



WOMEN'S SPORTS CORPS

Women's Sports Corps (WSC) is an elite fellowship opportunity that mobilizes select post-collegiate female athletes to advance gender equity through sport globally. Fellows work directly with community based, sport for social change organizations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to strengthen their girls' sport programs, promote female coaching and fill a vital need for more female athlete role models in communities around the world.

During this experience, WSC Fellows contribute to the growth of girls sports programs, support leadership opportunities for local female coaches, contribute to the mission of their host organization, and further develop their own leadership skills while transitioning from athletes to global sport advocates and ambassadors.

Position: Women's Sports Corps Fellow

Host Organization: Soccer Without Borders

Placement Sites: Granada, Nicaragua OR Kampala, Uganda

Dates: August 2018 - June 30, 2019

Women's Sports Corps (WSC) is seeking motivated, detail-oriented, self-starters to serve as Fellows at Soccer Without Borders' (SWB) two year-round programs in Granada, Nicaragua and Kampala, Uganda. Soccer Without Borders is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose mission is to use soccer as a vehicle for positive change, providing underserved youth particularly girls and newcomers with a toolkit to overcome obstacles to growth, inclusion and personal success. Using soccer as the platform, SWB's holistic approach helps underserved youth develop personally, gain consistent adult mentors, build friendships across cultures, and grow in confidence on and off the soccer field. Founded in 2006, the mission of Soccer Without Borders (SWB) is at work at our four U.S. programs and two international programs, serving and supporting girls and newcomer refugee, asylee, and immigrant youth who hail from more than 50 different countries around the world. Please visit our website to learn more about SWB's international work and discover additional information about the [Women's Sports Corps Fellowship](#).

About SWB Nicaragua:

SWB's program in Nicaragua, called Fútbol Sin Fronteras (FSF) in Spanish, provides opportunities on and off the field to more than 150 girls annually in the city of Granada. Through our year-round program and annual camps, girls ages 5-20 develop key skills and a sense of belonging in a place where safety nets, support systems, membership and inclusively are rare, particularly for women and girls. Since 2008, the program has built and sustained the only girls-specific space in the city of Granada that is focused on both education and sport. Specifically, FSF supports girls through soccer teams and league play, tutoring, academic scholarships, leadership development workshops, and team-building activities in addition to providing access to school supplies and athletic clothing and training equipment. To date SWB Granada has served more than 430 girls in Granada through our year-round program, while also reaching thousands of additional youth through camps, clinics, tournaments, and coaching courses within Granada and throughout the country. For more information on Fútbol Sin Fronteras and our work in Nicaragua, please visit the [program's webpage](#).

About SWB Uganda:

SWB's program in Uganda serves more than 300 refugee girls and boys, year-round in the the Nsambya neighborhood of Kampala in addition to conducting outreach and special programming to surrounding communities. In Kampala and the surrounding areas, the urban refugee population faces great obstacles including language barriers, xenophobia, a lack of local recognition of scholastic and professional diplomas, a lack of financial resources, and the absence of institutional support. Among all of these barriers, refugees in urban settings report that the biggest barrier they face in Uganda is a lack of access to formal educational opportunities. In working to eliminate these barriers, SWB provides out-of-school, newcomer youth with consistent access to soccer teams and league play, educational and life skills programming, and English Language Development workshops, all of which foster a safe space for community connection, cultural exchange, and personal growth in the classroom and on the pitch. For more information on Soccer Without Borders and our work in Uganda, please visit the [program's webpage](#).

Roles of a WSC Fellow:

Women's Sport Corps Fellows are select U.S. female athletes who have participated in collegiate and/or high-level athletics and have the desire and skill-set to share their experience, knowledge, and expertise with sport-for-development organizations, such as Soccer Without Borders, who are interested in further developing their girls' sport programs and female coaching pipelines. As a WSC Fellow placed at SWB Nicaragua or SWB Uganda Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- Support SWB and local partners in growing and developing girls' soccer, leadership, and educational programming
- Work directly with youth and adolescent girls' teams as a mentor-coach, serving as a positive role model and example of female leadership
- Support the development and training of future female coaches in local communities
- Provide other supports and activities within your skill set and in service to your SWB's mission and programs
- Build socio-cultural competencies and skills and leverage your experience abroad to transition from student-athlete to your next phase in life
- Develop their personal leadership and explore future career paths

Responsibilities of a WSC Fellow:

WSC Fellows will be tasked with different activities throughout the year that relate specifically to the mission of Women's Sports Corps in addition to serving local communities by contributing to SWB's greater work in Nicaragua or Uganda. These responsibilities may include:

- Planning, organizing, and delivering soccer and leadership clinics in partnership with SWB Nicaragua or SWB Uganda and their local partners
- Coaching local female sports teams as well as local youth teams
- Leading off-field leadership and educational programming as a part of the SWB staff
- Developing and mentoring young women who aspire to be (or already on the pathway to becoming) local sports coaches both at your host organization and through community outreach
- Engaging with local organizations, governments, and community members to support and promote girls' sports programming
- Engaging in curated activities and reflections (facilitated by WSC) that will allow Fellows to explore and further develop their personal leadership
- Keeping a weekly/monthly blog for WSC that highlights their experiences, struggles, observations, and successes
- Supporting their SWB program in other areas of work related to: Monitoring & Evaluation, English Language Development, Educational & Life Skills Curriculum Design, Leadership Development Workshops, Volunteer Coordination, Facility Management, Marketing & Communications, Community Outreach, or Partnership Development

Time Commitment:

WSC Fellows are placed at each of SWB's international programs and serve in a full-time capacity for periods of 10-12 months. The 2018-2019 cohort of WSC Fellows will begin their in-country placements in August 2018 (exact date TBD) and serve through June 30, 2019 with the option to extend.

Training & Support:

Prior to their departure, WSC Fellows receive an in-depth training in the U.S. co-facilitated by WSC and SWB staff. Throughout their time in country, WSC Fellows receive ongoing support from SWB National and local staff through periodic check-ins, staff reviews, and opportunities to collaborate across SWB sites. As a part of the WSC 2018-2019 cohort, Fellows also gain access to crucial professional development opportunities ranging from skill development workshops to connecting with the broader WSC network during and after their service.

Compensation:

At this time WSC Fellows are unpaid. Previous WSC Fellows have successfully fundraised through Soccer Without Borders leading up to and during their time abroad to support their work-related and living costs associated with the WSC Fellowship. In addition to generating needed funds, this fundraising process is designed to create a network of supporters for the Fellow who are engaged in their success and the success of Soccer Without Borders. As the WSC Fellowship continues to grow through its pilot year, Women's Sports Corps is committed to exploring and pursuing funding opportunities to support the WSC Fellowship.

To Apply:

Interested Candidates can submit applications via [SWB's website](#) and should submit a resume or CV via email to jenn@soccerwithoutborders.org. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.