. Russia Partnerships

Grantee/Local Host: Linkages of Rochester



Russian delegates meet staff of Rep. Louise Slaughter (NY-25), Jack Spasiano, (third from right) in Washington, D.C. in October 2016.

UKRAINIANS OBSERVE MEDIA'S ROLE IN SOCIETY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

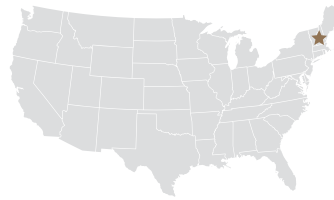
Northeast Region

Ukrainian media professionals traveled to Dover, NH for an Open World program on media's role in society. Delegates attended programming at the University of New Hampshire covering a variety of topics including political surveys, how research contributes to national conversation in the media, and the evolution of journalism with new technologies. Local news organizations were showcased with visits to local radio station WOKQ, New Hampshire Public Television, and the Media Services Manager of the City of Dover. Additional meetings were also held with the district offices of **Rep. Frank Guinta** (NH-01) and **Senator Jeanne Shaheen** (NH).

Delegates were impressed by the warmth and openness of their hosts and professional contacts. For one delegate, **Valeriia Perkova**, the Open World program reversed the negative impression left by a previous trip to the United States. Upon her return to Ukraine, Perkova hosted two radio programs at her station, Aristocrats.fm. The first radio program, reunited all of the delegates from the April 2016 exchange to Dover to talk about their experience on the Open World program. The second radio program, played a podcast of Open World presenter **Dr. John Brown's** presentation "What Keeps the United States United," given during the delegates' Washington, D.C. orientation.

"Delegates were impressed by the depth and range of the program and inspired by the frankness with which media people described their work and discussed issues facing the journalism profession here."

-Jim Verschueren, Host Coordinator



UA

Travel Date: April 27, 2016

Location: Dover, NH

Theme: Accountable Governance

Subtheme: Media's Role in Society

Grantee: Friendship Force International

Local Host: Friendship Force of the New Hampshire Seacoast



Delegates meet with staff of Senator Jeanne Shaheen (NH), Emily Cashman, (third from left) legislative assistant at the district office in Dover, NH in April 2016.

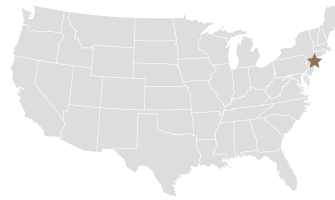
NEW JERSEY AND RUSSIA COMPARE AUTISM PROGRAMS

Mid-Atlantic Region

Delegates from Russia, including social rehabilitation specialists, musical therapy directors, and methodologists visited Montclair, NJ to discuss social service programs for young children.

The delegation attended a meeting at Montclair Township Council where they met with community officials. At Caldwell University, delegates interacted with children with disabilities and participated in a question and answer session with behavioral specialists. The social services delegates visited the Hospital for Special Surgery where they met their professional counterparts. During the trip, delegates also met with the Montclair Fire Chief, **John Herrmann** and **Mayor Robert Jackson**.

Through Open World, delegates were able to compare U.S. programs for autistic children and those offered in Russia. A highlight of the trip was a visit to Montclair State University where they had a hands-on experience at the Center for Clinical Services.



RS

Travel Date: October 26, 2016

Location: Montclair, NJ

Theme: Social Services Focusing on Early Intervention/ Programs for Young Children (0-5)

Grantee: Rotary International

Local Host: Montclair Rotary Club



Delegates get hands-on experience while visiting Montclair State University in October 2016.



U.S.-Russia partnerships grow as Montclair's Mayor Robert Jackson, expresses a desire to visit Cherepovets, the delegates' hometown in Russia during their visit to Montclair, NJ in October 2016.

UKRAINIANS OBSERVE RULE OF LAW IN ANNAPOLIS AND ALEXANDRIA

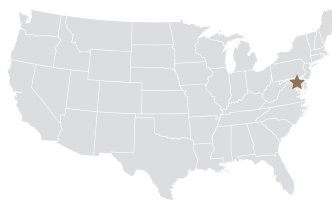
Mid-Atlantic Region

Two delegations of judges from Ukraine visited Annapolis, MD and Alexandria, VA for a Rule of Law program. Prior to their local program, delegates arrived in Washington, D.C. for an orientation at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. In Washington, delegates met with **Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger** (MD-02) and **Senator Ben Cardin** (MD), a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Delegates also met **Tom Jipping**, Chief Counsel to **Senator Orrin Hatch** (UT) on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

For the second half of their Open World experience, delegates continued to move about the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area to meet American judicial, legal, and policy professionals. The judges observed disciplinary procedures in courtrooms in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

In Annapolis, **District Judge Richard Bennett** served as host judge to delegates for their visit. Delegates met **Ambassador John E. Herbst**, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine (2003-2006) and current Director of the Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center at the Atlantic Council. During this meeting, the judges and Ambassador Herbst discussed judicial reforms in Ukraine.

In Alexandria, the group visited the U.S. District of the Eastern District of Virginia. Delegates were welcomed by **District Judge Anthony J. Trenga**. Judge Trenga held a workshop on how to review pre-trial services on criminal sentencing. Additional take aways included further understanding of the U.S. judiciary system, case management, the jury system, and time management standards.



UA

Travel Date: April 20, 2016

Locations: Annapolis, MD and Alexandria, VA

Theme: Specialized Rule of Law

Grantee: FHI360

Local Hosts: Judge Richard Bennett and Judge Anthony J. Trenga



Delegates meet with Tom Jipping, Chief Counsel to Senator Orrin Hatch (UT) on the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C. in April 2016.

PHILADELPHIA SHARES EXPERIENCE IN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY WITH RUSSIANS

Mid-Atlantic Region

A delegation of Russians were hosted in Philadelphia, PA and traveled to Newark, DE to observe democracy, free markets, and accountable government in action. Prior to their arrival in Pennsylvania and Delaware, delegates spent two days in Washington, D.C., where they met **Ryan Doherty**, legislative aide to **Senator Christopher Coons** (DE).

