



**San Antonio Council**  
FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS



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# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# Letter from the Executive Director

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Dear SACIV Members & Friends,

*Thank you for your support of SACIV and your role in acting as citizen diplomats and global ambassadors throughout San Antonio this past year!*

*It's certainly been an exciting year of impact and cross-cultural engagement, as we have increased the volume of US Department of State funded programs welcomed to San Antonio by a large margin from 2017. This past year, we hosted 40 programs, welcoming 319 visitors from as many as 91 countries to our city. Our programs focused on themes such as non-profit management, civic activism, media, refugee & immigration issues, economic development, education, and even sports diplomacy. In addition to hosting "International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP)" delegations, we expanded our portfolio by continuing to partner with Global Ties US to host training academies for three groups of Mexican police officers as part of the "Police Professionalization Exchange Program", as well as collaborating on new initiatives such as the "Open World", which brought educators from Ukraine to our city for a week, and the "Youth Basketball Conflict Resolution & Tolerance Camp", which brought 30 young athletes from five Eastern European countries to San Antonio for two weeks.*

*You - our members & the community - have been vital in guaranteeing that San Antonio has provided a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our visitors. You have volunteered over 400 hours of your time to ensure that our signature events, such as our "Annual Dinner", as well as our new "Membership Luncheon", were a tremendous success. Furthermore, our home hospitality hosts have provided of 120 meals to our visitors, opening their homes to strangers and taken the time to ensure that these guests all left as friends. They have navigated the often-confusing waters of cross-cultural communication and in doing so, graciously welcomed SACIV visitors to San Antonio. I know first-hand that the generosity they have shown has greatly touched our guests and will be a memory they carry with them for a lifetime. And in doing so, they have all acted as the citizen diplomats that are the backbone of our organization!*

*It's been an exciting year of building connections to the people, ideas, and issues shaping our global future. And your support has made a world of difference - thank you! I look forward to our work together in the future in furthering our goals to connect San Antonio to the world and create a more global community.*

All the best,

Cecilia Cross

## About SACIV

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**SACIV is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), founded in 1989, that facilitates short term professional exchanges for emerging distinguished international leaders, selected by the US Department of State for the purpose of advancing US foreign policy goals and increasing mutual understanding. Hundreds of these international visitors come to San Antonio each year, providing opportunities to the community for fostering economic development and cross-cultural understanding. In addition to meeting with area professionals in their fields and exploring the local culture of San Antonio, international visitors are invited into the homes of SACIV members or hosted for meals or special excursions, giving them invaluable first-hand experience with everyday Americans.**

***SACIV aims to build international friendships, facilitate the exchange of ideas, foster cultural understanding, and promote San Antonio as an international city.***

