



Global Community Fellowship

Position Description at BEAM Education Foundation

Overview

The Global Community Fellow plays a critical role in supporting capacity-building, education, and training initiatives of local institutions designed to address specific needs and challenges in the local community. By working directly with communities, fellows gain hands-on experience with organizations in Asia using creative and innovative methods to address critical social challenges while applying their knowledge and skills to further grassroots social change.

Post Summary

Joining the Compulsory Education Program as Program Associate and GED Reasoning Through Language Arts Instructor, the fellow at BEAM will mainly support their Community Youth Leadership Development (CYLD) program whose vision is to produce emotionally healthy, socially responsible, community-serving, and globally-minded young migrant leaders ready to pursue higher education opportunities. To help achieve their mission, the fellow will assist in nurturing:

- Youth from marginalized backgrounds who are self-aware, optimistic, learning-oriented, and resilient
- Youth who are active, communicative, and connected to the world around them
- Youth who are courageous, persistent, and passionate about social change, and
- Youth who are ready and qualified to pursue higher education opportunities anywhere in the world

In order to achieve this, the fellow will collaborate with BEAM staff in developing students' leadership skills, coordinating civic engagement opportunities, facilitating socio-emotional development, and implementing English-language training. Furthermore, the fellow will help students prepare to join experiential learning programs once they complete the GED (General Educational Development) portion of CYLD.

By working directly with BEAM staff and the migrant community in Chiang Mai, the fellow will have the opportunity to:

- Engage with a rapidly growing network of local changemakers and support social, environmental, and academic leadership development of migrant youth through intentional program design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.
- Learn about Thailand and Burmese culture through pre-departure training, on-site orientation, and project-based collaboration with Burmese counterparts.
- Understand social issues in Thailand, Myanmar and border areas especially those related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as quality education and sustainable cities & communities.

- Participate in the development of migrant education programs along the Thai-Myanmar border through partnerships with local groups and learning from them.
- Teach GED subjects to give Burmese migrant and refugee students the skills and knowledge they need to pass the GED, which is a high school equivalency diploma that will help them to continue college or university.
- There is also potential for a hybrid work context and a semi-flexible schedule.

About the Partner

BEAM is a non-profit educational foundation that emerged in 2010 in response to the educational needs of migrant and refugee youth in Myanmar and Thailand. The organization is dedicated to crafting programs and collaborating with partners to cultivate and support local, people-oriented communities in the two countries. Their current primary activities include facilitating integration and reintegration of migrant people in Thailand and Myanmar through the Youth Community Engagement Program, which includes three language programs, a youth conference, and working closely with the Thai government to carve legal pathways for migrant youth education. They also work in collaboration with governments, migrant learning centers, and Thai and Myanmar community-based organizations to establish a migrant education system with mutual accreditation. Fellows can seek out Thai language lessons (longer-term online/private or an immersive 15-day course) at [We Learn Thai](#) or the Thai Short Course at Chiang Mai University's Language Institute.

About the Location

Chiang Mai is the current cultural, commercial, and tourism center of northern Thailand and has a population of roughly 150,000. It is approximately 360 km from the Myanmar border. The greater metropolitan area boasts several of Thailand's top universities. Chiang Mai is home to over 100 important Wats (Buddhist temples), a major Buddhist university, and colorful festivals such as Loi Krathong, known for the release of lanterns and *krathong* or buoyant decorated baskets. The city is considered the coffee capital of Thailand, with hundreds of chain and local cafés to choose from. Fans of spice and early risers can enjoy a bowl of *khao soi*, a noodle dish found in Northern Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar often consumed in the morning, while night owls can enjoy fresh fruit, street food, and handmade goods at one of Chiang Mai's well-known night markets. While the city's expat/[digital nomad community](#) (one of the largest in the world) makes Chiang Mai friendly to an English-speaking newcomer, tourism and the "serious leisure" culture of established foreign communities negatively impact the area's natural environment, exacerbate socioeconomic disparities, and continue to reshape the city to suit so-called "location independent" professionals' interests and needs.

