



Cultural Partnerships in Downtown

A Partnership between ICES and Main Street Programs

International Cultural Exchange Services (ICES) wants to offer the opportunity for Main Street Communities across the US to receive thousands of dollars in income each year.

What is ICES:

ICES is a designated official exchange visitor program that operates under the regulations of the United States Department of State. ICES has been a member of the Alliance for International Educational and Cultural Exchange (ALLIANCE) since 1997 and is governed by the policies of the Council on Standards for International Education Travel (CSIET).

Cultural Partnerships in Downtown Explained:

ICES will present \$1,000.00 to community Main Street Programs across the US for each international exchange student placed by the program in the community.

- Main Street communities must apply and be selected as a Cultural Partnership on Main Street community.
 - To apply go to www.icesusa.org and fill out a request for an Area Representative Application Form.
 - When received, fill out and submit the Area Representation Application Form. Be sure to include the following initials next to your name on the form: **CPMS**
- Applicants must be members in good standing of their state Main Street Program and the National Main Street Program.
- Once the application is received, reviewed and accepted, the Main Street Program will be certified as a Cultural Partnership in Downtown Program.
- Each certified Cultural Partnerships in Downtown Program will be asked to place at least two or more International Cultural Exchange Students with host families in their community.
- Local Main Street Programs must partner with their local/area high schools for this program.

Program Training:

- Training and all printed materials, forms, etc. will be supplied to the program at no cost as follows:
 - Initial training will be provided to the Main Street director by ICES staff following program selection.
 - Advanced training will be provided to any Main Street Program director placing two or more students between June 15 -August 15, 2007. The advanced training will be in Las Vegas, Nevada in September 2007. (Expenses for training, including travel and stay, will be covered by ICES.)

Main Street Program Responsibilities:

- Once selected, each MS Program will:
 - Interview and select host families
 - Meet with principal(s) of participating local high school(s)
 - Place Exchange students
 - Turn in initial paperwork
 - Meet exchange students (along with host family) when they arrive for the 10 month stay.
 - Note: The MS Organization Committee can be responsible for these upper points
 - Turn in a monthly report on each student (can be done over the internet)
 - Host a Host Family, Student, and Community orientation/social in the downtown at the start of the school year to introduce the student to the community. (This can be a function of the MS Promotions Committee. The event can be sponsored by a local business and can generate a lot of publicity for the local program)
 - Include the exchange students and host families in their MS Program events and activities throughout the school year.
 - Host a farewell social in the downtown prior to the students' departure at the end of the school year. (This can be a function of the MS Promotions Committee. The event can be sponsored by a local business and can generate a lot of publicity for the local program)

Income for MS Program:

- Each local Main Street Program will receive \$1,000.00 for every student placed as follows:
 - \$500.00 per student following placement and completion of required paperwork
 - \$500.00 per student at the end of the 10 month stay following completion of required paperwork and activities

Additional Benefits to the MS Program:

- Hosting international students is a way to bring international tourists to the community. 80% of exchange students have their parents, other family members or friends visit during their 10 month stay. Often times these people will return for future visits, bringing along other family members and friends. These “tourists” spend money in the local community, contributing to the local economy.
- Offers an opportunity to receive additional income for the MS program
- Offers the opportunity to promote MS program in the local/area broadcast and print media
- Focuses positive attention on downtown
- Creates an opportunity to involve more local citizens in the MS program. Helps to promote volunteerism.
- Opens the door for young people to become involved in the program. Presents an opportunity for them to volunteer for MS events and activities.
- Helps the local program to involve more families in the downtown revitalization efforts. Gives the program the opportunity to educate these citizens about downtown revitalization.
- Provides additional training to MS managers and directors in promotion and organization at no additional charge.
- Forms valuable partnerships with local high schools, community groups and organizations.

Liability and Insurance Information:

- ICES accepts all liability with liability insurance for all Reps (program managers) and Students. All exchange students have health insurance and spending money.

Exchange Students Responsibilities:

- International exchange students chosen for this program must agree to give at least 10 or more community service hours to the local Main Street Program.

Additional Information:

- For more information on this program, please contact Tim Hartley, Assistant Director, ICES Cultural Partnerships in Downtown Program – 250 North Third Street – Danville, KY 40422 – 859/583-4899 or THartleyCPMS@aol.com