

SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

2013 Annual Report

The attached report is submitted pursuant to s. 320-47 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.



SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Purpose: (Per s. 320-47 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances)

The Sister Cities Committee is created to assist the City, through its Common Council, with the establishment and maintenance of sister city relationships in accordance with Sister Cities International regulations.

Members (for 2013)

CHAIR

Ald. Joe Davis., Sr.

MEMBERS

Leslie Silletti

(representative of Mayor Tom Barrett)

Alexander Durtka, Jr.

(representative of the International Institute of Wisconsin)

Charles Vang

(public member, appointed by Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr.)

Eric Gass

(representative of the Health Commissioner)

Staff

Mr. Chris Lee, Staff Assistant

Amy Hefter, Legislative Liaison

Ms. Charlotte Rodriguez, Council File Specialist

There were no committee meetings held in 2013.

Accomplishments and Activities in 2013

On January 15, 2013, several members of the committee attended a meeting with the Consul General of Indonesia, Andriana Supandy, in the Common Council Chambers Anteroom of City Hall. Indonesian dignitaries, Common Council persons, staff and several guests met and discussed economic opportunities, common interests and goals, the City of Milwaukee's Sister Cities program, and collaboration possibilities. A framed photograph and resolution were presented to the Indonesian dignitaries in honor of their presence. Minutes of this meeting are attached to this report as **Exhibit A**.

On February 11 and March 4, 2013, letters were sent to Irish Festivals, Inc. and the African American Chamber of Commerce to request 2013 annual reports regarding sister city relationship activities with Galway, Ireland and uMhlathuze, South Africa respectively. Copies of these letters are attached to this report as **Exhibit B**.

On May 1, 2013, the sister city relationship with uMhlathuze, South Africa expired. No renewal application was received from the local sponsor, African American Chamber of Commerce. A renewal application was sent to the local sponsor on August 2, 2012. The application was due on November 1, 2012, six months prior to the expiration date. Despite the expiration of the sister city relationship with uMhlathuze, South Africa, there is an ongoing relationship between the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and the University of Zululand.

No annual report was received regarding the sister city relationship with uMhlathuze, South Africa for the year 2013. The annual report was due on May 17, 2013.

On July 29, 2013, an informational letter regarding the City's sister city program was sent to the Kumba City Council in Cameroon, as it had sent a letter to the Mayor's Office on June 6, 2013, expressing an interest to cooperate and twin with the City of Milwaukee. These letters are attached to this report as **Exhibit C**.

On August 15, 2013, the sister city relationship with Galway, Ireland expired. No renewal application was received from the local sponsor, Irish Festivals, Inc. A renewal application and cover letter were sent to the local sponsor on November 2, 2012 and a second time on July 29, 2013. The second cover letter is attached to this report as **Exhibit D**. The application was due on February 15, 2013, six months prior to the expiration date.

On August 26, 2013, the 2013 annual report was received regarding Galway, Ireland from Irish Festivals, Inc. The annual report was due on April 26, 2013, and it is attached to this report as **Exhibit E**.

On September 4, 2013, a letter was sent to request the 2013 annual report for Carora, Venezuela from the local sponsor, The Peace Education Project of Peace Action

Wisconsin. The letter is attached to this report as **Exhibit F**. The 2013 annual report concerning Carora was not received and was due on November 8, 2013.

On September 22, 2013, the renewal application regarding the sister city relationship with Carora, Venezuela, was received from the local sponsor, The Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin. The relationship expires March 24, 2014. The renewal application is attached to this report as **Exhibit G**.

JOE DAVIS, SR.
Alderman, 2nd District



CHAIR

- Community and Economic Development Committee
- National League of Cities' International Council
- Sister Cities Committee

MEMBER

- National League of Cities' Board of Directors
- Judiciary & Legislation Committee
- Public Safety Committee
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation

HONORARY CONSUL

- Republic of South Africa - State of Wisconsin

**Meeting with Consul General of Indonesia
Andriana Supandy
January 15, 2013
Common Council Chambers Anteroom**

Meeting convened at 2:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. Welcome

Indonesian dignitaries arrived and were greeted by City of Milwaukee Common Councilpersons, staff, and guests in attendance.

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr. and President Willie Hines, Jr., City of Milwaukee Common Council, gave opening remarks. President Hines thanked the Indonesian dignitaries of their visit and said that the visit is an opportunity for information and service exchanges between the City of Milwaukee and Indonesia. Ald. Michael Murphy and Ald. Nik Kovac, City of Milwaukee Common Council, were introduced.

2:05 p.m. Presentation of Global Appreciation

President Hines presented a resolution from the City of Milwaukee Common Council to the Consul General (Indonesian Consulate General) in honor of the dignitaries' presence, and Ald. Davis presented a framed photograph to the Consul General.

2:15 p.m. Acknowledgment of Guests

Carrie Portman
Bob Kraft, First Pathway Partners, LLC Chairman
Dan Wycklendt, First Pathway Partners, LLC Chief Operating Officer
Tracy Luber, Milwaukee Economic Corporation Vice President
Paul Vornholt, Port of Milwaukee
Linda Jones, Milwaukee Courier
Kate Labar, International Institute of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
Sheldyn M. Himle, Municipal Court Chief Court Administrator
Chris Lee, City of Milwaukee City Clerk's Office
Eric Gass, City of Milwaukee Health Department Research and Policy Director
Sherman Morton, Legislative Assistant to Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.



