

# DAVE BECKWITH MEMORIAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM 2022



**This is an internal program within the GLC Alumni Network meant to provide financial, logistical, and networking support for alumni and mentors of the program in building strategic partnerships between people and organizations from Europe and the U.S.**

## ✓ WHAT WE OFFER

- Connecting alumni and mentors based on shared interests and common strategic goals
- Financial support for up to \$1500 to fund travel and other expenses for an overseas international trip of at least 10 work days to the U.S. or Europe respectively
- Information sharing and visibility of strategic partnerships across the alumni network and beyond

## ✓ WHO CAN APPLY

All alumni and mentors from Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and the U.S. from any of the delegations from 2012 to 2019\* who have meaningfully stayed connected to the program.

The applicant is the one that will make the trip.

However, by the time of the application, they should have identified an overseas strategic partner from within the program and established an agreement for their work together.

\* As the fellows from our virtual 2020/2021 delegation are still expected to travel to the U.S. in 2022 as part of the Professional Fellows program, we will for now not consider them for this Strategic Partnerships Program. However, they will be eligible in the following years.

## ✓ FINANCIAL RULES

This is a co-payment program funded as follows:

<b>GLC Alumni Network</b>	Purchase of international flights for up to \$1500 for an overseas trip. In case flights are less expensive, remaining funds (to reach \$1500) can be used to cover health insurance, local transportation, visa costs or other expenses.
<b>Hosting organization</b>	Provides accommodation in a hosting family or other facility based on their context, and ideally local transportation.
<b>Program participant</b>	Covers expenses for food and other personal needs during the program, which could not be covered by the other two parties.

To receive financial support under this program, applicants need to spend at least 10 working days with their hosting strategic partner(s). Participants are free to spend more time in the hosting country before or after the program. Dates for flights will be coordinated accordingly.



## ✓ VISA AND VACCINES

This program is funded beyond our grants from the U.S. State Department, which is why no J-1 visas will be issued. Participants are responsible for obtaining a visa on their own, but invitation letters will be provided where needed.

In terms of COVID-19 vaccination and certificates, rules of the destination country and the hosting organization will apply.

## ✓ COMMITMENT

The funds provided on behalf of the GLC Alumni Network are raised through the collective efforts of our alumni family, which is why we owe transparency on how they were used and more importantly – on the impact they have generated. For that reason, we expect two short reports from every fellow:

1. 1-2 pages of highlights of their program and fields of improved capacities and strengthened partnerships 2 weeks after the trip;
2. 1-2 pages of impact on own work, sending organization and/or local community, as well as development of the strategic partnership 9 months after the trip.

In parallel, we encourage fellows to share information and updates during the program, which we in turn will promote through the social media channels of the GLC Alumni Network and our newsletter.

## ✓ TIMELINE

Program launch	<b>March 18th 2022</b>
Information session	<b>March 24th 2022</b>
<b>Deadline for submitting applications</b>	<b>April 30th 2022</b>
Announcing results	<b>May 18th 2022</b>
Program trips	<b>June - December 2022</b>

If resources are available, a second round of applications might be open in 2022.

## ✓ AVAILABLE FUNDING

Thanks to the contributions of alumni, mentors and friends in our 2021 fundraising campaign, we expect to be able to financially support 5-6 trips in 2022.

## ✓ SELECTION CRITERIA

All applications will be reviewed by the GLC Alumni Network Advisory Board, which will come up with a recommendation list of fellows. The list will then be approved by the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership in the U.S. and Pro European Network in Europe, which administer the funds.

In their review and recommendation list, the GLC Alumni Advisory Board will take into account the following selection criteria:







CRITERIA	WEIGHT
<p><i>Quality and potential of the strategic partnership,</i> which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Link between the professional and civic experience of the applicant and their strategic partner(s)</li><li>• Clear identification of needs and benefits of the strategic partners;</li><li>• Preliminary ideas on how the partnership can develop and grow beyond this strategic partnerships program;</li><li>• Expected impact on people, organizations, movements and communities;</li></ul>	<b>45%</b>
<p><i>Motivation and learning plan of the applicant,</i> which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Relevant motivation to participate in the program, including a justification on why partnerships can't be supported in another way (e.g. virtually)</li><li>• Identified learning objectives for the applicant, and where applicable, their strategic partner(s)</li><li>• Clarity on what the program will entail in terms of activities and processes</li></ul>	<b>30%</b>
<p><i>Engagement and contribution of the applicant in alumni activities,</i> which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contribution to or participation in international alumni activities (virtual events and in-person reunions)</li><li>• Contribution to or participation in national alumni activities (support in recruitment, info sharing, national reunions and/or learning circles and similar)</li><li>• Volunteer support in alumni activities or financial contribution to the fundraising efforts of the program</li></ul>	<b>25%</b>

Where applicants have similar scores under this scale, geographical, gender and minority diversity will be decisive factors.

## HOW TO BUILD A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP?

Strategic partnership is a cooperation between people and/or organizations – from Europe on one side and from the U.S. on the other – which is mutually beneficial for all parties involved and brings in learning, shared actions and/or opportunities for funding. It should be based on a well-identified interest on both sides and have a long-lasting horizon.

**EXAMPLE** *Listen Up! Foundation in Bulgaria and Gallaudet University in the U.S. got connected through the GLC Professional Fellows program and have extensively communicated after their exchange visits. They have now secured funding from Google to continue their cooperation around creating a master program for Deaf leaders in Bulgaria, which will also include exchange studies in Gallaudet.*





If you have not yet identified a strategic partner, but consider you can benefit from one, we will do our best to help you. You can fill in this **short form** and/or attend our Strategic Partnership virtual event on March 24th 2022, 1 pm EST / 6 pm CET.

## ✓ WHY 'DAVE BECKWITH'?

Dave Beckwith was one of the people without whom the GLC Professional Fellows program and our alumni community would not have existed. He was a dedicated advisor, supporter and donor to the program, but more importantly, he was an inspiration. He was bringing us all closer together. His sudden and untimely death left us devastated, but also bound us to keep up the good fight and do it in partnerships. For that reason, we dedicate this strategic partnerships program to him and are determined to make the best of it, just as he would like us to.



## ✓ HOW TO APPLY?

To apply, fill in this **application form** by April 30th 2022.

## ✓ QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vladislav Petkov, International GLC Alumni Coordinator, at [v.petkov@proeuropean.net](mailto:v.petkov@proeuropean.net).