

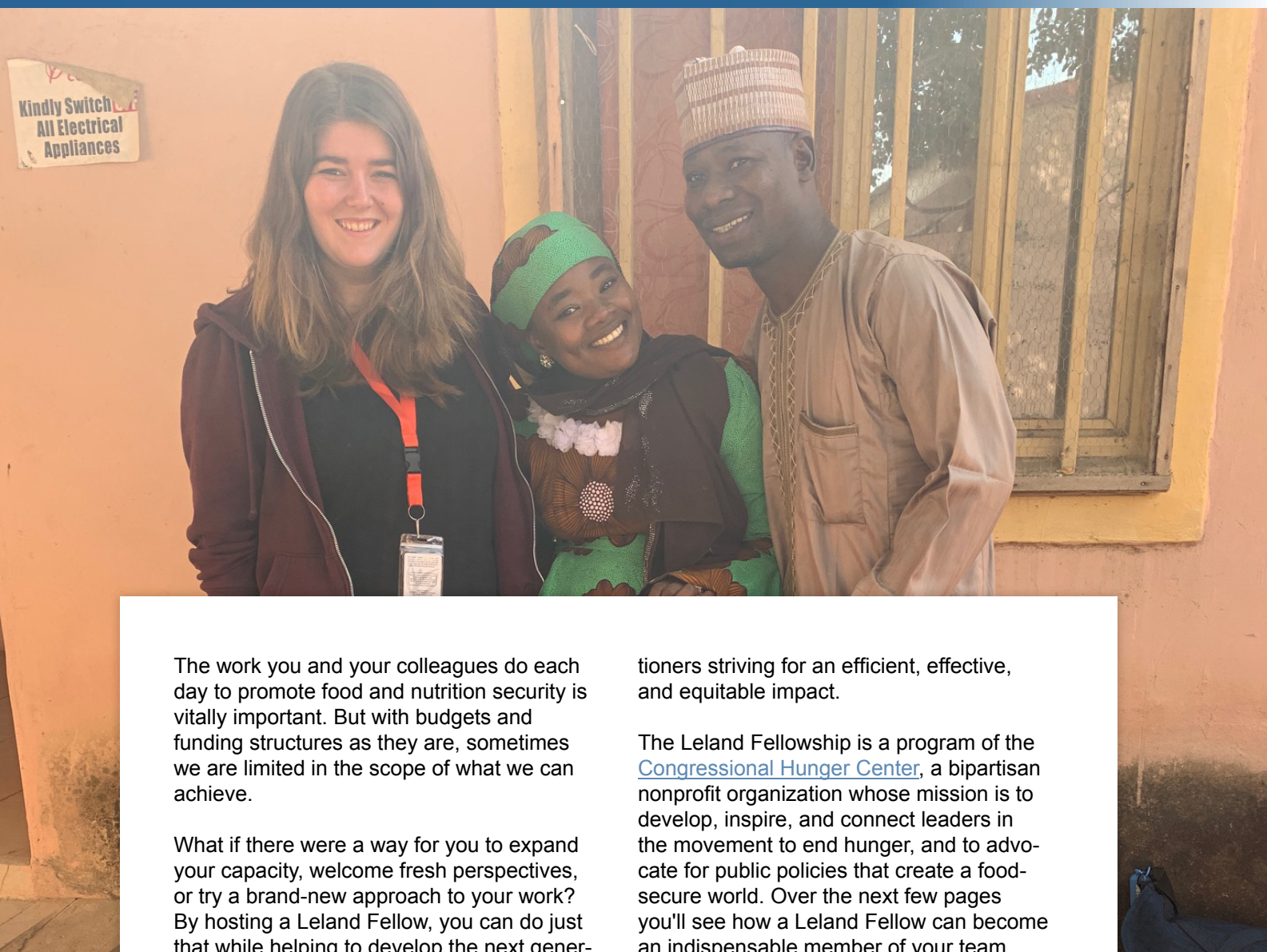


# MICKEY LELAND INTERNATIONAL HUNGER FELLOWSHIP



## 2023-2025 Host Application Guide

# Introduction



The work you and your colleagues do each day to promote food and nutrition security is vitally important. But with budgets and funding structures as they are, sometimes we are limited in the scope of what we can achieve.