Ted Medhin, City of Milwaukee City Clerk's Office
Tina Klose, City of Milwaukee City Clerk's Office
Leslie Silletti, City of Milwaukee Mayor's Office
Charles Vang, Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce Chief
Executive Officer
Doug Savage, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Dean of
International Affairs

2:20 p.m. Introduction of Indonesian Delegation

The Indonesian delegation was introduced. Present were:

Andriana Supandy, Consul General (Indonesian Consulate General)
Alberd Pardede, Consul for Economic Affairs (Indonesian Consulate
General)
Raza Pahlevi, Manager of Indonesia Trade Promotion Center (ITPC)
Jopkie Kurniawan, Vice Consul of Economic Affairs (Indonesian
Consulate General)
Hafiz Prasetya, Staff of Economic Affairs (Indonesian Consulate
General)

2:30 p.m. Official Remarks

Consul General (CG) Supandy thanked City officials, staff, and guests for a warm welcome and hospitality. CG Supandy gave remarks. Milwaukee is a neighbor of Chicago, where he is stationed. Today's visit is his first visit to Milwaukee and only one of many stops in the City. The purpose for today's visit is to know Milwaukee better and facilitate possibilities for economic growth for Indonesia and Milwaukee.

2:50 p.m. Presentation of Economic Opportunities

Ms. Luber gave a brief description of the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). MEDC works closely with the City of Milwaukee in the private sector and is a compliment to private bank financing. MEDC has a 55 million dollar portfolio and has been around for forty one years. MEDC provides low cost loans to fill the gap for businesses that cannot get enough bank financing. In the last five years, MEDC has funded 90 million dollars in new loans, leveraged about 300 million dollar private investments with 60 percent of those loans going towards minority or female owned businesses in highly distressed areas in the City of Milwaukee. Goals of MEDC are to fill in the gap, assist in projects with jobs, and aide in job retention. Ald. Davis, Hines, Murphy, and Kovac are on the executive board. MEDC is open to provide assistance and be a partner.

Mr. Kraft gave a brief description of FirstPath Partners, LLC (FPP). FPP works with MEDC and the City of Milwaukee to invest money in the southeast region of Wisconsin in a program called "EB5." FPP was founded five years ago and raised about 150 million dollars. This year,

200 million dollars from around the world are raised for projects for job creation in a specific economic development area. The program operates nationwide and is focused on southeastern Wisconsin. FPP can work with Indonesian companies that come into the region.

3:05 p.m. Presentation of City of Milwaukee's Sister Cities International Program

Ald. Davis said that he serves as an honorary consul to the Republic of South African and is the chair of the Sister Cities Committee in Milwaukee. He added that he is hopeful the Indonesian delegates will be given a good first impression regarding Milwaukee's friendliness and resources that it has to offer publicly and privately.

Ald. Davis proceeded to give an overview regarding opportunities and cultural ties in the City of Milwaukee. Milwaukee welcomes international investment. FirstPath Partners has attracted over 200 million dollars into the region in areas such as manufacturing, industrial, and hospitality. Milwaukee is home to the beautiful Quadracci Pavilion, Milwaukee Harley Davidson Museum, and Potawatomi Bingo and Casino. The Midwest attracts research dollars due to great institutions such as those in Milwaukee like the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Marquette University, Milwaukee School of Engineering, and Milwaukee Area Technical College. Milwaukee's location makes travel easy to other cities in neighboring states within a day. The driving distance between Chicago to Milwaukee is 90 miles, and there is a commuter train between these cities. General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee is a convenient and user friendly airport that international guests can use to make multiple stops with direct flights into Canada and Mexico and take flights to other major cities nationwide. The airport is less congested than other airports such as those in Chicago. Downtown Milwaukee has the 190,000 square foot Delta Airline Convention Center with exhibit and meeting spaces that delegates can use for conferences. The US Cellular Arena, Milwaukee Theater, first class hotels, and many restaurants and Ethnic dining options are also located in downtown Milwaukee. In all, Milwaukee has attractions, is user friendly, and has affordable accommodations compared to Chicago.

Ald. Davis further gave an overview of the Sister Cities Committee and relationships with the City of Milwaukee. Milwaukee has five relationships: Galway, Ireland; Carora, Venezuela; Morogoro, Tanzania; uMhlathuze, South Africa, and Ningbo, China. For a formal sister city relationship the process first begins when a local non-governmental organization (NGO) submits a letter of interest. A meeting is scheduled by the committee where the NGO makes a presentation on the intent, cultural, and economic goals of the relationship. The committee may approve and extend a formal application to the NGO. The NGO would have 90 days to file an application. Once an application is received, the committee would schedule for a final presentation to be made by the NGO. If the committee approves the application, an official signing ceremony will be scheduled. A successful relationship is for five years.

Only NGOs from both cities are involved in a relationship because the NGOs should not be engaged in political activities.

3:20 p.m. Roundtable Discussion, Theme: “Common Interest – Common Goals”

Mr. Pardede gave an overview on the volume of trade between Indonesia and Midwest states in the United States. The Indonesian Consulate is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois and incorporates 13 Midwestern states. In 2011, the total trade value between all Midwestern states and Indonesia was 4.1 billion U.S. dollars. Illinois was number one in trade value followed by Ohio, Kentucky, and Wisconsin. There was a big gap between the export trade value to Wisconsin (381 million dollars) and import trade value from Wisconsin (74 million dollars). In 2012 for the first three quarters, the total trade value between Indonesia and Wisconsin was 430 million dollars and will likely eclipse 2011 trade values once fourth quarter values are known. Wisconsin moved from being fourth in 2011 to being third in 2012 in total trade value with Indonesia compared to other Midwestern states. There is a desire to identify opportunities for further export from Wisconsin to lessen the gap in the export and import trade value between Wisconsin and Indonesia. Also, both parties should go beyond traditional trade to expand to other avenues.

