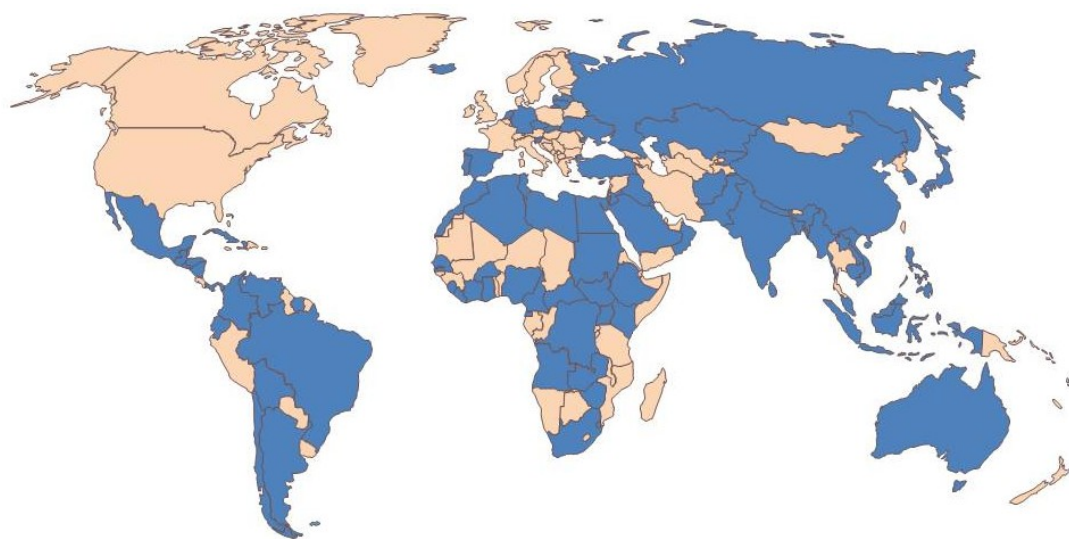




Annual Report 2017



www.gulfcoastdiplomacy.org

Journalism Economic Development Interfaith Diversity
Rule of Law Administration of Justice Environment
Promoting Global Relationships
Women's Rights US Society Agriculture Volunteerism
NGO Management Grassroots Democracy Energy
"One Handshake at a Time"
Emergency Preparedness Youth Performing Arts
Historic & Cultural Preservation Democracy & Human Rights

GULF COAST CITIZEN DIPLOMACY COUNCIL

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Because of the nature of our work, *welcome* and *farewell* are two words we say frequently at the Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council. Twenty seventeen was no different. We greeted 372 visitors and interpreters, our largest headcount ever, up from 316 in 2016 and 253 in 2015. This 47% increase in two years is testimony to the incredible teamwork of our members and supporters.

The year started with us saying goodbye to our dear friend and colleague Ashley Hardaway Theriot, and at the end of summer we wished Program Coordinator Matthew Rizzo well when he departed for a job in Spain. We said hello to new interns and staff members, began a program focusing on foreign affairs for local high school students, created a study abroad scholarship in Ashley's memory, and congratulated its first recipient. (Thank you to all who joined us in that effort!) Along the way we also greeted our first International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) participant from Cuba. Those were some pretty big hellos & goodbyes.

The U.S. Department of State sends visitors our way due to the special combination of hospitality, generosity, and expertise in our community. Whether you are a member, a volunteer, a professional, or a combination of these, your participation in citizen diplomacy helps move our region from local to global with the connections you create.

When I think of the hundreds of welcomes and farewells you extend to our visitors, it amazes me. Each is a bridge between our homes and theirs, and I thank you.



