Dear Sir/Madam,

The Trustees of the Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide are considering applications for a number of their bursaries. The person who has forwarded this letter to you is one of these applicants and has given your name to the Trustees as a referee.

The conditions of the scheme are enclosed and I would be most grateful if you would be kind enough to let me have a character reference and let me know whether you consider this particular applicant would genuinely benefit from their proposed overseas visit.

Do you have any reservations about the applicant’s suitability for a placement such as the one described below? Please also state the relationship you hold with the applicant and how long you have known them.

Please could you send your response to the above address or email it to encounter@cccw.cam.ac.uk no later than the deadline by which the applicant is applying. This will be either Tuesday 20th November 2018, or Tuesday 9th April 2019. Please do also email or phone if you have any queries about the scheme.

Thank you in advance for your help in this matter. Your response will, of course, be treated in confidence.

Yours sincerely,

Heather Pritchard
Intercultural Encounter Coordinator
Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide
Encounter Scheme

Our Intercultural Encounter programme offers bursaries that enable recipients to spend a sustained period of time in a Christian community in a culture other than their own. We encourage people to cross boundaries and barriers of all kinds, whether that be linguistic, socio-economic, geographic, or all of the above. In so doing, we learn more about God in Christ and more about one another.

CCCW makes a number of bursaries available of up to £1000 each calendar year to part-fund suitable individuals undertaking a placement allowing them to learn about and participate in the life and work of the worldwide church. Placements may be undertaken within the UK or abroad, but must involve the candidate engaging in immersion within a culture different to their own.

The deadlines for bursary application in 2018 are 20th November and 9th April. Please visit the CCCW website for full details.

Conditions:
1. Applicants must be between the ages of 18-40 or a mature student.
2. A personal link to Cambridge must be demonstrated.
3. Applications are welcomed from those seeking to inform their present and future career and to develop personally and spiritually through experience of the intercultural nature of Christianity worldwide.
4. The length of the placement should be no shorter than four weeks.
5. A link with a local church or intercultural mission agency is expected, as well as appropriate supervision during the placement.
6. In all cases the candidates must be prepared to undergo induction and debriefing arrangements (details of dates included in the application forms).
7. Only one Encounter Scheme bursary is available per applicant.
8. At the end of the placement, a report must be submitted to the Trustees.

Candidates will be expected to observe and participate in the life of the culture within which they are placed. Critical reflection on the nature of relationships and mission within the worldwide church is encouraged. This will be aided by ongoing supervision taking place throughout the placement, as well as induction and debriefing. Supervision during the placement may be face-to-face or long-distance.