2018

# BY THE NUMBERS



# 2018 AT A GLANCE



## Programs

Hosted  
by SACIV



## Visitors

Welcomed to  
San Antonio



## Countries

Represented  
by Visitors



## Members

of SACIV



## Hours

Volunteered



## Home Hospitality

Meals Provided



## Professional Resources

Visited Locally



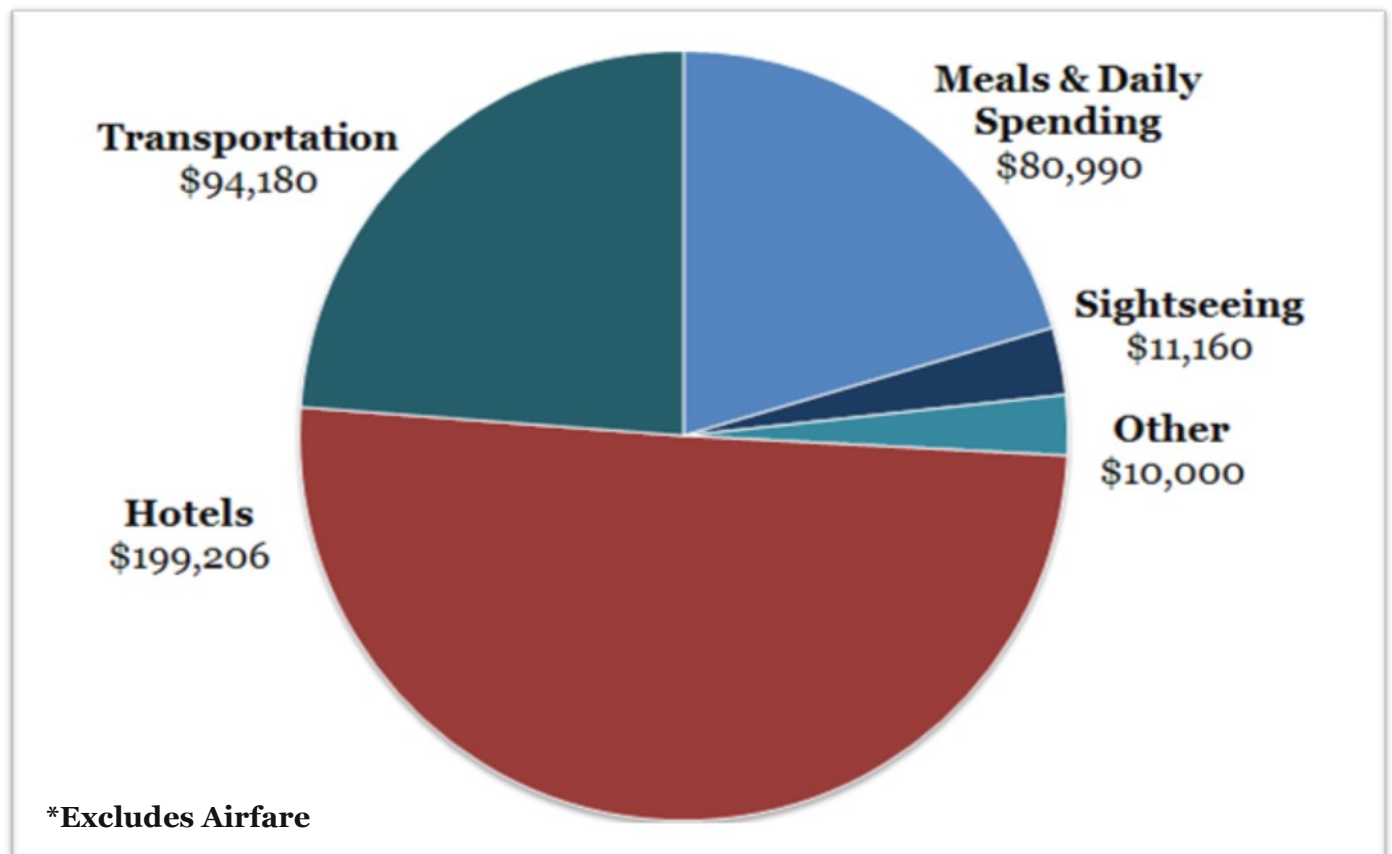
## Meetings Attended

By Visitors



## LOCAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

Programs administered by SACIV contributes to **over \$395,500 to the San Antonio area economy annually** through the use of hotels, transportation companies, and other vendors.



# 2018 Programs

February 25 – March 3

**Police Professionalization Exchange Program I**

Mexico

February 28 – March 6

**Global and Regional Responses to Refugee and Migration Issues**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Finland, Honduras, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Norway, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, South Sudan, Turkey

March 8 – March 13

**Global Economic Cooperation**

Austria, Guinea, Palestine, Malaysia, Venezuela, Egypt, Turkey

March 15 – March 20

**Women Leaders: Drivers of Economic and Social Change**

Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela

March 24 – March 28

**International Women of Courage – Aliyah Khalaf Saleh**

Iraq

April 4 – April 8

**U.S. State and Local Governments for Emerging African Leaders**

Malawi, Mali, Uganda, Zimbabwe

April 11 – April 15

**Law Enforcement: Community Policing**

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras

April 17 – April 22

**Promoting Workplace Diversity**

Japan

April 26 – May 1

**Combating Gender Based Violence**

Georgia

May 3 – May 8

**Foreign Policy and Human Rights**

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Croatia, Egypt, Georgia, India