Mr. Pardede said that from 2008 to 2011, top export commodities from Indonesia to Wisconsin included apparel articles, accessories, wood, footwear, and furniture. Top import commodities to Indonesia from Wisconsin from 2008 to 2011 were mostly technological and included nuclear equipment, electric equipment and machinery, seed, fruit, plant, medical equipment, and food industries. Indonesia has very good resources for minerals and energy sectors. It is ranked number one in mineral wealth. Indonesia has a demand for hospital and health care growth, which Wisconsin can expand on its medical equipment that it has to offer. Indonesia lacks food processing sectors for its abundant natural resources such as coffee, cocoa beans, palm oil, and vanilla. Food processing trade can be a fast potential for business for Wisconsin.

Mr. Pardede said that Indonesia hosts a big annual international trade expo in October. A variety of businesses from mining, agriculture, to tourism sectors participate with about 6500 buyers and 2000 exhibitors. The expo can be a good opportunity for Wisconsin to be an investor and marketer. The president of the Republic of Indonesia opens the event, which also has high delegations from the world who attends the expo. During the 2012 expo, 38 exhibitors from other countries came to the expo to sell in the Pacific region. There was a company from Illinois that had a booth regarding railroad technologies and products.

Mr. Pardede proceeded to give an overview on the economy of Indonesia. The country has six big islands with a lot of potential and resources. From 2007 to 2012, the gross domestic product (GDP) of the

country was stable at about 6.3 to 6.5 percent. For 2013, the projected GDP is 6.7 percent. Compared to other Asian countries, China leads all GDP while Japan's GDP is at a negative. Currently, Indonesia's GDP is about 855 billion U.S. dollars, and the economy is progressing. Indonesia is one of the biggest emerging economies. According to a BBC World Service survey, Indonesia is one of the best places for entrepreneurs to start a business. Based on the 2010 Census, Indonesia has 238 million people. The population has increased to 242 million people in 2012, and the middle class population is projected to increase to 170 million people by 2015. Indonesia is ranked 9th as a major destination for foreign direct investment (FDI). The cost of living is similar but costs more than Thailand.

Mr. Pardede said that Indonesia has a master plan for the acceleration and expansion of the country's economic development and that there are six economic corridors that possess investment opportunities. The six economic corridors are Java, Sumatera, Kalimantan, Bali-Nusa Tenggara, Sulawesi, and Kep Maluku-Papua. The Java corridor has food and beverage, transportation, and power plant possibilities. The Sumatera corridor has coal, power plant, iron and steel, airport, and railroad possibilities. The Kalimantan corridor has mining, energy, natural resources, and port possibilities. The Sulawesi corridor has agriculture, plantation, fishery, and nickel mining possibilities. The Bali-Nusa Tenggara corridor has tourism, food, and agriculture possibilities. The Kep Maluka-Papua corridor has food, fishery, energy, and mining possibilities.

3:50 p.m. Way Forward

Ald. Davis said that GE is one of the large Wisconsin companies that can work with Indonesia regarding medical equipment trade.

Mr. Savage said that he would be interested to see the number of Indonesian students and study abroad opportunities in Indonesia increase.

Ald. Davis said that he will reflect on the possibilities for growth between Indonesia and the City of Milwaukee. Ald. Davis added that the Consul General should think about what city fits with Milwaukee to create an active sister city relationship.

Ms. Luber said that MEDC can assist with facilitating introductory meetings with those companies under its portfolio that the Consul General would be interested with.

Consul General Supandy gave farewell remarks. Indonesia offers its expo, commodities, and sectors. He is headquartered close by in Chicago. Milwaukee has many things to offer, has made a good impression, and has extended a warm welcome. A sister city relationship

will be one important thing to consider for the future, and he is hopeful that action will be taken.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

**Chris Lee
Staff Assistant
Council Records Section
City Clerk's Office
City of Milwaukee**



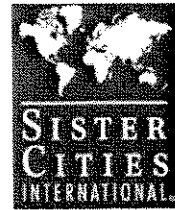
Sister Cities Committee

CHAIR

Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

MEMBERS

Eric Gass, Leslie Silletti, Al Durtka, Charles Vang



City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202 | (414) 286-2221 | Fax (414) 286-3456 | www.milwaukee.gov/sistercities

February 11, 2013

Milwaukee Irish Festivals, Inc.
Attn: Patrick Boyle, Director
1532 Wauwatosa Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53213

RE: Galway, Ireland Sister City 2013 Annual Report

Dear Mr. Boyle:

According to Section 335-3-7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, the sister city relationship sponsoring entity shall submit an annual report to the City of Milwaukee, Sister City Committee within 30 days following the anniversary of the date on which the mayor signed the resolution establishing a sister city relationship.

The anniversary date of the sister city relationship with Galway, Ireland is March 27th. Please submit your completed 2013 Annual Report, detailing current and recent activities, accomplishments, and any other relevant information within the year concerning the sister city relationship, to Chris Lee, 200 E. Wells St., Room 205, Milwaukee, WI 53202 by **April 26, 2013**.

If you have any questions, please contact the Staff Assistant to the committee, Chris Lee at 414-286-2232 or clee@milwaukee.gov.

Failure to submit the annual report by **April 26, 2013** may result in the Committee to move termination of the relationship at its next scheduled meeting.

Please note that a benefit of being a part of the City of Milwaukee Sister Cities program is that the Sister Cities International annual membership fee is paid by the City of Milwaukee.

Thank you for your prompt response in this matter.

Sincerely,

Alderman Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee



Sister Cities Committee

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Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

MEMBERS
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March 4, 2013

Wallace White, Director
African American Chamber of Commerce
Of Greater Milwaukee
6203 W. Capitol Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Wallace White, Principal
W2EXCEL, LLC
P.O. Box 240317
Milwaukee, WI 53223

RE: uMhlathuze, South Africa Sister City 2013 Annual Report

Dear Mr. White:

According to Section 335-3-7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, the sister city relationship sponsoring entity shall submit an annual report to the City of Milwaukee, Sister City Committee within 30 days following the anniversary of the date on which the mayor signed the resolution establishing a sister city relationship.

