



January 24th, 2012

Returnee Initiative



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

Please join the call by following the instructions in your confirmation email.

Attendee Introductions



- Name
- Current location
- **When** and **where** did you go on your AFS program?
- Current **RI Role**
- **One thing** you are looking forward to about Returnee Initiative

Agenda

- Introductions
- Interns- review current volunteer projects
- Welcome Home- Recent 2011 Returnees
- Upcoming events – National Day of Service
- Quarterly RI Newsletter



Structure – Patrick Matthews

Update

- Returnee Coordinator training
 - Trained **11** new Returnee Coordinators
 - Currently 20 Returnee Coordinators
 - Currently working on transitioning the Returnee Coordinator training into an online training
 - Starting Returnee Coordinator Calls at the end of January
- Returnee Coordinator helps with Welcome Home Events
- **Contact: Patrick @ Pmatthews@afs.org**

Network – Mireille Perzan

Update

- Created a **Google Form** – to easily submit requests for Returnee volunteers
- Created **Calendar Timeline**- to help plan and organize upcoming events
- **Integration Online Workshop** (February)-
Volunteers, Returnees, Returnee Coordinators, have an open dialog about what's preventing Returnees to get involved, What Returnees want, etc.
 - **Contact Mireille:** mperzan@afs.org

Returnee Mentor – Nora Mishanc-Novak

Update

- Recruited **25** new Mentors from Nov.14-18
Returnee Training Week
- **Reached Goal: 25 new mentors by 2012!!!**
- Send Survey to current Mentors to get
2011 feedback
- Prepare current Mentors to reach out to
their Mentees (2011 YR & SM Returning
Jan & Feb)
- Recruit recent 2011 Returnees to become
Mentors and registered AFS volunteers
- Contact Nora: NMishanec-Novak@afs.org

Returnee Ambassador

Update

- **Currently hiring for a RI Ambassador Intern**
 - Interested? [Apply: RI Wiki website](#)
- Recruited **13** new Ambassadors from Nov.14 -18 Returnee Training Week
- Completed **5 Share My AFS Story** Events
- Funding available to help fund your “My AFS Story” Event- **email: ksnyder@afs.org**
- Connect with local Area Teams to spread the word about Returnee Ambassadors
- Recruit recent 2011 Returnees to become Ambassadors in their communities

Returnee Country Specialist

Update

- **Currently hiring for a RI Country Specialist Intern**
 - Interested? **Apply: RI Wiki website**
- Recruited **22** new Country Specialists from Nov.14 -18 Returnee Training Week
- **13** CS participated in “Speak with A Returnee” winter departure calls.
- Recruit recent 2011 Returnees to become Ambassadors in their communities
- **contact: ksnyder@afs.org**

Communications

Update

- Currently hiring for a RI Communication Intern
 - Interested? [Apply: RI Wiki website](#)
- RI Welcome Home Event
 - Refer to **Welcome Home Event details** on RI Wiki
- Revamp AFS-USA website- **Returnee section**
- Help coordinate quarterly **E-Newsletter**
- Proposal for Mandatory Re-entry Orientations- decided this March!

Welcome Home Events!

- AFS encourages **teams** and **chapters** to hold a Returnee Welcome Home event to provide Returnees with an **inviting homecoming** and **encourage** their **continued engagement** with AFS, while **offering support** to their families.
- This January and February more than **120** AFSers are returning from their 2011 AFS programs abroad
- This includes students who departed on **year** programs and **semester** programs.
- Send an email to returneeinitiative@afsusa.org so we can track the national events and help promote your event

Upcoming Events 2012

- 1/25 @ 5:00 PM - 06:00 PM PST- [Online Fundraising Workshop](#)
- 1/31- Deadline for 3 RI Intern positions
- 2/6- New Interns start date
- 2/24-26- In person Intern Meeting, Portland, OR
- 3/15- **YR & SM Fall Programs** Full Application Deadline
 - (Returnees Can Go Abroad again!)
- 4/10- **Summer Programs** Full Application Deadline
- 4/21- **AFS National Day of Service**
 - <http://www.afsusa.org/serviceday/>
 - <http://www.afsusa.org/serviceday/five-steps-for-global-youth-service-day/>
- 7/TBA- **Returnee Training Summit in Washington D.C**



RI Newsletter Idea

- Quarterly E-Newsletter
- Reach out to **ALL** Returnees- information **at their finger tips**
- **Local** and **National** Information
- **Inspire Returnees** to get involved!
- Provide Key Contact people
- **Spotlight awesome Returnee Volunteers!!**
- Inform Returnees about **Upcoming Events:** local/national
- **Boost visibility** on AFS-USA

Newsletter cont... We need Your Help!

- Assist Interns in creating a quarterly E-Newsletter
- **First Publication: April 1st, 2012**
- **Second: August 1st, 2012**
- **Third: December 1st, 2012**
- We need your help in gathering information local/national, spotlight Returnees, pictures, etc.
- Newsletter Team of 4 Returnees???
- Interested? Contact Nora: NMishanec-Novak@afs.org

Thank you for attending!!!



**We appreciate how much you continue to give to AFS!
We couldn't do it without you!**