May 10 – May 16

**Resilient Cities: Urban Sustainability**

Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Romania

May 18 – May 20

**ACYLP Program for YSEALI Fellows**

Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam

May 20 – May 24

**Sustainable Development: Tourism and Economics**

Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chile, Egypt, India, Lebanon, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Taiwan

June 3 – June 10

**Youth Basketball Conflict Resolution and Tolerance Camp**

Armenia, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, and Lithuania

June 3 – June 9

**Police Professionalization and Exchange Program II**

Mexico

June 10 – June 13

**Combating International and Domestic Human Trafficking**

Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay

June 13 – June 15

**Energy Security and its Role in Economic Development**

Kosovo

June 17 – June 20

**New Broadcasting: Creating Media Content**

Kazakhstan

June 24 – June 27

**US Foreign Policy for Journalists**

India

July 12 – July 18

**Global Economic Cooperation**

Ghana, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Tunisia

July 15 - July 18

**Youth and Civic Activism**

Brazil, Burkina Faso, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, Paraguay

July 18 – July 24

**NGO Administration**

Iraq

July 19 – July 25

**The Role of Youth Centers in Youth Engagement and Community Building**

Azerbaijan

August 2

**Digital Media: Promoting and Monetizing Local Content**

Kazakhstan

August 5 – August 8

**Foreign Direct Investment in the US**

Japan

September 3 – September 7

**Community Building through the Arts**

Belarus

September 9 – September 15

**Police Professionalization and Exchange Program III**

Mexico

September 20 – September 25

**Preserving Endangered Cultural Heritage Sites**

Iraq

September 24 – September 27

**US Government and Society**

China

September 26 – September 30

**Advancing Regional Tourism**

Japan

September 30 – October 3

**Current US Social, Political, & Economic Issues for Young European Leaders**

Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kosovo, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Ukraine, United Kingdom

October 4 – October 10

**Improving Cyber Security Across Our Border**

Canada

October 11 – October 16

**Civic Education for Youth**

Poland

October 12 – October 20

**Open World Program: Government Funding/Oversight of**

**Educational Institutions**

Ukraine

October 17 – October 21

**Advocacy and Integration for Special Needs Children**

Ukraine

October 17 – October 21

**Developing Civil Society Organizations**

South Korea

October 24 – October 30

**Combating Trafficking in Persons**

Indonesia

October 31 – November 4

**NGOs and Civic Activism**

Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

November 21 – November 24

**Disability Related Issues and Accessibility in the US**

France

November 25 – November 28

**Addressing Refugee and Migration Challenges in the US**

Turkey, Lebanon

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# Board of Directors

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## Staff

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**Cecilia Cross**  
*Executive Director*  
ccross@sacivtx.org

**John Wingert**  
*Program Coordinator*  
jwingert@sacivtx.org

## 2018 Home Hospitality Hosts

Mary Lou & Don Wilson

Ellen Remenchik

Betsy & Stuart Cameron

Lawrence Romo

Kay Grosinske

Homa Honea

Steffanie Gibbons

Rita & Thomas Heck

Betty Berchelmann

Rita & Hal Burnside

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Janet & Sam Scott

Dudley Harris & Cindy Vondrak

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Arlis Olsin & Louis Viggiano

Linda Perez

James Schellenberg

Maxine Osterling

Marie Goforth

Kausi Subramanian

Valeria Alderete

Margaret Leeds

***Thank you!***



# International Visitor Leadership Program

U.S. Department of State

*The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) is an official U.S. government exchange program administered by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The objective of the program is to advance U.S. foreign policy goals by increasing mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries. The IVLP is the U.S. Department of State's premier professional exchange program.*

*Through short-term visits to the United States, current and emerging foreign leaders in a variety of fields experience this country firsthand and cultivate lasting relationships with their American counterparts. Professional meetings reflect the participants' professional interests and support the foreign policy goals of the United States. Current and emerging leaders from across the world come to the United States on the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) to meet with professional counterparts and visit U.S. public and private sector organizations related to their field of interest.*

*International Visitors also share their culture and offer insight on best practices and perspectives with their hosts in the United States. International Visitors are accompanied by either foreign language interpreters or English language officers, contractors through the State Department's Office of Language Services, who also facilitate travel and help explain American society, history, and culture.*