The anniversary date of the sister city relationship with uMhlathuze, South Africa is April 17th. Please submit your completed 2013 Annual Report, detailing current and recent activities, accomplishments, and any other relevant information within the year concerning the sister city relationship, to Chris Lee, 200 E. Wells St., Room 205, Milwaukee, WI 53202 by **May 17, 2013**.

If you have any questions, please contact the Staff Assistant to the committee, Chris Lee at 414-286-2232 or clee@milwaukee.gov.

Failure to submit the annual report by **May 17, 2013** may result in the Committee to move termination of the relationship at its next scheduled meeting.

Please note that a benefit of being a part of the City of Milwaukee Sister Cities program is that the Sister Cities International annual membership fee is paid by the City of Milwaukee.

Thank you for your prompt response in this matter.

Sincerely,


Alderman Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee

FD: Sister Cities
C:LS - Follow up
mum



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace - Work - Fatherland

RECEIVED

13 JUL - 11 AM 11 51 TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION AND DECENTRALIZATION



MAYOR'S OFFICE

Kumba City Council

Office of the Government Delegate

Commonwealth Avenue
P.M.B 55, Kumba
Kumba- S.W. Region

Phone.33 35 42 15

Fax. 33 35 48 91

www. cityofkumba.gov.cm

Ref: KCC/1134/VE/2/161

Date: 6th June, 2013

Subject: INVITATION FOR COOPERATION AND TWINNING

To: **Milwaukee Mayor's Office**
200 E Wells St.,
Milwaukee WI 53202-3515
USA

Dear Lord Mayor,

I have the honor to extend my warm greetings of love, peace and unity to you from the city of Kumba in Cameroon.

We are very interested to establish and develop decentralized cooperation ties with your city. Our desire is to work together for social and economic development of our both cities. A strong foundation could be laid by exchange visits, participation in trade fairs, international cultural exchanges, etc. Along the way, we shall surely discover mutual beneficial opportunities in fields like international business, agriculture and urbanization, ecotourism, education, transportation, health care, environment, housing.

Let use this opportunity to make a brief presentation of the city. We hope it will catch your interest. The city of Kumba is located in the South West region of Cameroon, Central Africa. It has a population of about 165.000 people who speak English, French, pidgin and hundreds of native dialects. The indigenous inhabitants are the Bafaws, Barombis, the Bakundus and the Balongs. Settlers come from all over Cameroon and neighboring Nigeria. Located at a major road junction, commerce, tourism, agriculture, timber and non-timber forest exploitation are the principal activities of the inhabitants. A major touristic attraction in the city is a crater

lake located just 2 km away from the city centre. Kumba enjoys a very good road and railway link to Douala, the economic capital of Cameroon.

The government of our country is implementing a policy of decentralization. In this new political dispensation the Kumba City Council as a decentralized authority is empowered to have a direct access to a more diversified portfolio of mutual cooperation.

Twinning is a commonly accepted platform on which solid cooperation ties could be built. International cooperation is an important tool when developing and improving our organization and our services to the citizens of our city. We aim at cooperation between our cities under social, cultural, environmental, economic, peace and democratic realms that shall be beneficial to both cities. We are very eager to engage discursions that would lead to the eventual twinning of our two cities. It shall be our greatest delight if you manifest equal interest on this subject.

Sir, I also seize this opportunity to formally invite you for a friendly visit to our city. The traditional warmth that is reserved for such an August occasion, shall no doubt contribute immensely to nurture our very fruitful relationship.

We have absolute faith in your good will for the population of the City of Kumba. We are also committed to follow up your advice diligently on all issues we have raised.

The people of the City of Kumba shall for ever remain grateful to the people of your city, if collaboration is accepted from your end.

While expecting very positive results from you, kindly accept, Sir, our best regards.

Yours faithfully



Ngoh Nkelle Victor
Mayor of the City of Kumba

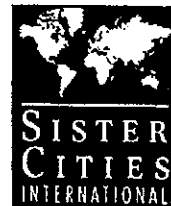




Sister Cities Committee

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Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.

MEMBERS
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July 24, 2013

Lord Mayor Ngoh Nkelle Victor
Kumba City Council
P.M.B. 55 Kumba -- Meme Div.
South West Region
Republic of Cameroon

Dear Lord Mayor Victor:

Thank you for your interest to twin with the City of Milwaukee and for sharing information on the City of Kumba, as provided in your letter that was sent to the City of Milwaukee Mayor's Office dated June 6, 2013. In response to your letter, an international partnership between both cities to promote cultural, educational and economic exchanges can be achieved through the Milwaukee Sister Cities program.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of Chapter 335 of Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, which explains the Milwaukee Sister Cities program, its definition, policy, and application process. If achieved, a sister city relationship may best establish cultural, educational, and economic exchanges between with the City of Milwaukee and the City of Kumba. In addition, more information can be found at the City's Sister Cities website at <http://city.milwaukee.gov/sistercities>.

Please note that a sister city relationship application progress requires a local nonprofit organization, that wishes to sponsor a sister city relationship, to submit a letter of intent to the Sister Cities Committee. The Committee shall invite the organization to make a presentation to the Committee regarding the proposed sister city relationship. Following the presentation, the Committee shall decide whether to invite the organization to submit a formal application to the City's Common Council.

If the Committee has invited the organization to submit a formal application, the Committee will schedule a formal hearing on the application and notify the organization to attend. If the Committee recommends approval of the application, it will be forwarded to the Common Council's Community and Economic Development Committee and then to the full Council.

We look forward to further exploring a possible sister city relationship with you. The City of Milwaukee is a member of Sister Cities International and adheres to its policies and procedures in reviewing possible relationships. We believe a limited number of such relationships are beneficial to cultural, economic and educational growth and development for all involved.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures to be followed, please contact the Staff Assistant to the Committee, Mr. Chris Lee, at 414-286-2232, or clee@milwaukee.gov.

