

MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP INSTITUTE



Mandela Washington Fellowship – Home Stay Experience

Beginning in mid-June, The Ohio State University will host 25 young professionals from across Africa in a six-week Public Management Institute sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. The **Mandela Washington Fellowship** (MWF) is the flagship program of the **Young African Leaders Initiative** (YALI) and embodies the United States' commitment to investing in the future of Africa. Through this initiative, young African leaders are gaining the skills and connections they need to accelerate their career and contribute more robustly to strengthening democratic institutions, spurring economic growth, and enhancing peace and security in Africa.

This year, the [John Glenn College of Public Affairs](#) and [Center for African Studies](#) are teaming up to host a diverse group of young leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa, who have established records of enacting positive change in their communities. In order to provide fellows with a comprehensive and enriching experience, the MWF Institute at The Ohio State University is seeking volunteers to host a one-weekend home stay. Home stays offer fellows the invaluable opportunity of meeting local people and gaining an in-depth cultural experience.

As a home stay host, you would:

- Invite one or two fellows to stay at your home the weekend of **June 23 – June 24**.
- Pick fellows up from campus on Friday night or Saturday morning, and bring them back to campus on Sunday.
- Have a designated space to accommodate the fellow(s) – i.e. private bedroom, pull-out sofa, etc.
- Provide and share meals.
- Provide fellows with an insight into your unique American experience by engaging fellows in social outings, family activities, or conversations.

Serving as a home stay host is an exciting opportunity to explore the dynamics of cross-cultural relationships and potentially forge long-term relationships with emerging leaders from other countries.

If you are interested in hosting one or more of our fellows for a weekend homestay, please contact our Outreach Coordinator, **Chineze Okpalaoka** at okpalaoka.4@osu.edu.