*The International Visitor Program brings almost 5,000 foreign visitors to the U.S. each year to meet and confer with their professional counterparts and to experience the United States firsthand. The visitors, who are current or potential leaders in government, politics, the media, education, and other fields, are carefully selected by American embassy officials overseas. Over 335 current and former heads of state, thousands of cabinet-level ministers, and many other distinguished world leaders in government and the private sector have participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program over the past 75 years.*

## 2018 Professional Resources

Alamo Area Regional Law Enforcement Academy • Castle Hills Police Department • Bexar County • Frio County Sheriff's Office • San Antonio Police Department • St. Mary's University - School of Law • Mexicans and Americans Thinking Together • US-Mexico Border Philanthropy Partnership • Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES) • Homeland Security Investigations • Asociacion de Empresarios Mexicanos (AEM) • City of San Antonio • US Department of Commerce • Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce • San Antonio Economic Development Foundation • US Department of Agriculture • UTSA's International Trade Center • Port San Antonio • Haven for Hope • San Antonio City Councilor Rebecca Viagran • Bexar County Family Justice Center • Texas Women's Healthcare Coalition • Brooke Army Medical Center • Bexar County Veterans Service Officer • Wounded Warrior Project • peaceCENTER • CPS Energy • Dreamweek San Antonio • Office of Senator John Cornyn • City of San Antonio • Bexar County Elections Department • UTSA • San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce • Rackspace • USAA • The Basketball Embassy • Methodist Transplant and Specialty Hospital • Family Violence Prevention Services • The Children's Shelter • Bexar County District Attorney's Office • Texas Riogrande Legal Aid • Republic of the Rio Grande Museum • Freedom Youth Project Foundation • MALDEF • IDEA Public Schools • San Antonio College Eco Centro • San Antonio Water System • Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance • The Nature Conservancy • Imagine Homes • Build San Antonio Green • Paseo del Rio Association • Growing Empowered Together • MOVE Texas • New Leaders Council of San Antonio • San Antonio Missions National Historic Park • American Indians of Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions • SA 300 • Morgan's Wonderland • St. Philip's College • San Antonio Area Tourism Council • Institute of Texan Cultures • Pearl Brewery • Equal Justice Center • Rio Grande Detention Center • Alamo 1 Solar Farm • San Antonio Business Journal • Texas Public Radio • KABB/WOAI/KMYS • The Rivard Report • San Antonio Express News • Bexar County Sheriff's Office • Anuja San Antonio • North American Development Bank • Bexar County Office of Economic Development • University of Texas at San Antonio - Institute for Economic Development • R&I Solutions • International School of the Americas • YMCA of Greater San Antonio • San Antonio Education Partnership • San Antonio Area Foundation • The Non-Profit Council • Roy Maas Youth Alternatives • Masters Leadership Program • Women's Global Connection • SA Youth • Kinetic Kids • Boys and Girls Clubs of San Antonio • Girls Incorporated San Antonio • Martinez Street Women's Center • Urban-15 • The MightyGroup • Congressman Joaquin Castro's Office • Toyota • Carver Community Cultural Center • San Anto Cultural Arts • ARTS San Antonio • Guadalupe Cultural Arts • Esperanza Peace and Justice Center • SAY Si • Musical Bridges Around the World • Bihl Haus Arts • San Antonio Conservation Society • University of Texas at San Antonio - Center for Archaeological Research • Catholic • League of Women Voters • Hotel Valencia • Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management • Visit San Antonio • Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) • United States Air Force • Digital Defense Inc. • Alamo Heights Independent School District • City Year San Antonio • Trinity University • Alamo Colleges • State Representative Diego Bernal • Education Service Center - Region 20 • San Antonio College - Victory Center • Business Careers High School • City Councilman Rey Saldana • North East Independent School District • Mission Road Ministries • Children's Association for Maximum Potential (CAMP) • TEAMability • Eva's Heroes • The Arc of San Antonio • Eskin Fundraising Training • Bexar County Juvenile Probation Office • Magdalena House • Center for Refugee Services • American Gateways

# Corporate Members



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