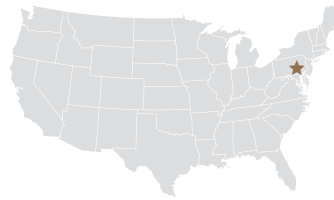
Delegates visited multiple universities including Drexel and the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn). At UPenn the Russians met with senior fellows from think tanks as well as civil society programs to examine international collaborative efforts to design and establish regional and international networks for policy institutes tasked with policy improvement.

The delegation received an exclusive tour of the Penn Center of Innovation (PCI), which at the time of their visit had not yet been open to the public. Delegates observed how PCI transforms ideas into new products and businesses by facilitating relationships with the public and private sectors.

In Newark, delegates discussed public policy in the district office of **Senator Tom Carper** (DE). Delegates asked Senator Carper's staff questions about economic job growth and restoring financial stability. Delegates also visited the University of Delaware's School of Public Policy and Administration.



Delegates pose for a photo in front of the White House in October 2016.



RS

Travel Date: October 5, 2016

Location: Philadelphia, PA

Theme: Accountable Governance Think Tanks and Innovation

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: Citizen Diplomacy International of Philadelphia



Russian delegates visit the office of Senator Chris Coons (DE) for a meeting with Ryan Doherty, legislative aide, to discuss government accountability in October 2016.

UKRAINIANS OBSERVE ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE IN JACKSON

Southern Region

Ukrainian delegates traveled to Jackson, MS to participate in an accountable governance program on NGO development and government reform. Prior to their arrival in Mississippi, delegates attended an orientation in Washington, D.C. where they met **Senator Roger Wicker** (MS), an Open World Trustee.

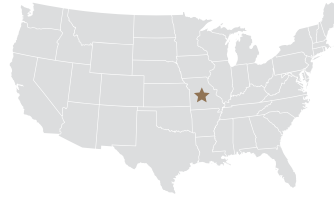
In Jackson, delegates attended a “Welcome to Mississippi” panel discussion on state history, religion, politics, and education. Attorney General, **Jim Hood** and **Mayor Arnel Boldin** of Canton met delegates to discuss the fight against corruption and city government operations. Delegates then spent a day engaging in an anti-corruption workshop designed to recognize and eradicate corruption in Ukraine.

Delegates also met **Doug Davis**, Secretary of State at the Mississippi State Capitol where a discussion on fighting government corruption was held. Additional visits included the American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi and the Mississippi Museum of Art.

The delegates were heavily influenced by their experience in Jackson and plan on utilizing the best practices they observed in their communities.

“Delegates who went to church with their hosts were taken by surprise when they saw how kind people were. It was an unforgettable experience that helped the delegates to realize that they were not alone in their sorrow, that people cared about them from across the ocean, and that people in the U.S. prayed for their safety and well being.”

-Krystyna Dobrovol'ska, Facilitator



UA

Travel Date: March 16, 2016

Location: Jackson, MS

Theme: Accountable Governance

Subtheme: NGO Development/Government Reform

National Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: Legacy International Development Group



Delegates meet with Senator Roger Wicker (MS) on Capitol Hill in his Washington, D.C. office in March 2016.

SPORTS PROGRAMMING FOR TAJIK YOUTH DISCUSSED IN CHARLOTTE

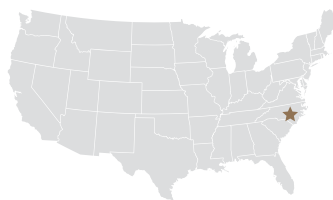
Southern Region

A delegation of sports trainers and professionals from Tajikistan traveled to Charlotte, NC to discuss sports programming for at-risk and underprivileged youth. Delegates were hosted by International House, a grassroots non-profit organization that provides services to Charlotte's growing population of international members. Prior to their arrival in Charlotte, delegates traveled to Washington, D.C. and were introduced to American Federalism and explored Capitol Hill.

In Charlotte, delegates visited several sports organizations that provide athletic opportunities to underprivileged children. Delegates met with the following organizations: Yes I Can Basketball Foundation, Charlotte Eagles Soccer, and Charlotte Boxing Academy. Delegates were able to tour the Carolina Panthers football facilities, which gave the group a larger-scale example of the facilities that they can develop. Delegates also met **Rep. Robert Pittenger (NC-09)**, who is a member of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus in his district office.

“The meetings with Members of Congress and local administration helped the participants to understand how government provides jobs and stability for poor families, orphans, underprivileged youth and people with disabilities.”

- Rajabi Muhammadmasrur Ayubzoda, Facilitator



TI

Travel Date: May 19, 2016

Location: Charlotte, NC

Theme: Sports Programming

Subtheme: At-Risk and Underprivileged Youth

National Grantee and Local Host: International House



Delegates met Rep. Robert Pittenger (NC-09) in his district office in Charlotte, NC in May 2016.



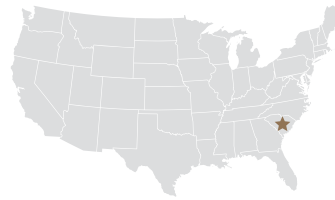
Delegates in front of the Bank of America Stadium of the Carolina Panthers in Charlotte, NC in May 2016

DELEGATES FROM KYRGYZSTAN EXPLORE CIVIL SOCIETY REFORM IN COLUMBIA

Southern Region

A group of Kyrgyz civil society experts traveled to Columbia, SC to partake in a program focused on public finance and civil society development. Stopping briefly in Washington, D.C. for an orientation, delegates attended presentations on American Federalism and public-private partnerships.

In Columbia, delegates were hosted by the Palmetto Council for International Visitors, a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting foreign visitors in the Columbia Metropolitan Area. While in the state capital, delegates visited several organizations such as the State Fiscal Accountability Authority, Department of Education, and the Department of Revenue. Delegates also met with staff of **Senator Lindsey Graham** (SC) and with **Rep. Joe Wilson** (SC-02) in their Columbia offices. Delegates participated in multiple cultural activities to round out their trip overseas, including a day trip to Charleston and a walking tour of downtown Columbia.



KG

Travel Date: March 30, 2016

Location: Columbia, SC

Theme: Civil Society Oversight

Subtheme: Public Finance

National Grantee: International Focus

Local Host: Palmetto Council for International Visitors



Delegates meet staff of Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02) in his district office in Columbia, SC in 2016.



Delegates pose with staff of Senator Lindsey Graham (SC) in the district office Columbia, SC in 2016.