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MISSION

The Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council is a non-partisan, non-profit organization whose mission is to create and encourage collaboration between like-minded community stakeholders who value sharing the central Gulf Coast with the rest of the world by:

- Facilitating professional and personal interaction for international leaders during official visits to the central Gulf Coast
- Enhancing respect and communication through international exchanges and alliances
- Forging cultural, educational, and business relationships with the global community through citizen diplomacy
- Promoting greater understanding of global affairs in our community through a balance of public events, educational activities, and the IVLP
- Promoting the central Gulf Coast as an important center of commerce, culture, and tourism

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<i>Support and Revenue</i>	<i>FY 2017</i>	<i>FY 2016</i>
Grants	\$ 110,924	\$ 93,940
Program Service Revenue	\$ 37,486	\$ 37,942
Membership Dues	\$ 10,971	\$ 11,110
Income from Interest	\$ 133	\$ 341
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 29,502	\$ 33,685
Events	\$ 2,949	\$ 2,803
All Other Contributions	<u>\$ 35,797</u>	<u>\$ 3,250</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ 227,762	\$ 183,071
<i>Expenses</i>		
Program Services	\$ 174,131	\$ 146,496
Management & General	\$ 23,147	\$ 21,920
Fundraising	<u>\$ 9,074</u>	<u>\$ 11,389</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 206,352	\$ 179,805
<i>Liabilities & Assets</i>		
Cash & Savings	\$ 121,652	\$ 100,242
Other Assets	\$ 1,428	\$ 1,428
Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & ASSETS	\$ 123,080	\$ 101,670

GULF COAST CITIZEN DIPLOMACY COUNCIL

IMPACT

Did you know ten Nobel Laureates, over 500 former chiefs of state or heads of government, and thousands of non-profit and private sector leaders are International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) alumni? Did you see seven IVLP alumni were included in TIME's list of 100 Most Influential People in 2017 and that our own organization welcomed people from 101 different countries the same year? Citizen diplomats are busy planting seeds of mutual understanding here at home and around the world!

Without our friends in the community, our work would be much harder. In 2017 we partnered with the Institute for Women in Politics of Northwest Florida to host a speaking engagement for an International Woman of Courage and we accepted the invitation of the University of West Florida (UWF) to help them celebrate Chinese New Year in downtown Pensacola during Gallery Night.

To foster informed dialogue and to prepare area youth for an increasingly interconnected world, we hired four university interns, sent international visitors into 26 area classrooms, and worked with dozens of local and international high school students through two U.S. Department of State youth leadership exchanges. We also began recruiting for Youth Diplomats, a high school program for local students interested in foreign affairs.

The Young Professionals of the Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council held their first summer party and hosted three mixers. We offered 13 community coffees, two potlucks, and held a membership celebration. Members also welcomed 67 professionals into their homes for meals. We joined groups at Bands on the Beach, gave them driving tours, and took them sailing. All visitors & interpreters received honorary citizenship with the city from the City of Pensacola.





We received the Friends of Diversity Award from UWF, participated in Habitat for Humanity Day at the Montessori School, convinced Crowdrise to feature Ashley's scholarship on the first page of their website, and established Ashley's scholarship at UWF. Two of our staff and one of our Young Professionals participated in the filming of a conversation for the UWF Cross-Cultural Competency course, and our executive director led a panel discussion in New Mexico on volunteer management for professionals in the IVLP network.



We partnered with ARC Gateway, CIVITAN, Feeding the Gulf Coast, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Manna Food Pantries, Ocean Hour, the Ronald McDonald House, Serving the Hungry at First United Methodist Church of Pensacola, and the Waterfront Rescue Mission to coordinate 23 volunteer activities for visitors.



We continued to look for outreach opportunities. We spoke to three civic organizations and facilitated 265 meetings between locals and international visitors. One of our IVLP participants was featured on *Conversations with Jeff Weeks*, and other local media featured our work in 20 additional articles and pieces.

It was a busy year for citizen diplomacy in northwest Florida!

