



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

AUGUST 2014

Greetings!

In our last newsletter I mentioned that we had just welcomed a Nigerian delegation for a one-week intensive program. The program included eleven officials from the Lagos State House of Assembly Service Commission, and provided an overview of the legislative system of the United States. We should have plenty of opportunities for future collaboration and programs. We also recently said goodbye to three social work professionals from Sweden, who spent the month of July training at local agencies and meeting prominent social work professionals.

In addition to the three International Professionals in Residence (IPR's) who are currently training in Columbus, we will soon be welcoming two social workers from Estonia, three Germans through the annual GIZ Program, three participants in our second annual India Youth Advocacy Program, and a delegation of 10 Chinese professionals through our partnership with Shenzhen Nanshan Social Organization Society. We are always looking for hosts for arriving professionals. Hosting an IPR is a great way to learn about their culture and to make a life-long friend. To read more about hosting and to meet the arriving IPR's go to [page 4](#).

The Taste of Columbus is less than two months away! As we get closer to the event, we are giving away two tickets to the first winner of this month's **Trivia Question**. The question is: What are the names of the **three Indian Youth Advocacy professionals** arriving to Columbus this fall? Submit your answers to [cipcols@aol.com](mailto:cipcols@aol.com). (Look inside for the answer.) Find out more about The Taste of Columbus on [page 5](#).

Sincerely,

Mark Poepelman, Executive Director

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## SAYING GOODBYE TO LORENA AND RATNA

At the end of this month we will be saying goodbye to two IPR's, Lorena from Colombia and Ratna from Nepal. It has been a pleasure getting to know both of them, we wish them the best, and we hope that they will stay in touch as they apply their training experiences in their future careers and projects.

### Lorena Loaiza

*"It's been such a wonderful experience. I've learned so much and I've met great people in this organization. I feel that I've grown personally and professionally in these past 18 months. I feel very fortunate to be surrounded by wonderful people and that I had this experience. Going back to my country is bittersweet; I wish I could stay longer, but at the same time I'm excited to see my family and friends; I miss them so much. I don't have any specific plans yet, but I'm very excited to start a new chapter in my life, a new adventure. Hopefully I'll get a nice job where I can apply my English skills and everything I learned in this training position."*

### Ratna Chhetri

*"First of all I would like to thank CIP for providing this wonderful opportunity and placement with US Together for a person who lives about 6,000 miles away from Columbus. I got a fabulous chance to get involved in the finance department of the organization and to gain and share knowledge on this subject."*

*I will apply my knowledge and skills to the development of the financial sector in my country. I am confident that newly obtained professional training will play a vital role for my career development. It will also play a significant role in serving the community in my country, Nepal, and the development of our organization there. I got a couple of chances to visit an area with a large Nepali community, which made me very happy. I guess my friends circle has increased to international periphery for lifetime. I feel proud and lucky that I am the first international participant from Nepal for CIP-Columbus."*



*IPR's with CIP Founders at the 40th Anniversary Celebration in May, 2014. From top left: Frances Khamayo, **Ratna Chhetri**, Kenny Wafula, Fatema Vanat, **Lorena Loaiza**, Ruth Schildhouse, Burt Schildhouse.*

## FAREWELL TO OUR SWEDISH SOCIAL WORKERS

During a three week training program in July, Ulrika Elofsson, Lisa Ekman, and Julia Jonaszon became familiar with the United States social work system. The delegates work within a variety of social work fields including therapy, teaching, domestic violence, and family therapy. While in Columbus, the group met with professionals from many organizations including The YWCA, LifeCare Alliance, HandsOn Central Ohio, and The OSU College of Social Work. During a two-day



visit to OSU, the delegates learned about the history of social work in the United States, social work licensure, homelessness, and family services. Our guests had a lot of opportunities to enjoy American culture including: Clippers and Crew games, hiking in the Hocking Hills, a tour at the Jane Addams College of Social Work, and lastly a visit to Holmes County with a horse and buggy ride with Amish friends.

*Josefa Trugilo (a social worker from Spain),  
Julia, Kathy (CIP staff), Lisa, and Ulrika  
enjoying the Chicago Skyline*

## INDIA YOUTH ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Three International Professionals in Residence (IPR) will be arriving in September as part of the India Youth Advocacy Program (IYAP). This program will take place from September 8<sup>th</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>. Their program will provide advanced training in the area of children with disabilities, with special focus on the hearing impaired. About the participants:

**Anjanaa Chattopadhyay** is originally from India and is a freelance Bengali interpreter, translator, proofreader, and copywriter. She has been volunteering as a counselor for cancer patients for the past eight years and has also worked with underprivileged youth. Anjanaa is eager to work with hearing impaired and disabled individuals and learn how to improve the systems present in India.

**Resham Mahtaney** is originally from Singapore but now resides in Mumbai, India. She has worked with an organization called Asha Daan where she helps handicapped children and is now working with the NGO, Cancer Patients Aid Association. Resham hopes to learn how to empower youth with disabilities.

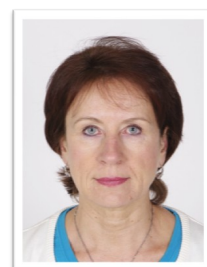
**Natty Lopes** is originally from India and has been working as a social worker for quite some time. She is very interested in working with underprivileged and disabled youth and learning how to foster important skills in them for thriving in this day and age. Natty is a member of CIF (Council of International Fellowship) India, and we look forward to future collaborations with CIF India.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST?