UKRAINIAN DELEGATION IMPRESSED BY NGO NETWORK IN OHIO

Midwest Region

Delegates from Ukraine visited Akron, to observe NGOs serving internally displaced persons. Prior to their arrival in Akron, delegates traveled to Washington, D.C. and met **Senator Sherrod Brown** (OH) at his weekly constituent coffee.

In Akron, delegates observed a city council meeting where they were welcomed by City Council President, **Marilyn Keith**. A highlight of the trip was when the delegates visited the International Community Health Center Clinic where the delegates observed routine refugee health screening processes and learned about the financial capabilities of the program.

The delegation visited the Refugee Empowerment Agricultural Program at the Ohio City Farm which is the largest contiguous farm in the nation. Delegates also visited the Ohio Domestic Violence Network where a roundtable discussion was held.



UA

Travel Date: March 16, 2016

Location: Akron, OH

Theme/Subtheme: NGOs Serving Internally Displaced Persons

Grantee: FHI360

Local Host: Global Ties Akron



Visiting Akron Global Business Acceleration, delegates gain insight on one of the country's top performing technology business incubators in Ohio in March 2016.



Ukrainians delegates participate in a constituent coffee hosted by Senator Sherrod Brown (OH) (center) in Washington, D.C in March 2016.

UKRAINIANS EXPLORE HEALTHCARE IN NEBRASKA

Midwest Region

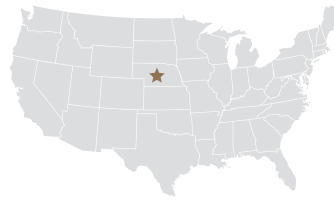
A delegation of five Ukrainian healthcare professionals traveled to Lincoln, NE to learn best practices in their field. Prior to their arrival in Lincoln, delegates attended an orientation in Washington, D.C. In Washington, delegates met **Ambassador William B. Taylor**, Executive Vice President at the U.S. Institute of Peace and U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine (2006-2009).

In Lincoln, delegates received an overview on federal and state healthcare systems. The delegation visited several local healthcare centers including Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals-Lincoln Campus, and Bryan Health. Delegates also attended a healthcare and insurance overview at University Health Center of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, complete with a tour of the facility.

Additional activities included a tour of the Nebraska Capitol Building and a luncheon at **Governor Pete Rickett's** residence. Delegates also had a dinner meeting with **Rep. Jeff Fortenberry** (NE-01) to discuss current events in Ukraine. Rep. Fortenberry serves on the Open World Board of Trustees.

“The delegates came away from each experience with new insights. They will be taking the new ideas and formulating ways to address health care issues in Ukraine.”

– Dr. Julie A. Albrecht, Local Hosting Coordinator



UA

Travel Date: February 24, 2016

Location: Lincoln, NE

Theme: Legislative Development

Subtheme: Healthcare Systems

National Grantee: Friendship Force International

Local Host: Friendship Force of Lincoln



The Ukrainian with Open World Trustee, Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (NE-01) of Lincoln, NE in February 2016.

RUMSFELD FELLOWS GAIN INSIGHT ON YOUTH CIVIL SOCIETY IN NEW MEXICO

Western Region

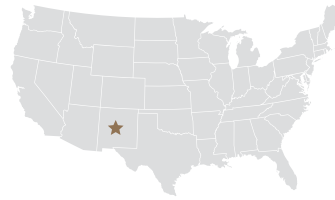
A varied group of delegates originating from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan traveled to Albuquerque, NM to observe youth engagement in civil society.

In Albuquerque, delegates visited the University of New Mexico's Community Engagement Center where delegates observed how private and non-profit sectors interact with each other and the government. A staff member of **Senator Tom Udall** (NM) met with the delegation to discuss foreign affairs.

Additional trip highlights for the delegates included visiting the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center and the New Mexico Human Rights Projects. The delegates participated in hands-on activities designed to engage people intellectually, encouraging them to think about how to act when confronted with prejudice. Also, the delegation visited the non-profit Global One to One, which focusses on empowering youth through the development of life skills such as effective conflict resolution practices.



Delegates gather after a meeting with the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council to discuss what they observed in Albuquerque, NM in April 2016.



Travel Date: April 16, 2016

Location: Albuquerque, NM

Theme/Subtheme: Rumsfeld Fellows

Grantee: FHI 360

Local Host: Global Ties Albuquerque



AJ



KZ



KG



MG



TI



UZ

RUSSIAN ENTREPRENEURS VISIT ELKO

Western Region

A delegation of Russian entrepreneurs visited Elko, NV to gain insight on best business practices. In Elko, delegates visited the Western Folklife Center, Wiegand Exhibit Gallery, and the Northeastern Nevada Museum, to learn about local history, geology, and culture of the American West.

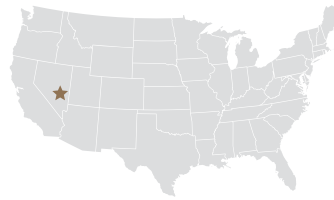
At a breakfast hosted by the Rotary Club of Elko, delegates gave presentations about their professional experience as women in business. Delegates enjoyed a traditional Basque family-style meal over which they discussed business finance with **George Kleeb**, a business instructor at Great Basin College.

Delegates were exposed to digital marketing techniques throughout their time in Nevada. A highlight of the trip was visiting the Newmont Mining Company where they got acquainted with how the company promotes its public image in Nevada through hands-on experience.

To complete the cultural experience, delegates attended the Shepherd's Ball where they were exposed to music, dance, and cuisine of Spanish and French Basque culture.



Delegates visit the locally owned Western outfitter J.M. Capriola Company and the Boot Barn immersing themselves in the Elko lifestyle in March 2016.



RS

Travel Date: March 3, 2016

Location: Elko, NV

Theme/Subtheme: Women Entrepreneurs

Grantee: Rotary International

Local Host: Desert Sunrise and Elko



Delegates visit Newmont Mining Company to see how companies promote their public image in Elko, NV in March 2016.

RUSSIANS BRAVE THE ARCTIC IN ALASKA

Western Region

Homer, AK welcomed a delegation of Russians to their community to observe the Alaska's Arctic Wilderness programs.