Sincerely,


Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee

Enclosure



Sister Cities Committee

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July 29, 2013

Milwaukee Irish Festivals, Inc.
Attn: Donna Brady and Patrick Boyle
1532 Wauwatosa Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53213

Dear Ms. Brady and Mr. Boyle:

This is notification that our office has not received your renewal application for a sister city relationship between the City of Milwaukee and Galway, Ireland, which will expire on **August 15, 2013**. Per section 335-7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, no later than 6 months prior to the expiration of a sister city relationship, the sponsoring entity may submit a renewal application to the city clerk on a form prepared by the committee. A formal renewal application was sent to you on **November 2, 2012** requesting that you submit the renewal application by **February 15, 2013**. To date, our office has not received any renewal application from you. Another renewal application is enclosed for your completion.

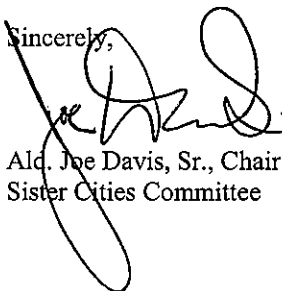
Please note that in addition to some basic information, the renewal application requests detailed attachments regarding the sister city, your organization, and the organization in the sister city that will support this relationship. A thorough response to all questions will be most appreciated and will strengthen your renewal application.

The Sister Cities Committee will schedule a formal hearing on your renewal application, and you will be notified to attend. If the Committee recommends approval of the renewal application, it will be forwarded to the Common Council's Community and Economic Development Committee and then to the full Council.

We look forward to further exploring this sister city relationship with you. The City of Milwaukee is a member of Sister Cities International and adheres to its policies and procedures in reviewing possible relationships. We believe a limited number of such relationships are beneficial to cultural, economic, and educational growth and development for all involved.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures to be followed, please contact the Staff Assistant to the Committee, Chris Lee, at 414-286-2232, or clee@milwaukee.gov. Your renewal application should be submitted to Mr. Lee at the address on this letterhead.

Sincerely,



Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee

Enclosure

Milwaukee Irish Fest



CITY OF MILWAUKEE

2013 AUG 26 AM 10: 32

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

August 25, 2013

Mr. Chris Lee
200 E. Wells Street
Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: Galway, Ireland Sister City Annual Report

Dear Mr. Lee:

On behalf of Milwaukee Irish Fest and the Board of Directors, we respectfully encourage the City of Milwaukee to maintain the sister city relationship with Galway, Ireland. Our primary contact with Galway has been Keith Finnegan of Galway Bay Radio. Our Sister City Relationship has been growing for nearly 15 years. In fact, each year, the City of Galway sends a 10-15 person delegation to not only Milwaukee Irish Fest, but to meet with area Business leaders and elected officials. This year both the Mayor of Galway City and County Galway attended the festival and they had an opportunity to meet with the Mayor of Milwaukee and Alderman for a reception in city hall. Alderman Michael Murphy continues to be instrumental in growing this relationship. Each year, in addition to a welcome reception, the Alderman and Mayor often have the opportunity to meet with their representatives outside of the festival Irish Fest representatives have visited Galway countless times over the years and we have visited with area elected officials, representatives from tourism and area businesses. In fact, a group from Irish Fest visited representatives from Galway in May, 2012, and as a result, Galway sent two different businesses to the festival this year. We plan a return visit in 2013 to strengthen those new relationships.

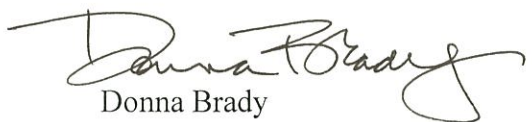
The partnership, between Galway and Milwaukee Irish Fest has allowed us to attract many government leaders, vendors, and guests from Galway and other places in Ireland to come to Milwaukee to sell their tourist packages, goods and services. The City of Milwaukee clearly benefits from this by having our Galway guests stay in Milwaukee, visit our many attractions and spend their tourist dollars right here in the city.

Milwaukee Irish Fest

In a growing global economy, there are many opportunities for Milwaukee and Galway to support each other as our partnership continues to grow and we are grateful for the continued support of the City of Milwaukee and Alderman Murphy, Alderman Donovan and Mayor Barrett.

Milwaukee Irish Fest is a year round organization. We are known in the city for our annual festival; this year we celebrated our 33rd anniversary to record crowds, including a delegation from Galway. In addition to the festival, we have many beneficial ties with Ireland; North and South. We would be happy to provide assistance to anyone traveling to Ireland and would be happy to make introductions for business leaders and elected officials as well. Please keep us in mind as opportunities present themselves. Thank you for maintaining this exciting international program. If we can help provide any additional leadership to develop this partnership please let us know.

Sincerely,



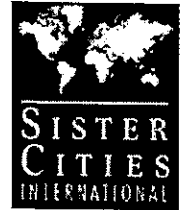
Donna Brady
President of Milwaukee Irish Fest



Sister Cities Committee

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September 3, 2013

Peace Action WI
Attn: Mike Helbick, Mark Foreman,
or Erik Sperling
1001 E. Keefe Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53212

RE: Carora, Venezuela Sister City 2013 Annual Report

Dear Peace Action WI:

According to Section 335-3-7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances, the sister city relationship sponsoring entity shall submit an annual report to the City of Milwaukee, Sister City Committee within 30 days following the anniversary of the date on which the mayor signed the resolution establishing a sister city relationship.

The anniversary date of the sister city relationship with Carora, Venezuela is October 9th. Please submit your completed 2013 Annual Report, detailing current and recent activities, accomplishments, and any other relevant information within the year concerning the sister city relationship, to Chris Lee, 200 E. Wells St., Room 205, Milwaukee, WI 53202 by **November 8, 2013**.

