MICKEY LELAND
INTERNATIONAL
HUNGER FELLOWSHIP

2020 Host Application Guide
Introduction

We all know the challenge: the work you and your colleagues do every 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 personnepower to your team as well as making an investment in a rising generation of practitioners 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!

Emily Byers
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.
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 twelve to fifteen 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 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.

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. Learn more about Rep. Leland.
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, Leland 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 nominal 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 sector. Hosting a fellow provides an opportunity to contribute to the growth of one of these future leaders.

“Having been both a fellow and a supervisor, I can say that the experience is beneficial in both sides—fellows gain experience, expertise, and new connections while hosts get a dedicated colleague able to focus on specific projects that might not be feasible to do otherwise.”

**Stella Nordhagen** (’13-’15)
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.

**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 [leadership curriculum](#) builds fellows’ core capacities to become effective agents for change in the food and nutrition security sector.

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

**Stipend**
The Hunger Center provides each fellow a financial package based on cost-of-living in each placement location.

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


“Having a Leland fellow is a terrific opportunity for the fellow and an organization. It enables an organization to fill a gap or take an area of work to the next level with a fellow who is extremely talented and committed to ending hunger and malnutrition. The nature of the program—providing fellows an opportunity to spend a year in the field and another in a policy setting—helps an organization like CARE ensure that our policy/advocacy work is grounded in the experience of the [people] we serve. The two-year length of the program provides a tremendous chance to focus on a fellow’s professional development, foster ownership over an area of work, and create a strong working relationship with a fellow.”

Tonya Rawe, CARE International
Leland Fellows are selected through a rigorous application process and possess a diverse range of skills, education, and valuable experience.

The Leland Fellowship attracts applicants with a wide variety of educational backgrounds and areas of expertise. This word cloud (left) shows some of the academic fields of study from fellowship applicants.

Want to know more about the work Leland Fellows do? Here are some of their stories—in their own words:

- **Michelle DeFreese** ('15-'17), with Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), Morogoro, Tanzania & Washington, D.C., USA
- **Anthony Slaton** ('17-'19), with Adonai Partners in northern Uganda & Washington, D.C., USA
- **Rachel Gilbert** ('17-'19), with International Food Policy Research Institute in Lilongwe, Malawi & Washington, D.C., USA
- **Tina Pruna** ('17-'19), with Mercy Corps in Guatemala City, Guatemala & Washington, D.C., USA
PART III

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. In each cohort of fellows, we aim to have a mix of host organizations—from local, community-based organizations to intergovernmental bodies at the organizational, local, national, or international level.

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
- **Travel to and from** placement locations (negotiable for local organizations)
- **Direction, assistance, and all costs** associated with securing proper visa/work permit for placement locations outside the U.S.
- **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 11th Class of Leland Fellows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget*</th>
<th>Host Fee (Per Year)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 1 M</td>
<td>$7,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 M — 10 M</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 M — 100 M</td>
<td>$14,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt; 100 M</td>
<td>$18,300</td>
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</tbody>
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*All budgets and host fees in U.S. dollars.

▲ **The core of the fellowship is the set of interlocking relationships between host org, fellow, and the Hunger Center. By hosting a Leland Fellow, you are playing an essential role in the development of young leaders!**
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?
- 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?

▲ Rachelle Olden (’11-’13, top left) works with youth in El Salvador as part of her placement with World Vision.
Above all, we look for host orgs who are excited to welcome fellows with a substantive scope of work focused on food and/or nutrition security and active supervision.

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.

▼ Anthony Slaton (’17-‘19) in Washington, D.C.

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 Emily Byers at ebyers@hungercenter.org
What are Key Program Dates?

- **September 9, 2020**
  Application for host orgs goes live

- **November 30, 2020**
  Application for host orgs closes

- **December 2020 — Early January, 2021**
  Leland staff review applications and interview applicants

- **Late January 2021**
  Preliminary selection of host org placements for matching

- **February 17 2021**
  Preliminary scope of work due

- **April — May 2021**
  Leland Program staff matches host orgs with prospective fellows.
  *Prospective supervisor and fellow have a chance to talk before confirming the match.*

- **June — September 2021**
  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. Cost shares due.*
2021-22 LEeland Fellowship Calendar

October 2021
Fellowship begins with orientation and training in Washington, D.C.
First year placements begin

August-September 2022
First-year placements end

March 2022
Mid-year training (past venue: Nairobi, Kenya)

October 2022
Fellows reconvene in Washington, D.C. for debrief and training.
Second-year placements begin

March 2023
Mid-year training (past venue: Washington, D.C.)

August 2023
Fellowship concludes

▲ Clockwise from top: Fellows from the 10th Class ('19-'21) in discussion at orientation; fellows from the 9th Class ('17-'19) at mid-year training in Nairobi; fellows from the 8th Class ('15-'17) meet with Hunger Center Founder Ambassador Tony Hall at a farewell lunch; Marisa Nowicki ('19-'21); Luis Cabrera ('11-'13; center) and his WFP coworker speak with a woman in Guatemala
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. Simply use this Calendly link to pick a time that works for you.

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.