In Homer, delegates traveled to the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge as well as the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Destination highlights included visits to the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies (CACS) which included a boat trip to various Kachemak Bay sites. Delegates spent an evening in a remote cabin with the Denali National Park Superintendent, **Don Striker**. CACS's mission is to foster responsible interaction with natural surroundings through science based education and stewardship.

State Rep. Paul Seaton (District 31) of Alaska's State Legislature met with participants to discuss the conservation issues in the lower Kenai Peninsula. Following the meeting, the Rotary Club of Homer-Kachemak Bay and Soldotna hosted a working lunch for the delegates to present information they had gathered during their visit.



Russian delegates get field experience hiking trails in Soldotna, AK in June 2016.



RS

Travel Date: June 2, 2016

Location: Homer, AK

Theme/Subtheme: Arctic Wilderness Programs

Grantee: Rotary International

Local Host: Rotary Clubs of Homer-Kachemak Bay and Soldotna



State Rep. Paul Seaton (in hat) meets with the delegation to discuss changes in arctic environmental conditions in his office in Homer, AK in June 2016.

SENATOR BEN NELSON FELLOWS

Fourth Annual Delegation

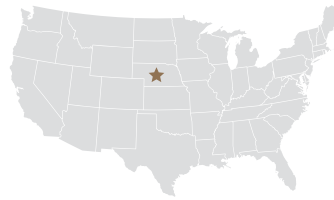
In 2016, Open World welcomed its fourth delegation of **Senator Ben Nelson Fellows**, an annual program that brings top Russian doctors to the United States for a professional development program. Open World's Board of Trustees created the Senator Ben Nelson Fellows program to honor Senator Nelson's contribution to Open World and improve ties between the U.S. and Russia. Senator Nelson represented Nebraska in the U.S. Senate from 2001-2013 and currently serves on Open World's Board of Trustees.

This year's visit included local hosting in Nebraska by Friendship Force of Greater Omaha. The program began with a dinner in honor of the Nelson Fellows at the Omaha Country Club hosted by **Walter Scott Jr.**, former Open World Chairman and **Michael Yanney**, former Open World Trustee. Senator Nelson and his wife, Diane, were present to welcome the Nelson Fellows to Omaha, NE.

During their time in Omaha, Nelson Fellows toured the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit of the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) where three Ebola patients were treated during the epidemic of 2016. The Nelson Fellows also spent time in sessions on experimental neuroscience and nanomedicine with **Dr. Howard Gendelman** and his research staff at the Durham Research Center.

"The greatest benefit is derived by the home hosts who have daily contact with the Nelson Fellows. This group was wonderful to have in our homes. They collectively had a great sense of humor and were always helpful. They truly appreciated their home hosts."

– Dr. Mike Mendlick, Host Coordinator, Friendship Force of Greater Omaha



RS

Travel Date: October 26, 2016

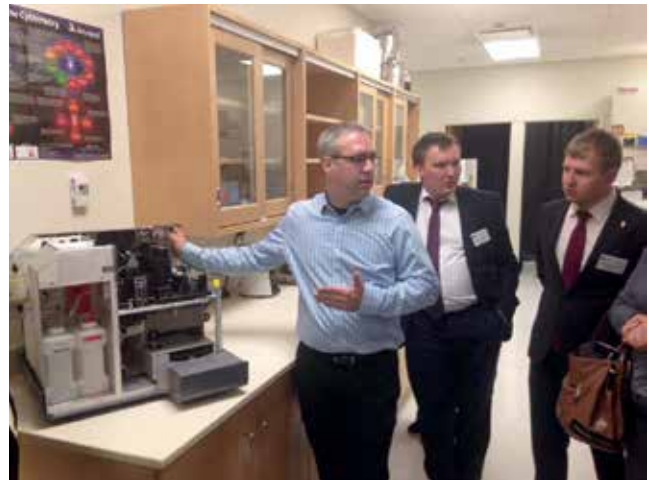
Location: Omaha, NE

Theme: Public Health/ HIV/AIDS/ Misc. Infectious Diseases

Subtheme: Molecular Diagnostics

National Grantee: Friendship Force International

Local Host: Friendship Force of Greater Omaha



Nelson Fellows discuss equipment for genotype and cell studies at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) in Omaha, NE in October 2016.

OPEN WORLD PARTNERS

The Open World Leadership Center would like to acknowledge the agencies, organizations, and individuals that helped us carry out program operations and specialized programming in 2016 and so generously supported our alumni program.

GENERAL PROGRAM SUPPORT

The non-profit American Councils for International Education, provided major administrative and logistical support.

U.S. Embassy staff in Open World countries made recommendations on nominating organizations and themes; helped nominate and select candidates; took part in pre-departure and alumni activities; and served as the Center's liaisons with governmental and nongovernmental entities.

U.S. Embassy staff in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Mongolia, Serbia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan also managed delegate selection and travel and accompanied delegations as facilitators.

The Library of Congress provided financial management services, administrative support, and office and event space via an interagency agreement.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAMMING

U.S. Department of State and the **U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)** provided \$575,000 for programming in Russia, \$60,000 for Serbia, and \$1.5 million for Ukraine.

Open World partnered with other organizations in 2016 to provide Open World programming on a cost-share basis for other exchange program participants while they were in the United States. These organizations were the **American Bar Association/Rule of Law Initiative**, **Moscow School of Political Studies**, **Judicial General Council of Mongolia**, **Supreme Court and the Office of the Prosecutor of Estonia**, and the **Rumsfeld Foundation** (for Fellows from Central Asia and the Caucasus studying local governance).

RULE OF LAW PROGRAM

The U.S. Judicial Conference Committee on International Judicial Relations (IJRC) coordinates the federal judiciary's relations with foreign judiciaries and serves as an international resource on the rule of law. The IJRC helped develop Open World's rule of law programming and organized federal court participation in it, recruiting federal host judges and providing general program guidance. In its capacity as the federal judiciary's administrative arm, the **Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts** provides staff support to the IJRC. This staff assisted federal host judges and organized Washington orientations for rule of law delegates.

OPEN WORLD VISITS UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

From August 21-31, 2016 Open World's Program Manager, Lewis Madanick, traveled to Ukraine and Russia to meet program alumni and facilitators, U.S. Embassy partners, and other stakeholders to discuss upcoming programming strategy.