If you have any questions, please contact the Staff Assistant to the committee, Chris Lee at 414-286-2232 or clee@milwaukee.gov.

Failure to submit the annual report by **November 8, 2013** may result in the Committee to move termination of the relationship at its next scheduled meeting.

Please note that a benefit of being a part of the City of Milwaukee Sister Cities program is that the Sister Cities International annual membership fee is paid by the City of Milwaukee.

Thank you for your prompt response in this matter.

Sincerely,

Alderman Joe Davis, Sr., Chair
Sister Cities Committee

From: Mike Helbick [mikehelbickpa@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2013 7:13 PM

To: Lee, Chris



Subject: Carora Sister Cities Renewal Application:

Dear Chris,

Please see the attached Sister Cities Renewal application on behalf of the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee, as well as the other attachments regarding our upcoming delegation in January, 2014 to Carora.

Please also advise as to anything else you would like us to provide.

Lastly, do you have a sense of when this renewal application will be reviewed/accepted?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

Mike Helbick

President, Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee

414-241-1823

Application To Renew A Sister City Relationship*

City Clerk's Office
 City Hall, Room 205
 200 E. Wells Street
 Milwaukee, WI 53202 PH: (414) 286-2221 WEB: www.milwaukee.gov/sistercities



APPLICATION ORGANIZATION		
Name	Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee	
Mailing Address	1001 E. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee, 53212	
Website	www.peaceactionwi.org (our sponsor)	
PERSON IN CHARGE OF ORGANIZATION		
Name	Mike Helbick	Phone 414-241-1823
Mailing Address	3805 N. Humbolt Blvd. #3 ⁵³²¹²	Email MikeHelbick@gmail.com
SISTER CITY		
Name	Carora	Country Venezuela
		Population 112,626

Please attach the following information:

Information about the sister city:

- Areas of mutual interest and involvement between Milwaukee and the sister city in the areas of culture and business
- Details of communication and consultation with the sister city regarding the existing relationship
- Updated information regarding the local organizational structure in the sister city that supports the relationship

Information about the applicant organization:

- Organizational status (e.g. 501c-3). List Board of Directors and attach bylaws
- Number of members and their professional and business background
- Goals of the organization regarding the sister city relationship
- Current activities of the organization in relation to the sister city
- Methods the organization uses to meet the goals of the sister city relationship
- Financial base of the organization and funds available to support the sister city relationship
- Evidence of local community support for the sister city relationship, including additional financial support and interest in exchange program

**Note: Application for renewal of a sister city relationship must be submitted to the Sister Cities Committee not less than 6 months before the expiration of the existing relationship.*

Milwaukee – Carora Sister Cities Renewal Application



Mayor Tom Barrett of Milwaukee shakes hands with Mayor Edgar Carrasco of Carora

Information about applicant organization:

Organizational status:

The Sister City relationship is maintained through Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin, a 501c-3 organization. This entity functions as the main contact for any fiscal or official correspondence relating to the Sister Cities relationship.

Board members of the Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin:

Mary Laan, President: 414-231-3965
Deb Metke, Secretary: 414-881-0904
Susan Modder, Treasurer: 414-265-3309

The group that is primarily responsible for the programming of the relationship is called the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee (MCSCC). Our membership is as follows:

- Daniel Pneuman: President, Peace Action Wisconsin
- Mitchell Sandquist: Program Director, Peace Action Wisconsin
- Erik Sperling: Law student at Georgetown University, Co-Founder of Sister Cities agreement
- Mike Helbick: Staff Assistant in Sen. Tammy Baldwin's Milwaukee Office, Co-Founder of Sister Cities agreement
- Aimee Dellemann: area activist and visitor to Carora
- Atty. Arthur Heitzer: National Lawyers Guild, Milwaukee Chapter
- Conor McMullen: Student activist, Peace Action at UW-Milwaukee
- George Martin: United for Peace and Justice

Goals:

We support President Eisenhower's original Sister Cities mission through relationships based on cultural, educational, and informational exchanges through person-to-person "citizen diplomacy." We strive to connect the citizens of Milwaukee and Carora by facilitating opportunities to make meaningful connections and lasting relationships. We also strive to cultivate economic, educational, and cultural programs that are sustainable and mutually beneficial.

Methods used to reach these goals:

The hosting of education events, the utilization of social media and online resources (Sister Cities website and Peace Action website), and the providing of opportunities to visit Venezuela are the primary methods we use to reach our goals, and we have hosted a number of gifted activists and speakers that focus on Venezuela and have facilitated people-to-people connections, some of which are listed below:

Charles Hardy, a former priest from Wyoming who spent eight years living in a cardboard shack in a dangerous, poverty-stricken "barrio" of Venezuela as part of his religious mission, came to Milwaukee to share his published memoir entitled *A Cowboy in Caracas*. The book is a unique blend of culture and history, as seen through the eyes of a man committed to working with some of the poorest and most marginalized people in the world. Mr. Hardy's perspective is humorous and optimistic, although many of his experiences were anything but so. His visit was greatly contributed to an understanding of Venezuelan culture for all in attendance.

Dr. Mark Weisbrot is an economist and co-director of the Center for Economic Policy and Research who has served (and continues to serve) as an economic advisor to a number of Latin America nations, including Venezuela. Mr. Weisbrot gave the audience an expert analysis of the history and reality of Venezuela's politics, economics, and culture, and also shed light on many questions about daily life for Venezuelans and their government's foreign policy (including prospects for improving relations with the United States).

Gregory Wilpert, together with Martin Sánchez, launched Venezuelanalysis.com in September 2003. Founding member of the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee, a UW-Milwaukee Alumnus and current Georgetown law student who was also a legal observer for the April, 2013 Venezuelan election, was employed by Venezuelanalysis.com while living in Carora. We continue to circulate this website as an educational tool in understanding Venezuelan culture and politics.

