

Russian students arrive in May

Once again, World Services will host a group of university students from Russia with our Wisconsin International Student Experience program. Volunteer coordinator Pete Keeffe (below) is the “backbone” of the program,

working with area businesses to identify jobs and coordinating recruitment and selection with partners in Dubna, Russia. Students will arrive May 25 and work throughout the summer.



Members of the La Crosse Dubna Friendship Association hosted a farewell picnic for students last summer. Center are Busya Lugovier and Pete Keeffe making traditional “shashlik”.



World Services of La Crosse joins organizations across America this month in expressing our gratitude for your volunteer contributions of time and talent!

Volunteers make time in busy professional settings to offer mentoring and fresh ideas to participants in exchange programs. Government officials share insights about civil society, elections and representative government. Home hosts share an invaluable experience with guests—offering time in their homes, activities with children and friends, meals, transportation and so much more! To teachers and nurses, physicians and tourism directors, we offer our heartfelt thanks!

Be a part of dispelling myths about America

International visitors have media-based assumptions about Americans. Each time a delegation visits the United States many of those assumptions are dispelled as they experience American life first hand with host families. For example, past visitors have been surprised by how cheerful Americans are, how well they treat their gardens and their homes, their love of nature and how open relationships are.

You can be part of giving inter-

national visitors an authenticity they don't see in the media by volunteering to host one or more of them in your home. Ten physician leaders from the Republic of Moldova, will be visiting the 7 Rivers Region in and around La Crosse May 12 – June 2. Their visit, hosted by World Services of La Crosse, is made possible through Community Connections, a program managed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and administered

by World Learning. The delegation will be learning about hospital administration and how systems and standards here can benefit them in their home country. They also will have the opportunity to learn about the American way of life by living with local families and participating in community events.

We appreciate your assistance and trust you will experience the rewards of making new friends with our global neighbors.



Open World Delegations – April-June, 2010

Hosting Location	Topic	Dates	Country
International Institute of Buffalo Buffalo, NY	Education	Apr 14 – 24	Ukraine
Irondequoit – Poltava Sister Cities Irondequoit, NY*	Education	Apr 14 – 24	Ukraine
Newton Sister City Organization (O.P.E.N.) Newton, IA	Education	Apr 14 – 26	Ukraine
Sister Cities of Santa Cruz Santa Cruz, CA*	Education	Apr 14 – 24	Ukraine
CROSSwalk People Helpers Loveland, CO*	Accountable Govern- ance: Energy Efficiency	June 3 - 13	Kazakhstan
Jackson-Monroe-Vernon Leadership Program Sparta, WI	Accountable Govern- ance: Strengthening Local Governance	June 3 - 13	Kazakhstan
Heart of Wisconsin Business Alliance Wisconsin Rapids, WI	Accountable Govern- ance: Women’s Political and Civic Leadership	June 3 - 13	Kazakhstan
Sebastopol World Friends Sebastopol, CA*	Accountable Govern- ance	Jun 9 -19	Ukraine
Pittsfield Charter Township Ann Arbor, MI	Accountable Govern- ance: Economic Devel- opment	June 17 – 27	Russia
Creating Great Places (CGP) Coon Rapids, IA	Accountable Govern- ance: Community De- velopment	June 17 – 27	Russia

Open World boosts Maryland, Leningrad ties

Through an agreement with Sister Cities International, World Services facilitates Open World Program exchanges which offer a special opportunity to link sister cities and sister states. In February, Maryland Sister States hosted a delegation to build stronger relations between the Maryland State Legislature and the Leningrad (Russia) Region Legislature. Shown below: Ardath Cade, Chair Sister State Committee; Aleksandr Petrov, Chair Committee on Health and Social Policy, Leningrad Legislature; Dmitriy Vornovskikh, Deputy, Leningrad Legislature; Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley; Maryland Secretary of State John McDonough and Tanya Sher, interpreter.



* Hosted in Partner-
ship with Sister Cities
International



**Connecting Communities.
Building Peace.**

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