In Kyiv, Lewis met numerous Open World alumni, and facilitators, and participated in an Open World alumni round table at the America House. In Vinnitsa, Lewis met 30 alumni of the Birmingham (AL)-Vinnitsa Sister City Program. Lewis also visited Open World alumni at their workplaces including: Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Youth and Sports. Open World alumni, **Alyona Shkrum** and **Viktoriya Ptashnyk** both members of Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's National Parliament, met with Lewis as well.

In Moscow, Lewis held a workshop to review current facilitator recruitment and training practices and seek suggestions for improvement with 42 Open World facilitators from Russia. The facilitator workshop was a successful event that demonstrated there is a strong desire to increase ties between Americans and their Russian colleagues on a professional level and to improve each others' lives through contact, learning, and the exchange of ideas.



Lewis Madanick (at right), meets with Open World facilitators in Vinnitsa, Ukraine on August 24, 2016.



Open World's facilitators gather in Moscow to appreciate the strength of the Open World network in Russia on August 29, 2016.

OPEN WORLD ALUMNI RESULTS AND UPDATES

Ukraine: Professional Advancement

Alona Shkrum is one of the Ukraine's youngest members of Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's National Parliament. As the head of the Civil Service Subcommittee, Alona aims to clean up Ukraine's corrupt state bureaucracy. Since 2014, Shkrum has pushed for laws regarding the rights of internally displaced people and transparent government operations. At age 28, Alona was recognized in Kyiv Post's "Top 30 Under 30" for her work in lawmaking and human rights. Alona completed an Open World program for Members of Parliament in June 2016 and was hosted by International Center of the Capitol Region in Albany, New York.



Alona Shkrum, Open World alumna and Ukrainian lawmaker, was recognized in Kyiv Post's "Top 30 Under 30."

Kyrgyzstan: Project

Open World alumnus, **Bekzhan Kasymzhanov** is the Director of Promo-Studio Consulting Company in Osh, Kyrgyzstan. Bekzhan's company is promoting a new ecological fertilizer in southern Kyrgyzstan. The entrepreneur has utilized the skills he gained during the Open World program to become more confident in business marketing and branding. Bekzhan also presented to an undergraduate class in the Economics Department of Osh State University regarding entrepreneurship and the economy of the U.S. Bekzhan completed the Open World program for civic leaders titled, "Young Entrepreneurs" in March 2016 hosted by Fox Valley Technical College Appleton, WI.



Bekzhan Kasymzhanov (second from left) with his Open World delegation of entrepreneurs receives an award from Fox Valley Technical College of Wisconsin during their homestay in Appleton, WI.

OPEN WORLD ALUMNI RESULTS AND UPDATES

Ukraine: Partnership

Oleksandr Dyatlov was hosted in Tulsa, OK in 2015 on a clean energy program. In 2016 he was awarded the Edison Electric Institute's prize for innovation on a return visit he made to the United States. Oleksandr attended EEI's Annual Convention in Chicago, where he met with key industry leaders and showcased the company's technology to a wide array of stakeholders from the electric power industry. According to Oleksandr, "Our team is really excited to get the insight of the U.S. energy market and we hope to build strong relations with its key players."



Oleksandr Dyatlov learns about clean energy while with visiting ION Solar LLC in Tulsa, OK to learn about clean energy.

Russia: Project

Anna Rivina, created a mobile application (app) called "No Violence" to reduce the instances of domestic violence against women in Russia. Users of the app can create a database of family and friends to contact in the event of danger. Anna's app also provides users with a map of all public and private crisis centers in Russia, allowing women to receive the help they need immediately. Anna is looking to expand the app into Kazakhstan in the near future. Anna completed her Open World program for accountable governance in May 2016 and was hosted by Supporters of Civil Society in Russia in St. Louis, MO.



Anna Rivina promotes women's safety with the launch of her app "No Violence."

HOST RECOGNITION AND ALUMNI EVENTS FOR 2016

In 2016, Open World held four host recognition events to acknowledge the exceptional work of our local hosts. Local hosts play an integral role in supporting the mission of Open World and creating experiences for our delegates in all 50 states. Local host responsibilities include creating professional programming in their community and providing home hosting to program participants.

Ambassador O'Keefe honored local hosts and hosting organizations in the following cities:

January

Rotary International
Conference, San Diego, CA

February

Georgia 2 Georgia,
Atlanta, GA

June

Global Ties Akron, Akron, OH

November

Council of International
Programs USA,
Cleveland, OH

Open World Alumni Tour

Ambassador O'Keefe went on an alumni tour through Eurasia in December 2016. Ambassador O'Keefe started his tour in Kyrgyzstan where U.S. Embassy Bishkek was celebrating 25 years of U.S.-Kyrgyzstan relations. Ambassador O'Keefe was U.S. ambassador to Kyrgyzstan from 2000-2003.

At his former post, Ambassador O'Keefe celebrated with Open World alumni and Ambassador Sheila Gwaltney. During the alumni reunion, Ambassador O'Keefe learned about the lives of the program's alumni in Kyrgyzstan and their tremendous accomplishments since their Open World experience. On his second alumni tour stop, Ambassador O'Keefe traveled to Serbia and visited alumni at the U.S. Embassy Belgrade. Ambassador O'Keefe co-hosted an Alumni Reunion event along with Ambassador Kyle Scott, U.S. Ambassador to Serbia. Over thirty Open World alumni were in attendance. Ambassador O'Keefe's final stop on his alumni tour was in Belarus at the U.S. Embassy in Minsk. There Ambassador O'Keefe met with embassy staff to brainstorm new ways to refresh Open World's programming in Belarus. As a result of this meeting, Open World brought delegation of health professionals from Belarus to Utah in May 2017.



Ambassador Sheila Gwaltney (second from right), U.S. Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan and Ambassador O'Keefe (center, red tie) meet Open World alumni at the 25th Anniversary of U.S. - Kyrgyzstan Relations Ceremony at the U.S. Embassy Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan on December 2, 2016.



Ambassador Kyle Scott, U.S. Ambassador to Serbia and Ambassador O'Keefe host an Open World Alumni Reunion at the U.S. Embassy Belgrade in Serbia on December 5, 2016.