Eva Golinger is an author and the editor of the *Correo Orinoco*, a leading Venezuelan bi-lingual publication. Her journalistic contributions have helped us understand Venezuelan history and politics, and catapulted her to stardom in Venezuelan television and print. A warm person and captivating speaker, Milwaukee residents benefitted greatly from her visit.

Jessica Luna is a Venezuelan student activist based in Caracas. She studies agrology and her main volunteer work is in urban gardening and the cooperative movements in low-income neighborhoods of Caracas. She visited with local faculty at UW-Milwaukee, as well as tours

with the Riverwest Coop and Growing Power. She also delivered a public presentation, free of charge, of her work in Venezuela (on August 23, 2013, at Brewing Grounds for Change).

Each year, we co-host a film fest entitled Documentaries Del Sur. This is a local, multi-night film series held at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee in partnership with local and student organizations. This film fest offers a variety of films, many of which are focused directly on Venezuela and its culture, politics, etc. Attendance throughout the fest usually reaches about 350 people, who leave with a greater grasp of the reality of life in our Sister city. We have also included special guests at this fest, including Emmy Award-winning director, Saul Landau.

Erik Sperling, current law student at Georgetown University and Co-Founder of the Sister Cities relationship, was invited to monitor the April, 2013 elections in Caracas, Venezuela. He was also able to visit Carora while on that trip and meet and discuss with folks we have been working with there since 2007. MCSCC also hosted a Venezuelan election party in April of 2013, complete with traditional Venezuelan food, Venezuelan television via the internet, and skype video calls with Venezuelan friends in our Sister City. This was very enjoyable, and we look forward to doing more.

We have also had a chance to cultivate people-to-people connections between Carora and Milwaukee. On more than one occasion, Mike Helbick, President of the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee, collaborated musically with local Caroran musicians, including a band named Fusioncayado. A blend of traditional Venezuelan styles and modern rock, this band includes a seasoned artist who has played concerts in the United States as well promising, young musicians. In Fusioncayado's recording studio, Mike was able to perform with the band and record an original song with traditional Venezuelan influence. We look forward expanding the opportunity to mix our artistic styles and talents across continents.

In 2007, we launched our pilot Sister Cities delegation. Delegates learned about Carora's renowned "participatory democracy" and witnessed innovative social programs and progress in urban gardening, education, healthcare, housing, and more. The delegates also found themselves immersed in Venezuelan culture and enjoyed traditional dance, art, and poetry. Most importantly, they made meaningful connections to the people of Venezuela in Milwaukee's Sister City, Carora. We look forward to our upcoming delegation in January, 2014 and are sure it will be even more exciting and successful than the first!

Current activities:

The Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee is partnering with Peace Action Wisconsin, Edward Mercado of Waya Tour, and the Venezuelan Consulate of Chicago to facilitate a Sister Cities trip to Venezuela in January, 2014.

This delegation, comprised of delegates from the cities of Milwaukee and Madison, will visit Milwaukee's Sister City of Carora and Madison's Sister City of Sanare. The goal of this delegation is not only to facilitate, in the tradition of Sister Cities International, a people-to-people connection across cultures, but also to facilitate lasting relations and partnerships between these four cities.

Throughout this trip, delegates will experience and learn about the rich traditional culture of Lara State, including music, poetry, and crafts. Delegates will also learn about new advancements in education, health care, and nonprofit initiatives in Carora and Sanare. Further, this delegation will seek to economically connect these four cities for mutually beneficial future exchanges of goods and services. We believe that this trip will benefit not only all individuals involved, both Estadounidense and Venezuelan, but will also benefit these participating cities at large. (Please see the attached itinerary, flyer, and application for this upcoming delegation.)

A highlight of this trip will be meeting with our counterparts in our Sister Cities that are charged with maintaining the Sister Cities relationship on their end. We look forward to sitting down with them and discussing more projects, moving forward. Edward Mercado and Omar Sierra (of the Venezuelan Consulate of Boston) recently went to Carora in June to touch base with these folks and work with them regarding our upcoming delegation. The Venezuelans are excited to host us!

(Please see the attached application, flyers, and itinerary for this upcoming delegation.)

Local Support and Financial base:

Peace Action Wisconsin and the Peace Education Project of Peace Action Wisconsin provide financial support through the work of paid staff and the donation of resources, such as free meeting space, free printing, and free online promotion. Those in the Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities organization operate as volunteers, donating time and energy to events and projects, including the upcoming delegation. We have a broad and diverse base of people who support us in this way. We do solicit donations, as well, although these are solicited generally in regard to specific needs (like sponsorship for low-income students to visit Venezuela, etc.). We have done much outreach with local entities, including UW-Milwaukee and other local organizations. We are also applying for a grant from Citgo to help provide scholarship funds for our January, 2014 delegation.

Information about the Sister City:

Communication and local support:

The following are names and titles of Caroran people who directly work with our Sister City relationship:

- Jose Luis Infante: Torres Mayor's Office (Popular Power Coordinator, International Delegations)
- Lic. Gilmer Graterol - Torres Mayor Office (Press Chief)
- Norys Saavedra: Carora-Sanare people to people coordinator
- Edward Mercado: WAYATour Exec. Director / Sister Cities promoter / Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Committee liaison to Carora

These people have and continue to provide support for Sister City-related projects. Currently, they are helping to do on-the-ground organizing for our upcoming delegation in January, 2014.

In the past, some of them have done the same for our 2007 delegation, and have helped in making it possible for Milwaukeeans to teach English and reside in Carora for extended periods of time, among other things.

Other Caroran citizens have helped us by opening their homes and otherwise providing material and personal support for those who have traveled to Carora. These people all did so in goodwill under the auspices of the Sister City relationship, and consider themselves part of this special relationship.