What if there were a way for you to expand your capacity, welcome fresh perspectives, or try a brand-new approach to your work? By hosting a Leland Fellow, you can do just that while helping to develop the next generation of food and nutrition security practitioners.

Each class of Leland Fellows is a dedicated cohort of aspiring change-makers who bring a wealth of skills and experience. By hosting a fellow, you are adding valuable human resources to your team as well as making an investment in a rising generation of practi-

tioners striving for an efficient, effective, and equitable impact.

The Leland Fellowship is a program of the [Congressional Hunger Center](#), a bipartisan nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop, inspire, and connect leaders in the movement to end hunger, and to advocate for public policies that create a food-secure world. Over the next few pages you'll see how a Leland Fellow can become an indispensable member of your team. We hope to hear from you!

*Laura N. Henderson*

**Laura Henderson**  
Director  
Mickey Leland International  
Hunger Fellowship Program

▲ 10th Class Fellow **Tiphaine Monroe** ('19-'21, left) with Mercy Corps colleagues in Borno State, Nigeria, January 2020.



## PART I

# What is the Leland Fellowship?

The Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship is a two-year leadership and professional development program that trains committed young people in the movement to end hunger worldwide.

Each class of 12 to 15 fellows gain experience and professional skills as they add capacity to their host organizations in development or humanitarian placements around the world. Each class forms a learning cohort, sharing knowledge and insight and growing together. And the Hunger Center's dynamic leadership development curriculum centers the skills required to create change in the international development and humanitarian sectors.

## WHAT IS THE HUNGER CENTER?

Founded in 1993 by a bipartisan group of Members of Congress, we are a nonprofit organization dedicated to the principle that access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally appropriate food is a basic human right. We develop, inspire, and connect leaders in the movement to end hunger, and advocate for public policies that will create a food secure world.

## WHO WAS MICKEY LELAND?

The namesake of our fellowship, **Rep. Mickey Leland**, was a Congressional champion for eliminating hunger around the world. Leland died at the age of 44 in a plane crash visiting humanitarian sites in Ethiopia. While his untimely death robbed the world of a true leader and advocate in the fight against hunger and poverty, his passion and dedicated efforts serve as inspiration and foundation for our anti-hunger work. [Learn more about Rep. Leland.](#)

► *Top to bottom: Leland Fellow **Marissa Nowicki** ('19-'21) discusses cowpeas with a farmer in Kenya; Rep. **Mickey Leland** (1944-1989)*



# Why Host a Leland Fellow?

Hosting a Leland Fellow gives you dedicated capacity to *do more*. Whether it's enhancing existing programming, trying something new, or bringing new perspectives and experience to your office, fellows make a valuable addition to your team.



## **Flexibility and Capacity**

From existing projects that need extra hands to new initiatives that require dedicated focus, fellows can fill gaps and allow you to do more.



## **Training the Next Generation**

Through an extensive application and interview process, the Hunger Center selects independent, proactive young professionals with a growth mindset, ready to add skills and energy to your team. Hosting a Leland Fellow gives you expanded capacity without an intensive search and at a reasonable cost.



## **Education, Experience, and Great Value**

Fellows comprise a diverse and talented pool of emerging development professionals committed to food and nutrition security and an equitable international development sector. Hosting a fellow provides an opportunity to contribute to the growth of one of these future leaders.



▲ *Stella Nordhagen ('13-'15) poses with her fellow fellows, Washington, D.C.*



Beyond direct work experience with your organization, Leland Fellows are part of a rigorous professional development training program that helps them build on their day-to-day work experience to find where they can best contribute in ending global hunger.

#### **Cohort Model**

Each class of fellows forms a community of practice, where they share experience with a supportive network of peers. Fellows help each other question, troubleshoot, learn, and develop a deeper understanding of the sector and their place in it than they could on their own.