Ms. Rima Z. Koyler, Public Affairs Officer with Ambassador O'Keefe after a planning meeting at the U.S. Embassy Minsk on December 8, 2016.

RECIPROCAL VISITS BY AMERICANS HOSTS

Open World local hosts provide a network of Americans from communities across the country. When local hosts welcome Open World delegates into their homes, our local hosts build lifelong friendships with our delegates. Local hosts on occasion travel independently to the home countries of their delegates and meet with Open World alumni. These reciprocal visits are considered to be a major result of the Open World program. In 2016, hosts from seven cities across the United States made the long journey to visit program alumni.

Reciprocal visits are planned independently by Open World hosts and their alumni with non-financial support from Open World Leadership Center. Reciprocal visits allow host families to gain insight into the way of life of alumni across the globe, and help these Americans to visit important regions they may not have otherwise experienced.

Reciprocal Travels

- A host from Mauston, WI traveled to Kazakhstan to attend a conference (March 2016)
- The son of a Pennsylvania host visits Open World alum on Serbian tour (August 2016)
- Hosts from the Grants Pass-Rubtsovsk Sister Cities organization visited Open World alumni in Russia (September 2016)
- Maryland hosts made a reciprocal visit to St. Petersburg and Moscow (November 2016)

Wichita Rotarians visit Open World Alumni in Russia

In September of 2015, Rotarians from Wichita hosted a delegation of entrepreneurs and young professionals from Russia. In July 2016, the hosts made a reciprocal visit to see Open World alumni in Russia. **Deann Sullivan, Greg Sullivan, Joyca and Fred Heismeyer, Geri Appel, and June Meredith Costin** began their trip in St. Petersburg prior to traveling to Moscow. The group of five were able to experience White Nights and enjoy the local cuisine. Open World facilitators were excited to reconnect with their American friends and offered to translate during the visit.



Open World alumni gather from across Russia to greet Wichita Rotarians on reciprocal visit in Moscow in July 2016.

RECIPROCAL VISITS BY AMERICANS HOSTS

California Host Gets a Taste of Kyrgyzstan Culture

Jean Elliot, Director of the International Visitors Center of Los Angeles (IVCLA), along with other IVCLA members visited Kyrgyzstan in May 2016. While in Kyrgyzstan, the group received a guided tour of the Kyrgyz National Museum of Fine Arts from Open World alumna, **Baktygul Kapalova**. During their trip the IVCLA members visited the U.S. Embassy in Bishkek and met with the Public Affairs section. In addition to spending time in Bishkek the group also traveled to Cholpon-Ata and Issyk Kul where they visited several museums and cultural sites.



IVCLA members with Open World alumna, Nurkhat Imankulova, in front of a traditional yurt in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan in May 2016.

Staying Connected from Wisconsin to Kyrgyzstan

Betsy Krizensky, an Open World host from Appleton, WI, traveled to Kyrgyzstan in August 2016 to visit the delegation of young entrepreneurs she hosted in April 2016. Betsy visited alumni along with their families, friends, and business partners. During her trip, She had a meeting with the local American Councils office to learn more about programs in Kyrgyzstan. One highlight of her travels was being invited by Open World alum, **Cholpon Bakirova** to instruct a class on the making of Native American dreamcatchers to a group of Bishkek American Center coordinators. Betsy commented, "I am very grateful to Open World for the opportunity to become a small part of these young Kyrgyz lives."



Betsy Krizensky reconnects with Open World alumni on a visit to Kyrgyzstan in August 2016.

Frequent Host Organizes Ukrainian Alumni Event

A long-time local host from Rochester, NY, **Tamara Densenko**, made a reciprocal visit to Ukraine after hosting numerous Ukrainian delegations in her home. Tamara was the leading force in organizing an alumni event that took place in Kyiv in August 2016. During her visit to Ukraine, Tamara attended Open World alumni presentations and listened as they shared what they learned in the U.S. regarding U.S. federal government sponsored programs, grant opportunities, and resources that Open World provides its alumni after their trip. While in Ukraine, Tamara and other hosts also coordinated five containers full of humanitarian aid for their partners throughout the country.



Tamara Densenko receives an honorary certificate as she retires from being an Open World host in Rochester, NY in May 2017.

A FAREWELL DINNER FOR DR. JAMES H. BILLINGTON

Farewell Dinner for Dr. James H. Billington,
Chairman Emeritus of Open World in The
Lyndon Baine Johnson Room U.S. Capitol,
Washington, D.C. | February 9, 2016

On February 9, Walter Scott, Jr., former Chairman of Open World's Board of Trustees and other Trustees and friends of the Open World program hosted a farewell dinner in honor of Dr. James H. Billington. Dr. Billington, Librarian of Congress Emeritus, is the founding Chairman of Open World Leadership Center.

Dr. Billington contributed to a greater appreciation of U.S. values and institutions in countries stretching across the former Soviet states. Among those who attended the farewell dinner were Members of Congress, the diplomatic community, friends, and family.

Dr. Billington founded Open World with the support of the U.S. Congress in 1999 which has now brought more than 26,000 current and emerging leaders from the post-Soviet region.



From left to right: Mrs. Marjorie Billington, Walter Scott, Jr., Dr. Billington, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA-12), and Dr. Susan Billington Harper gather together prior to the farewell dinner in the U.S. Capitol on February 9, 2016.



House Minority Whip Mr. Steny Hoyer (MD-05) is welcomed by Dr. Billington on February 9, 2016.

2016 OPEN WORLD GRANTEES

Archangel Committee (Greater Portland-Russian Sister City Project)

Portland, ME

Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Association, Inc.

Cambridge, MA

Council of International Programs USA

Chagrin Falls, OH

FHI 360

Washington, DC

Friendship Force International (FFI)

Washington, DC

Georgia to Georgia Foundation, Inc.

Marietta, GA

International Focus

Raleigh, NC

International House

Charlotte, NC

Linkages of Rochester, Inc.

Rochester, NY

Maryland Leningrad Sister State Committee

Annapolis, MD

Oak Ridge Tennessee Sister City Support Organization

Oak Ridge, TN

Rotary International

Evanston, IL

Rotary Club of Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City, OK

Supporters of Civil Society in Russia

St. Louis, MO

US-Ukraine Foundation

Washington, DC

World Services of La Crosse, Inc.