Areas of Mutual Interest:

Milwaukee and Carora are interested in exchanges of technology and goods. The General Consul of Venezuela (Chicago Consulate) visited Carora and met with over 30 representatives of agricultural producers there. We have also logged local Milwaukee interest in potential exchanges. The information gathered, including what these entities would like to partner on, what they have to offer, and what they would like to learn, will greatly aid us in moving forward in planning these exchanges. This is a somewhat lengthy process, and we plan to further this program during our 2014 delegation. We have enjoyed robust cultural exchanges over the past many years, and look forward to expanding into business exchanges, as well.

Visit Venezuela!



Sister Cities Delegation! January 9-17, 2014

Delegates will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about the renowned "participatory democracy" of Milwaukee's Sister City, Carora, Venezuela.
- Witness Venezuela's innovative social programs in health care, education, food security, community radio, and more.
- Immerse in Venezuelan culture and enjoy traditional dance, music, and art.
- Enjoy natural beauty in the foothills of the Andes mountains.

Cost is \$2,000 & includes airfare, meals, lodging, interpretation, and transportation.

For more info or an application, email:
Info@peaceactionwi.org



www.PeaceActionWI.org/Venezuela

Venezuela Sister Cities Delegation 2014 Application

If you have questions about this application, please contact Daniel Pneuman at djpneuman@gmail.com.

Name (as it appears on your passport):

First	Middle (if on your passport)	Last
-------	------------------------------	------

Name as you prefer to be called:

Name

Phone number:

(____) _____ - _____
#

Email address:

Email

Address:

Line 1

Line 2

City

_____, _____
State Zip

Passport Information

I am a citizen of: _____
Country

Passport Number: _____
#

Place of Issue: _____
City

Date of Issue: _____/_____/_____
Month Day Year

Date of expiration: _____/_____/_____
Month Day Year

Person to contact in case of an emergency:

Name:

First	Last	Relation
-------	------	----------

City

City

Phone number:

(____) _____ - _____
#

Email address:

Email

Tour price is for double occupancy (which is not always guaranteed). Single room accommodations require an additional fee. Please mark your preferences (and are not always guaranteed): _____ Double _____ Single

Spanish language level [none required]: basic intermediate conversational fluent

Do you have any special medial or dietary needs?

How did you hear about this trip?

Are you interested in helping organize and fundraise for this trip before attending?

What got you interested in visiting Venezuela?

Delegate Payment:

Since this trip is organized with discounted staff time and mainly through volunteers, we can keep our cost much lower than other delegations of leading nonprofit organizations. The price of the trip is \$2,000, which includes airfare, lodging, ground transportation and organizing, most meals, and all activities. The payment schedule will be broken into installments, as follows:

- Due after application review and notification of acceptance to join delegation: \$100.
- Due by October 16: \$500
- Due by November 16: \$1,400.

Questions? Comments? Please call Peace Action at 414-964-5158, or email Info@peaceactionwi.org.

We're looking forward to traveling with you!



Visit Venezuela!

Milwaukee-Carora Sister Cities Delegation January 9-17, 2014



Delegates will have the opportunity to:

- ◆ Learn about the renowned "participatory democracy" of Milwaukee's Sister City.
- ◆ Witness Venezuela's innovative social programs in healthcare, education, food security, community radio, and more.
- ◆ Immerse in Venezuelan culture and enjoy traditional dance, music, art, hand-crafts, etc.
- ◆ Visit Dane County's Sister City of Sanare, including touring coffee production sites and cooperatives.



Join Us!

Make a meaningful connection
with your Sister City!

Cost of the delegation is \$2,000 and includes:

- ◆ Airfare, all meals, lodging, interpretation, and transportation within Venezuela.

*Scholarships for student are possible — ask us!



To receive more info
or an application, email:
Info@peaceactionwi.org



DRAFT ITINERARY	
Day 1 . Thursday, January 9th	
Arrivals to Venezuela	Meet WAYAtour Ground team
Customs check in	Avila Hotel – Check in
Baggage claim	Short briefing during light dinner
Day 2 . Friday, January 10th	
Breakfast	Lunch on the road
Hotel Check-Out	Arrival- Posada Los Granados Check in
Road trip to Carora, Lara State approx. 6 – 7 hrs	Sister cities welcome cultural event
Day 3, Saturday, January 11th	
Breakfast	Lunch in the City
Visit Communal councils	Artisan Semeruco wine, berry wine tasting
Visit elderly productive agricultural coop.	Family Cooperative Bendri
Day 4, Sunday, January 12th	
Breakfast	Lunch on Site
Solidarity Economy Fair / Center for Diversity	Meeting with Mayor of Carora
Communes, Communal Councils, Coops, Barter	Visit artisan beer distillery
Day 5, Monday, January 13th	
Breakfast	Roundtable with communal council spoke persons
Visit artisan sugar cane mill	Form of local sister cities committee
Lunch	Farewell event
Day 6, Tuesday, January 14th	
Breakfast	Meeting with Mayor of Sanare
Departure to Sanare approx. 2 hrs	Lunch @ Woman's Coop. Moncar
Visit Artisan town Tintoreros	Visit Agriculture cooperative , Las Lajitas
Posada Nena y Kaka check in	Meeting with bank of seeds committee



Day 7, Wednesday, January 15th	
Day trip to coffee producers rural community	Participate in meeting with coffee coops
Las Guapas, Commune Argimiro Gabaldon 1	Rural Tourism
Visit the chain of coffee production	Return to Sanare
Day 8, Thursday, January 16th	
Breakfast	Farewell event
Sister Cities fair with local committee	Departure to Caracas approx . 6 hrs
Round tables	Avila Hotel Check in
Day 9, Friday, January 17th	
Hotel Check out	Return flight check in
Drive to Airport	Early pass thru security for duty free shop