



MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders is the flagship program of the U.S. Government's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). YALI was created in 2010 and celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2020. Established in 2014, the Mandela Washington Fellowship has brought nearly 4,400 young leaders from every country in Sub-Saharan Africa to the United States for academic and leadership training. The Fellows, between the ages of 25 and 35, are accomplished innovators and leaders in their communities and countries.

Fellowship Components

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTES



All 700 Fellows participate in six-week Leadership Institutes hosted by U.S. colleges and universities, studying Business, Civic Engagement, or Public Management. During their Institutes, Fellows connect with U.S. citizens and enrich local communities while sharing best practices.

SUMMIT



After the Institutes, Fellows convene for a Summit, where they forge connections with one another and U.S. leaders from the private, public, and non-profit sectors, setting the stage for long-term engagement between the United States and Africa.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES



Up to 100 competitively-selected Fellows work with private, public, and non-profit organizations for six weeks. Both Fellows and Hosts benefit from discussing shared issues and challenges in their sectors, broadening their perspectives, and positioning U.S. organizations for international engagement.

RECIPROCAL EXCHANGES



U.S. citizens have the opportunity to apply to travel to Africa to collaborate on projects with Fellowship Alumni, building upon connections initiated during the program. These partnerships and professional connections are intended to form lasting relationships, expand markets and networks, and increase mutual understanding.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP ALUMNI



Fellowship Alumni continue to build the skills and connections developed during the program through access to ongoing professional development, networking, and collaboration opportunities with support from the U.S. Department of State and affiliated partners.

FELLOWSHIP ALUMNI DEMOGRAPHICS



50-50

female and male gender balance



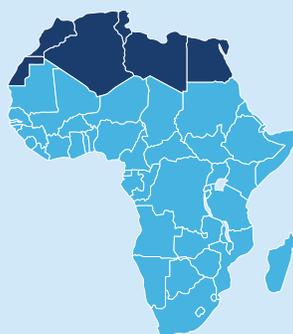
5% report having a disability



44% own a business



36% run a non-profit



Fellows come from **all 49 countries** in Sub-Saharan Africa.

From 2016 to 2019, Fellows contributed more than **39,000 hours of community service** to U.S. organizations and social services.

One-third of 2019 Fellows had professional contacts in the United States prior to the Fellowship. After the program, **75%** had plans to collaborate with U.S. citizens.

The Mandela Washington Fellowship is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by IREX.

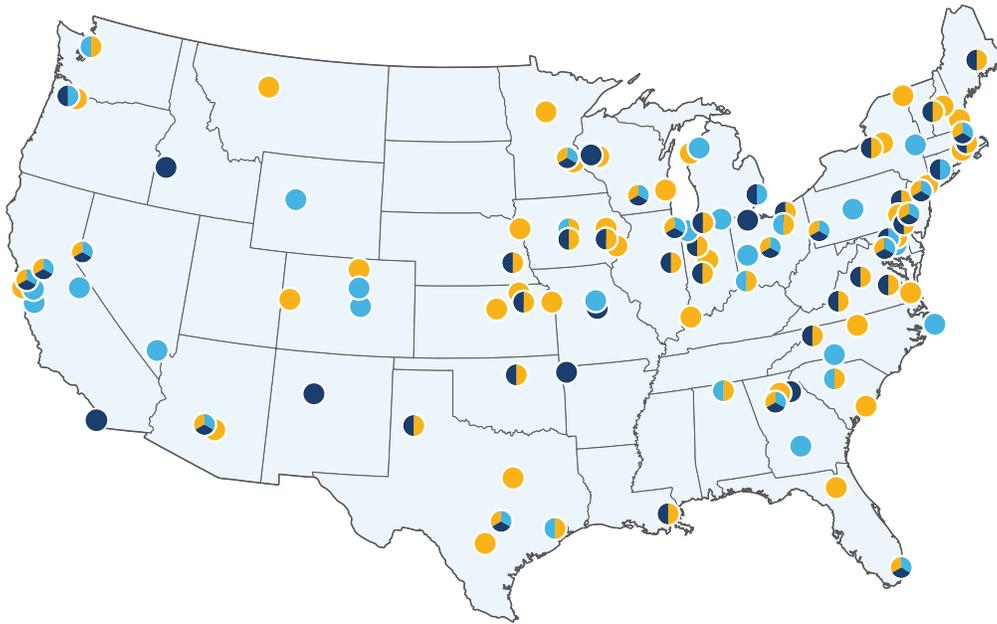




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Impact in the United States and Africa

Nearly 4,400 Fellows across Sub-Saharan Africa form an invaluable network of Fellowship Alumni who are spurring economic growth and prosperity, strengthening democratic governance, and enhancing peace and security across the continent.



Since 2014, 42 states and the District of Columbia have hosted Fellowship activities.

- **Institutes** – Educational institutions in 33 states and the District of Columbia have hosted Fellows since 2014.
- **Professional Development Experiences** – Fellows have completed **136,000 hours** of professional training at over **275 companies, organizations, and government agencies** in 29 states and the District of Columbia.
- **Reciprocal Exchanges** – Since 2015, U.S. citizens from 35 states and the District of Columbia have traveled to 42 countries in Africa for a Reciprocal Exchange.

- All 2019 Institute Partners reported that hosting a Leadership Institute strengthened ties with the community and local businesses.
- Since 2014, all Fellowship components have engaged corporate partners, including companies like Caterpillar, The Coca-Cola Company, Comcast, Dell, Deloitte, Facebook, Lufthansa Group, Microsoft, Oracle, Starbucks, and UPS.



New Portal helps Fellowship community thrive during pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fellowship leveraged stakeholder expertise to deliver a suite of virtual programming focused on strategic leadership during times of crisis. Since its launch in July 2020, nearly 1,800 individuals have accessed the Portal's 22 courses, resources, and collaborative network.

Learn more about the Portal at mwfellows.info/virtual.

“The Public Health Communication Strategies course has aided my work immensely. Using the insights gained, we were able to develop a training module for COVID-19 safety and awareness for small and medium enterprises in Addis Ababa.” – Suraphel Alemu, 2019 Fellowship Alumnus, Ethiopia

Learn more: mwfellows.info/suraphelvideo

 mandelawashingtonfellowship.org

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