La Crosse, WI

2016 LOCAL HOST ORGANIZATIONS

Open World would like to thank the following organizations and institutions for hosting our delegations in 2016:

Alabama

Birmingham Sister Cities
Friendship Force of Birmingham
Global Ties Alabama

Alaska

Rotary Clubs of Homer-Kachemak Bay, and Soldotna
Rotary Club of Ketchikan, First City

Arizona

Empower International
People to People International of Greater Phoenix
Southern Arizona Council for International Visitors
Tucson Council for International Visitors

Arkansas

Global Ties Arkansas

California

Concord Rotary Club
Friendship Force of Sacramento
Friendship Force of Kern County
International Visitors Council of Los Angeles
Modesto Sister Cities
Sacramento City College
Santa Barbara Cinco de Mayo Festival
Santa Cruz Sister Cities
San Diego Diplomacy Council
People to People International, Greater Los Angeles Chapter

Colorado

Arvada-Kyzylorda Sister Cities
Boulder-Dushanbe Sister Cities
Friendship Force of Denver
Longmont Rotary Club
Parker Rotary Club
Rotary Club of Longmont
Rotary Club of Parker
Westminster 7:10 Rotary Club

Connecticut

Friendship Force of Connecticut

Florida

Global Jax
Global Ties Miami
Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council
Seminole County South Rotary Club
United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Florida

Georgia

Friendship Force of Big Canoe/ North Georgia
Friendship Force of Greater Atlanta
GA2GE

Idaho

Rotary Club of Boise

Hawaii

Pacific and Asian Affairs Council

Illinois

Council of International Programs in Chicago
Supporters of Civil Society in Russia
WorldChicago
Vladimir and Canterbury Sister City Association

Indiana

Lafayette Rotary Club
Rotary Club of Berne

Iowa

Dubuque Chamber of Commerce
Friendship Force of Cedar Rapids-Iowa, City
Iowa Sister States

Kansas

Lawrence Rotary Club
Winfield Rotary Club

Kentucky

World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana

Louisiana

Rotary Club of Metairie

Maine

Greater Portland Russian Sister City Project (The Archangel Committee)

2016 LOCAL HOST ORGANIZATIONS

Maryland

Maryland Sister State Committee
United States District Court for the District of Maryland

Massachusetts

Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Association
International Center of Worcester
West Springfield Rotary Club

Michigan

Colleagues International
International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit, Inc.

Minnesota

Minnesota State Bar Association
White Bear Lake Rotary Club

Mississippi

Legacy International Development Group

Missouri

Global Ties Kansas City
Supporters of Civil Society in Russia
World Affairs Council of St. Louis

Montana

Advisory Commission on International Relationships
WorldMontana

Nebraska

Friendship Force of Lincoln
Friendship Force of Greater Omaha
Rotary Club of Lincoln South, Lincoln Downtown, East Lincoln and Sunrise

Nevada

Rotary Club of Desert Sunrise and Elko
Northern Nevada International Center

New Hampshire

Friendship Force of the New Hampshire Seacoast
World Affairs Council of New Hampshire

New Jersey

Branchville Rotary Club
Montclair Rotary Club

New Mexico

Bridges to Tajikistan
Global Ties Albuquerque
Santa Fe Council on International Relations

New York

International Center of the Capital Region
International Center of Syracuse
International Institute of Buffalo
Linkages of Rochester
Rochester Global Connections, Inc. (formerly Rochester International Council, Inc.)

North Carolina

Friendship Force of Central North Carolina
International House Charlotte
International Focus, Inc.
League of Women Voters of Henderson County
United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

North Dakota

Dacotah Territory International Visitor Program

Ohio

Cincinnati-Kharkiv Sister City Partnership
CIPUSA Cleveland
Global Ties Akron
Great Lakes Consortium for International Training and Development
International Visitors Council, Inc.
Friendship Force of Northeast Ohio
United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

Oklahoma

Tulsa Global Alliance
Rotary Club of Oklahoma City
United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma

Oregon

Corvallis Sister Cities Association-Uzhhorod Council
Umpqua Community College

Pennsylvania

Citizen Diplomacy International of Philadelphia
GlobalPittsburgh (Pittsburgh Council for International Visitors)
Friendship Force of Greater Harrisburg

Rhode Island

World Affairs Council of Rhode Island

2016 LOCAL HOST ORGANIZATIONS

South Carolina

Palmetto Council for International Visitors

South Dakota

Dacotah Territory International Visitor Program

Tennessee

Cookeville Breakfast Rotary Club

Friendship Force of Memphis

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Sister City Support Organization of Blount County

Texas

Grapevine Rotary Club

Rotary Club of Fredericksburg, TX – Morning

McAllen South Rotary Club

Kilgore College Small Business Information Center

United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas

Utah

Utah Valley University

Vermont

Vermont Council on World Affairs

Virginia

Friendship Force of Central Virginia

Norfolk Sister City Association

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia

Virginia Commonwealth University

Washington

Community Colleges of Spokane

World Affairs Council of Seattle

West Virginia

Center for International Understanding

Wisconsin

Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC)

Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee

University of Wisconsin Extension Juneau County

AAUW La Crosse (WI) Branch

Wyoming

Friendship Force of Cheyenne

A THANK YOU TO LOCAL HOSTS

Open World prides itself on giving its participants a full and immersive experience into American culture. This would not be possible without the hospitality and support of our local hosts. Local hosts welcome delegates into their homes, communities, and places of work sharing a glimpse of American life. Open World has over 100 host organizations that span across all 50 states. We thank our local hosts for their expectational support of the Open World program.



Rotarian Craig Forest (back to camera) of the Homer Kachemak Bay Rotary Club, shares a meal with a Konstantin Fomin, a Russian delegate exploring the Arctic wilderness issues in Homer, AK in June 2016.

OPEN WORLD FINANCIAL INFORMATION

In fiscal year 2016, the Open World Leadership Center received \$5.6 million in appropriated funds, \$2.135 million in interagency transfers, and \$10,500 in direct private donations. In calendar 2016, the accumulated value of cost-sharing with the Open World community of grantees, local host organizations, and individual local hosts totaled an estimated \$1.831 million.