Hosting an international guest is a great way to learn about another culture and to make a life-long friend. Whether you are a single person, a working couple, a family, or a retiree, you can serve as a host. Hosts do not need to speak their guest's native language because most speak English, and many welcome the opportunity to practice their English skills. Not only do host families help an individual learn about American culture, but they also gain first-hand experience with guests from a different country. Hosts can earn a tax deduction, are invited to attend our events free-of-charge, and may be eligible to receive a monetary stipend. As a host, we ask that you provide the following services to your guests: breakfast and dinner, a private bedroom (preferably a private bathroom as well), transportation as needed (we can help coordinate this).

We are looking for hosts for the following IPR's:

**Malle Luik** is a Clinical Psychologist from Estonia. She will be in Columbus from September to December, and will need a host starting in October. Malle works as a music therapist for youth with disabilities, and as a counselor and psychologist. She has also taught music, piano, and psychology. While in Columbus, Malle will train as a music therapist at the Central Community House in Bexley.



**Kadie Alukula** is also from Estonia. Her training plan in Columbus will extend from October of 2014 to April of 2015. Kadie works in Law and Social Sciences in the Ministry of Social Justice in Estonia. She is passionate about human rights protection in prisons and prison management. She will be training at the Metropolitan Community Services T.O.U.C.H. Program where she will gain experience in rehabilitation and helping at risk populations.



Ten **Social Workers from China** will train in Columbus from October 19<sup>th</sup> to November 8<sup>th</sup>. Their program will provide training in the fields of Social Work, Psychology, and Community Development. Please consider hosting one of the Social Workers arriving as part of this program. We are currently in the process of obtaining additional information. Additional details will be available soon.

Find out more about hosting, read testimonials of past hosts, and see pictures on our website at:

<http://www.cipcolumbus.org/become-a-host-family.html>



## SUPPORT THE BUCKEYE HEALTH CLINIC IN SOUTH SUDAN

Please consider supporting the Buckeye Health Clinic in South Sudan. Set up by Jok and Bol, two of the Lost Boys of Sudan who escaped the war and came to Ohio, the clinic has been providing medical attention, food, and supplies to people in need. Although South Sudan gained its independence three years ago, the country continues to be affected by ethnic warfare. Currently 40% of the population is in danger of famine. Since January 2014, the Buckeye Health Clinic has been able to help 216 families, totaling 1,200 individuals.



*Food delivery at the Buckeye Health Clinic*

Donations can be made through the Buckeye Health Clinic website, [www.southsudancclinic.org](http://www.southsudancclinic.org) or checks can be made to The Scioto Ridge United Methodist Church/South Sudan Clinic and mailed to 4343 Dublin Rd. Hilliard, Ohio 43026.

## THE 40TH ANNUAL TASTE OF COLUMBUS IS APPROACHING!

Our favorite time of the year is coming soon! This event will take place on September 28<sup>th</sup> at OCLC, Inc. 6565 Kilgour Place, Dublin, OH 43017 at 4:30 PM. This is our signature fundraising event. As a guest of our unique event you will have the opportunity to sample the many international cultures and cuisine present in Central Ohio. The cost for our event is **\$40.00 for members and \$45.00 for non-members**. [Purchase your tickets online now!](#) We are grateful to the sponsors that help make this event a success every year. Learn about the [Sponsorship Levels](#) and consider becoming a sponsor this year.

### **We need your help!**

We are currently accepting well-cared for international items to feature in our live and silent auctions or for our International Bazaar. The deadline for donations is September 1st. Please contact our office at 614-221-0034 or email [cipcols@aol.com](mailto:cipcols@aol.com) to let us know what you plan to donate. If you cannot deliver your items to us, please contact us, and we can arrange pick up.

Another bizarre request is making display units and decorations for the International Bazaar! We are looking for someone who is handy with woodwork and decorations to help us create an exciting structure that would give the feel of a real international market. Contact Kathy Moser at 614-221-0034 for additional details.

# UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

## AUGUST 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup>: "A KENYAN PERSPECTIVE"

BY KENNY WAFULA AND FRANCES KHAMAYO

**Time** 6:00 PM

**Location** Lalibela Restaurant and Bar (across from Masheter Ford, next to Donato's Pizza), 1111 S Hamilton Rd, Columbus, OH 43227

Cash bar will be available. Cost: \$15.00 per person.

SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>: NEW AMERICAN FESTIVAL

**Time** 9:00 AM—6:00 PM

**Location** YMCA North, 1614 Sandalwood Place

## SEPTEMBER 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>: INTERNATIONAL TASTE OF COLUMBUS

**Time** 4:30 PM—7:30 PM

**Location** OCLC Inc., 6565 Kilgour Place, Dublin, OH 43017

The event consists of foods from many international Central Ohio restaurants, cultural dances and music, and a live and silent auction.

**Cost** Tickets available [online](#). \$40.00 members, \$45.00 nonmembers.

## OCTOBER 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>: "A STAMMTISCH" WITH DRESDEN SISTER CITIES

**Time** 6:30 PM—8:30 PM

**Location** Mozart's Bakery & Piano Café,  
4784 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43214

Dresden Sister Cities welcomes you to their monthly Stammtisch: refreshments and conversations with others who share German interests.

**Save the Date! More details to come:**

**October 23rd** Nigerian Presentation by Lola Adewale

**November 18th** Annual meeting - "Estonia to Columbus"

*We are very grateful for the support  
of our corporate sponsors.*

If you are interested in becoming one of our  
corporate sponsors, you may do so [here](#).



Beck Foundation