#### **Advising**

The Hunger Center supports Leland Fellows throughout the program with regular coaching and advising.

#### **Training and Curriculum**

At set points of the fellowship, fellows participate in group trainings, retreats, and e-learning. These focus on food and nutrition security, public policy, and positionality in food security work. Our [leader-ship curriculum](#) builds fellows' core capacities to become effective agents for change in the food and nutrition security sector.

#### **Stipend**

The Hunger Center provides each fellow a financial package based on cost-of-living in each of the two placement locations.



▲ Fellow **Adam Norikane** ('07-'09) presents his field work with Christian Children's Fund in Zambia



**Isis Blanco Vera** ('17-'19), placed with Foundation for Ecological Security & International Food Policy Research Institute in Anand, India and Washington, D.C.



Dr. David J. Williams

6



# Who Are We Looking For?

When you apply to host a Leland Fellow, you're applying on behalf of your institution to be a host organization, or *host org*.

Since the fellowship's founding in 2001, over 75 NGOs, government agencies, international organizations, foundations, private sector entities, and

research institutions have served as host orgs. We aim to place each cohort of fellows with a diverse group of host organizations.

## HOST ORG REQUIREMENTS

As the site of the fellows' on-the-job learning, host orgs are key partners in the fellowship experience. All host orgs must be able to provide fellows with:

- Substantive **scope of work** related to **food and/or nutrition security**
- Active **supervision**
- **Office space, equipment**, and resources necessary to complete scope of work
- **All job-related travel**, including travel and related expenses for updating visas, and field visits. The host organization must also cover all travel expenses for the fellow to get to and from placement locations outside of Washington, D.C., at the beginning of the fellowship, at the end of the first fellowship year, and at the very end of the two-year fellowship
- **Direction, assistance, and all costs** associated with securing proper visa/work permit for placement locations outside the U.S. This includes housing, food and other costs associated with applying for visas and visa renewals. Ensure your organization proactively provides the most up-to-date information regarding necessary visa acquisition and renewal. If you know that the country involved is particularly difficult regarding visa acquisition, be mindful that fellows may need more guidance and assistance from your organization
- **First response** in case of medical, political, or security emergencies.

Host orgs also contribute a **host fee**, based on that organization's budget, which helps cover the costs of operating the fellowship. See below for the range of host fees for the 12th Class of Leland Fellows.

| Host Org Budget* | Host Fee (Per Year) |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Under \$10M      | \$22,000            |
| \$10M — \$25M    | \$24,000            |
| \$25M — \$50 M   | \$26,000            |
| \$50M — \$100M   | \$28,000            |
| Over \$100M      | \$30,000            |

\* Budget refers to the host organization's *total* budget, not to a specific country office or other office of the host organization. All budgets and host fees in U.S. dollars.

## OUR UNIQUE STRUCTURE

At the Hunger Center we know that ending hunger will require policy solutions; we also know that good policy must be grounded in the daily reality of people experiencing hunger. Accordingly, we require that each two-year fellowship gives the fellow experience in **community-based work** and **policy formulation**. Generally this happens in two different locations: a country office and a regional or headquarters office, one year at each. We call these two settings *placements*. This unique two-placement structure gives fellows critical breadth of experience with the sector and the systems that govern it as they discern how they can be most effective in ending hunger.

## RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

The Leland Program includes a **development track** and a **humanitarian track**, and we are looking for host organizations for both. Development track placements focus on building long-term food security or combatting chronic undernutrition. Humanitarian placements focus on assessing and treating acute undernutrition in areas facing short-term or protracted, complex crises.

## A FEW QUESTIONS

Hosting a fellow is a significant, multi-year undertaking. If you are thinking of applying to be a host org, here are a few questions for you to ask yourself:

- Will having a fellow allow you to do something new or better?
- Will hosting a fellow fill a critical gap?
- Is your organization committed to the fellow's learning over a two year period?
- Are there any internal structures or processes (HR, legal, etc.) that would make hosting a fellow difficult?
- Does your team have the time to supervise a fellow?
- Would the fellow's work enrich the lives of the community they would be serving?
- In addition to the host fee, can your team commit to covering necessary work-related travel expenses for both years of the fellowship?