Open World Leadership Center submitted a complete set of financial statements for fiscal year 2016 to the independent public accounting firm of Kearney and Company for a full audit. Kearney and Company issued an unmodified (clean) audit opinion on the financial statements. With the 2016 audit, the Center has received ten clean opinions since the first year of audits. The Financial Statements document (with notes) and Kearney and Company's Independent Auditor's Report are available in full on the Open World website at www.openworld.gov.

STATEMENTS OF NET COSTS | For the Years Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

	FY2016	FY2015
Net Costs by Program Area		
<i>Program Costs</i>	\$ 6,598,325	\$ 7,995,600
<i>Less earned Revenue</i>	0	(40,000)
Net Costs of Operations	\$ 6,598,325	\$ 7,955,600

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEETS | As of September 30, 2016 and 2015

	FY2016	FY2015
ASSETS		
Entity Assets:		
Intragovernment Assets		
<i>Fund Balance with Treasury (Note 2)</i>	\$ 1,672,206	\$ 540,334
<i>Investments (Note 3)</i>	2,251,200	2,213,010
Total Intragovernmental	3,923,406	2,753,344
Prepayments (Note 4)	2,268	72,619
Other Accounts Receivable, Net (Note 5)	4,446	475
Total Assets	\$ 3,930,120	\$ 2,826,438
LIABILITIES		
Intragovernmental Liabilities		
<i>Accounts Payable and Accrued Funding Payroll Benefits</i>	\$ 6,062	\$ 4,481
Total Introgovernmental	6,062	4,481
<i>Accounts Payable and Accrued Funding Payroll Benefits</i>	398,932	583,599
<i>Unfunded Annual and Compensatory Leave</i>	50,787	53,045
Total Liabilities (Note 6)	\$ 455,781	\$ 641,125
NET POSITION		
Cumulative Results of Operations	\$ 3,474,339	\$ 2,185,313
Total Net Position	3,474,339	2,185,313
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$ 3,930,120	\$ 2,826,438

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

NOTE 2 FUND BALANCE WITH TREASURY

	FY2016	FY2015
OWLC Funds Originally from Appropriations	\$ 647,612	\$ 424,046
Gift Funds	1,024,594	116,288
Total	\$ 1,672,206	\$ 540,334

Status of Fund Balance with Treasury:		
Unobligated Balances - Available	\$ 0	\$ 0
Obligated Balances - Unavailable	1,672,206	540,334
Total	\$ 1,672,206	\$ 540,334

NOTE 3 INVESTMENTS, NET

Funds that are not needed to finance current activities are invested in interest-bearing obligations of the United States. Open World has directed the Library to invest funds derived from contributions in Treasury securities. Due to the short-term nature of the investments, the cost of investments in conjunction with accrued interest approximates their fair market values. Investments outstanding were \$2,251,200 and \$2,213,010 for fiscal years 2016 and 2015. Average annual investment rates were 2.0% and 2.0% in fiscal years 2016 and 2015.

	FY2016	FY2015
Face Value	\$ 2,240,000	\$ 2,202,000
Interest Receivable	11,200	11,010
Investments, Net	\$ 2,251,200	\$ 2,213,010

NOTE 4 PREPAYMENTS

Open World awards grants to approximately 12-16 organizations with exchange-program expertise that are competitively selected for the purpose of hosting the foreign delegates. In fiscal years 2016 and 2015, \$2,268 and \$72,619 had been paid to but not yet used by these organizations to carry out their services.

NOTE 5 OTHER ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

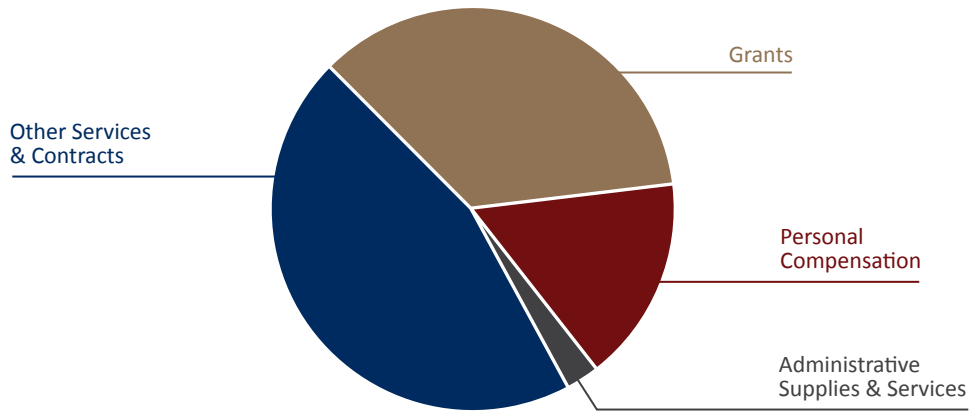
Other Accounts Receivable consisted of a \$4,446 payroll billing document for fiscal 2016.

NOTE 6 LIABILITIES COVERED AND NOT COVERED BY BUDGETARY RESOURCES

	FY2016	FY2015
Liabilities Covered by Budgetary Resources	\$ 404,994	\$ 588,080
Liabilities Not Covered by Budgetary Resources		
<i>Intragovernmental</i>	0	0
<i>Other</i>	50,787	53,045
Total	\$ 455,781	\$ 641,125

Liabilities covered by budgetary resources include accounts payable and accrued funded payroll and benefits. Liabilities not covered by budgetary resources include accrued unfunded annual leave and benefits.

DISTRIBUTION OF SELECT OBLIGATION CATEGORIES FY2016



NOTE: "Contracts" includes, but is not limited to, the cost of applicant and participant processing, travel, planning, participant airfare, and database management and other expert services. "Grants" covers payments to hosting organizations.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER OBLIGATIONS FY2016

Category	FY2016 Actual Obligations
Personal Compensation (all staff)	\$ 820,249
Administration Supplies & Services	55,970
Other Sevices & Contracts	3,278,095
Grants	2,152,334
Total - FY2016 Obligations	\$ 6,306,648

NOTE: Administrative costs equal \$484,159 or 7.68 percent of total appropriated obligations. Open World used trust fund revenue, prior year recovered funds, and cost reduction measures to maintain programming at previous years' levels.



www.openworld.gov

101 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20540-9980



facebook.com/openworldleadershipcenter2



twitter.com/owprogram



instagram.com/owprogram