Position Responsibilities

- Program Design, Management, and Leadership Functions
 - Meet weekly with the CYLD Leadership team to build and improve the CYLD program.
 - Develop curriculums that align with the values of the CYLD program.
- People Engagement, Management, and Leadership Functions
 - Assist with the recruitment of teachers, interns, volunteers, and students for the CYLD Program.
 - Lead the team of CYLD teachers and volunteers to:
 - meet monthly with teachers to discuss teaching
 - coordinate professional development programs

- communicate regularly with teachers
- Engage regularly with students in the CYLD program, mentoring and counseling students regarding scholarships, university applications, and other student related issues.
- Connect with alumni for scholarship opportunities and collaborative projects/knowledge sharing sessions.
- Mentor and counsel students regarding scholarships and universities.
- Schedule student GED Exams and coordinates payment of exam fees through BEAM.
- GED Language Arts Instructor Functions
 - Teach English Reading & Writing based on the GED 2014 curriculum. 4 lessons per week (6 hours total).
 - Create lesson plans and teaching lessons on Zoom.
 - Utilize the online learning platform to assist with teaching.
 - Provide academic feedback and assisting with university applications, writing recommendation letters for students if requested.
 - Create, proctor, and grade semester exams.
 - Post-GED Experiential Learning
 - Develop new and existing partnership projects such as international exchange programs, community engagement related projects, institutional volunteer/internship programs, etc.
 - Organize community-building events, such as field trips, etc., information sessions about scholarships, universities, and careers; cultural activities.
 - Serve as liaison between VIA and BEAM in the Post-GED Experiential Learning Program (TBD)
 - Other Projects
 - Assist with the design of impact assessment tools like Google surveys, etc. to evaluate program outcomes and improve effectiveness.
 - Assist Program Director in writing CYLD program yearly report.
 - Program responsibilities as assigned

Eligibility Requirements

- Academic: At minimum, completion of a 4-year undergraduate degree
- Language skills: English (fluent), Thai/Burmese not required but basic Thai/Burmese skills and interest in learning either language is preferred.

Preferred Qualifications

- Teaching
 - Prior teaching experience is preferable.
 - GED and a background in American education are preferred.
 - Excellent knowledge of the designated subject and the latest educational theories & practices.
 - Passion for teaching and organization skills
 - Patience, flexibility and strong communication skills
 - Commitment to helping students achieve their maximum potential
 - Creative, strategic thinker who is people-oriented and emotionally intelligent
- Community Development

- Experience working with migration populations and migrant issues
- Interest in supporting grassroots social change organizations
- Interest in and/or experience working with social issues in Asia or the US
- Experience coordinating volunteers
- Experience conducting outreach/relationship building w/community partners
- General
 - Strong organizational skills
 - Ability to work independently and in a team
 - Willingness to learn and implement good teaching practice using technology
 - Flexible and able to support with unexpected changes
 - Ability to serve as effective bridge between multiple stakeholders
 - Strong oral and written communicator, especially in cross-cultural contexts
 - Respect for students' diversity and commitment to helping students achieve their potential

Professional Development

Fellows have the opportunity to develop and strengthen many transferable skills, including:

- Mentorship - Develop peer and expert mentoring relationships with students and collaborators; give feedback, share resources, and connect to new networks
- Facilitation - Design and facilitate training sessions for small and large groups
- Program design - Opportunities for innovation in the program design and implementation (You have the freedom to design the program as you see fit through working with the program coordinator and CYLD Leadership Team.)
- Project management - Utilize frameworks including logic models and needfinding tools; help ensure projects reach development milestones
- Cross-cultural Skills - Deepen understanding of social change initiatives in a new cultural context
- Team Development - Support teams in navigating conflict and building effective collaboration practices
- Sustainability - Learn how to think critically about the three pillars of sustainability (people, planet, profit) in the context of social impact initiatives
- Virtual/Hybrid Work Skills - Learn how to build relationships in a virtual and distributed environment; Help teams manage time effectively when accommodating different time zones and work styles; use tools for effective remote work (Slack, content & community building platforms, etc.)
- Recruitment - Learn how to assess applicants to ensure a strong and diverse cohort