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**Council for World Mission  
A New Face Programme – Guyana 2011  
Description**

**Information for ministers participating in A New Face programme**

**AIM**

A New Faith And Culture Exposure programme to introduce clergy to a ministry context different to their own to stimulate theological reflection and to gain a cross-cultural perspective.

**METHODOLOGY**

A group of up to ten clergy will spend six weeks in Guyana hosted by Guyana Congregational Union. During this time there will be one week of orientation, then a placement with a local congregation and finally a one week evaluation/debriefing where participants can process and reflect on their experiences.

While the programme is not designed to form part of any formal academic course, it is expected that each participant will complete a report, which critically reflects on their experiences.

**HOSTS RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Guyana Congregational Union will appoint course coordinators who will accept overall responsibility for the group and assist in finding satisfactory placements.

The hosts will arrange the orientation programme and this will involve an introduction into local faith and culture. This teaching will be experiential and interactive and may involve visits to places of interest, dance, drama, videos and other medium that will help the students "experience" the host context, as well as classroom based teaching. GCU will also arrange the placements with different congregations in situations where it will be expected that programme participants take part in worship and share in ministry in a local context.

GCU will co-ordinate the evaluation/debriefing week. The debriefing may address issues such as: What was different from my own context? What have I learned about relating to people of other cultures? What did I find difficult/unexpected? What did I enjoy most? Each participant will be invited to make a presentation to the group which addresses these broad areas.

A member of the GCU will meet participants at the airport on their arrival into the country and take them back to the airport for their return journey.

The GCU will provide the appropriate accommodation for the group. CWM will confirm the numbers of men and women in the group and then the appropriate accommodation will be confirmed.

**CWM RESPONSIBILITIES**

CWM will promote the programme through its member churches and be responsible for the selection of participants in the programme.

CWM will arrange and pay for participant's international travel (however participants can arrange their own travel and be reimbursed by CWM after authorisation has been made by CWM for the participant to confirm the booking). CWM will pay the GCU accommodation and food costs incurred and give a small pocket money allowance to the participants to cover the "placement" period. CWM will pay local travel costs to and from the placement.

CWM will award a certificate of participation for each person in the programme.

**PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Participants are expected to be able to participate competently in English and participate for the full duration of the programme.

Participants must apply to participate in this programme on the prescribed CWM application form by the due date. Applications must be endorsed by your denomination's General Secretary.

Participants will be responsible for their own spending money above the pocket money allowance provided by CWM.

Participants must agree to be under the direction of the GCU staff for the full duration of the programme and to participate fully in the activities arranged by the host church.

To attend the programme, participants must arrange their own passports, visas for Guyana as well as transit visas where necessary. This needs to be done well in advance of travel (no less than 2 months prior to travel). Where you are not able to apply for visas in your country you will need to apply by courier or through a travel agent at your expense. Possibly your church can assist with these costs.

Participants should possess a good working knowledge of their own country, culture and church life and be prepared to share this with other participants and with the host community. Participation in the course presupposes a willingness to live and work with people from other cultures and to participate in community activities such as worship, shared meals and other common responsibilities which contribute to creating a harmonious group experience.

Participants are responsible for paying their own routine medical needs such as prescriptions, dental care etc. Participants traveling on behalf of CWM will have insurance cover. However in the event of a serious medical emergency, the insurance company will need to be contacted directly, to claim any insurance, failing to do this insurance will not be obtainable. All receipts and a Doctor's report will need to be produced.