LOCAL IMPACT

GULF COAST CITIZEN DIPLOMACY COUNCIL

ESCAMBIA & SANTA ROSA COUNTIES, FLORIDA

Economic Impact Calendar Year 2017

<p><u>U.S. Department of State & U.S. Library of Congress Lodging Funding</u> The Citizen Diplomacy Council hosted 372 visitors & interpreters in 2017 who stayed in local hotels a total of 1,485 nights.</p>	<p>\$190,709</p>
<p><u>U.S. Department of State Transportation Funding</u> Funds were provided for local transportation of delegates in tour buses. <i>This figure does not include their flights into Pensacola International Airport nor does it include the occasional rental car transactions handled directly by the interpreters.</i></p>	<p>\$68,751</p>
<p><u>U.S. Department of State Per Diem & Visitors' Personal Expenditures</u> Each adult professional & interpreter received a per diem of \$60 a day to use for taxis and food. In addition, delegates spent a considerable amount of time in their off-hours shopping. (\$60 a day x 1,485 days in town = \$89,100 + unknown shopping expenditures)</p>	<p>\$89,100</p>
<p><u>U.S. Department of State & U.S. Library of Congress Grants</u> The council received four grants from the U.S. Department of State, one grant from the U.S. Library of Congress, and one grant from the Stevens Institute for its citizen diplomacy work.</p>	<p>\$111,827</p>
<p><u>U.S. Department of State & U.S. Library of Congress Cultural Funding</u> Additional funds were provided for cultural activities, meetings, leadership training, and honorariums.</p>	<p>\$23,804</p>
<p><u>Corporate, Individual, and Special Fundraising Contributions</u> Financial and in-kind contributions from corporations and individuals provided support in the form of monetary contributions and in-kind donations.</p>	<p>\$43,287</p>
<p><u>Volunteer Support</u> An estimated 1,368 hours of volunteer time were donated by community volunteers. In addition, approximately 477 hours of volunteer time were donated in the two counties by the international guests themselves through presentations to classrooms, environmental volunteer projects, assistance at an area soup kitchen, and work in an area food bank. The total value of all volunteer hours is estimated at \$41,882. The Independent Sector calculates the average value of each hour of volunteer time in Florida, based on 2016 figures provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, at \$22.70; Please note that 2016 is the latest year for which state-by-state numbers are available as there is a lag of almost one year in the federal government's release of state-level data.</p>	<p>\$41,882</p>
<p>Economic Impact in Escambia & Santa Rosa Counties</p>	<p>\$569,360</p>

GULF COAST CITIZEN DIPLOMACY COUNCIL

2017 SAMPLE VISITOR & INTERPRETER FEEDBACK

The volunteerism appointment was [the appointment most beneficial to me] because it is a concept that we don't have in our country and plus it was a hands-on experience.

- IVLP participant from Cyprus (February 2017)

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast was [the appointment most beneficial to me because] I want to be able to start a similar program back in my country.

- IVLP participant from Philippines, (March 2017)

[What was most memorable were] the interactions we had with the students at AMIKids, the evening mixer [with members], and the presentation of Honorary Citizenship.

- IVLP participant from Zambia (May 2017)

There is a saying that the best way to experience a country is by living with the local family. The home hospitality made [our time here] so memorable.

- IVLP participant from Sri Lanka (August 2017)

Your program packet is the best and most useful [in the Global Ties U.S. network] I have seen.

- IVLP French interpreter (October 2017)

MEMBERSHIP

The Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council relies on its members for hospitality efforts and project facilitation. In 2017, in addition to attending community coffees, members hosted dinners and brunches, attended our April International Woman of Courage event, came to an October "Members Make the Magic Happen" reception, and were invited to volunteer alongside visitors. Our Young Professionals hosted evening mixers, hosted dinners of their own, and assisted in driving international visitors to area events.

Of our 165 members, 120 held paid memberships. We gave honorary membership to 44 people in appreciation for hosting visitors for eight days or more in their homes.

At our May 2017 Mint Jubilee, we introduced the awardee of our Dr. Jack Kichler Hospitality Award. Member Liz Yelverton frequently invites international visitors to dinner in her home and almost always serves as a back-up host. In addition, Liz and her family research the national anthems of their guests and play them on the piano as a welcoming gesture. When we began hearing this from our international visitors we were simply blown away!

We would also like to thank a special crew of member volunteers. Throughout the year, Pamela Caudill, Patricia McGraw, Jean Norman, Susan Senkarik, and Julie Tippins Parker dedicated much time to facilitating many of the projects sent our way. We could not have done it without them!

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Lucy's in the Square

McMahon & Hadder

Mode Mind & Body

Seville Quarter

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U.S. Department of State

University of West Florida, International Affairs

Visit Pensacola

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