▲ Mathias Pollock ('13-'15, left) with Mercy Corps colleagues near Coban, Guatemala.



Above all we look for host orgs who provide active supervision and who are excited to welcome fellows with a substantive statement of work focused on food and/or nutrition security.

The fellowship must include exposure to both program implementation and policy formulation at the organizational, local, national or international level. Fellows bring a wide range of personal and professional experience to their placements. The

Leland Program matches successful fellowship candidates to host organizations based on the skills and experience required by the proposed scope of work.



▲ **Bailey Adams** ('21-'23, front row left) with colleagues in Cambodia.

At their host organizations, past work plans have included:

- Agricultural market systems
- Agriculture and livelihoods
- Agriculture and nutrition linkages
- Chronic undernutrition
- Climate-smart agriculture
- Gender equity
- Humanitarian nutrition (MAM, SAM, and IYCF)
- Natural resource management
- Social inclusion
- Social protection and safety nets
- Water, sanitation and health

Fellows' work has included:

- Advocacy
- Coalition-building
- Communications
- Impact assessment
- Knowledge management
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Original research, quantitative and qualitative
- Policy analysis and design
- Project design
- Project management
- Secondary research
- Social and behavior change communication
- Strategy design
- Training design and delivery

Have questions about developing a scope of work? Contact Program Director **Laura Henderson** at [lhenderson@hungercenter.org](mailto:lhenderson@hungercenter.org)

# What are Key Program Dates?



**Early October 2022**

[Application for host orgs](#) goes live



**November 30, 2022**

Application for host orgs closes



**December 2022 — Early January 2023**

Leland staff review applications and interview applicants



**Late January 2023**

Preliminary selection of host org placements for matching



**February 17, 2023**

Preliminary scope of work due



**April — May 2023**

Leland Program staff matches host orgs with prospective fellows.

*Prospective supervisor and fellow have a chance to talk before confirming the match.*



**June — September 2023**

Onboarding and preparation for fellowship start

*Final scope of work defined. Agreements signed with fellows and host orgs; host orgs work with fellows to secure necessary visas or work permits, etc. and make travel arrangements for the first-year placement location. Host fees due.*



## 2023-2025 LELAND FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR



### October 2023

Fellowship begins with orientation in Washington, D.C.

First year placements begin

### April 2024

Mid-year retreat



### September 2024

First-year placements end

### October 2024

Fellows reconvene in Washington, D.C. for debrief and training.

Second-year placements begin



### April 2025

Mid-year retreat

### September 2025

Fellowship concludes



◀ From top: Fellows from the 10th Class ('19-'21) in discussion at orientation; fellows from the 11th Class ('21-'23) on retreat in Washington, D.C.; **Julia Shuck** ('15-'17) in discussion with colleagues in Anand, India; fellows from the 8th Class ('15-'17) meet with Hunger Center Founder Ambassador Tony Hall at a farewell lunch,



## NEXT STEPS FOR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS

If you are ready to host a Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellow, we're ready to connect with you—

### LET'S TALK

If you're brand new to the Leland Program, your first step is to schedule a call with our program staff to discuss your application. Reach out to Laura Henderson at [lhenderson@hungercenter.org](mailto:lhenderson@hungercenter.org) with some times you are available in the span of a few weeks.

### SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

For all the latest news from the Hunger Center, including updates on application deadlines and stories of fellows and their work, [make sure to join our mailing list.](#)

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We're on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)—follow us and say hello!

► **Curan Bonham** ('09-'11, left) surveys red chili peppers with Bioversity International in India.







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Have questions not covered by this guide?

Contact Program Associate

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Cover Photo: Leland Fellow **Onyinye Alheri** (seated on ground) with colleagues from World Food Program in Mozambique.

Page 6: Photo of rice field in Vietnam courtesy [Elettra Stefani](#).

Page 10: Photo of leaves courtesy [Alexander Cifuentes](#).

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