
**VILLAGE OF HANOVER PARK SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE WINS SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL'S BEST
OVERALL PROGRAM AWARD**

WASHINGTON, DC – Village of Hanover Park Sister Cities Committee (VHPSCC) has won Sister Cities International's (SCI) 2016 Best Overall Program Award for a city with a population between 25,001 and 50,000. The 2016 SCI Best Overall Program Award recognizes sister city programs that demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in 2015 in advancing the goals and mission of the sister cities movement.

In 2015, VHPSCC successfully facilitated all sister cities partnerships for the Village of Hanover Park, prepared individuals for life in a multi-cultural world, facilitated and enhanced the relationships that promote international trade opportunities, and were the premier international resource organization utilized by Hanover Park-area governments, businesses, organizations, educational institutions, and residents.

The Village of Hanover Park Sister Cities Committee specifically demonstrated their excellence through programs including engaging the Lions Clubs to donate funds to the Cape Coast Lions Club and Hearing Assessment Clinic at the Cape Coast School for the Deaf. Additionally, they worked with Girl Scouts through teaching at their international night and collecting reading books for sister city schools, painting, replacing shutters, and repairing the roof of the Hanover Park Primary School in Cape Coast. They donated funds to the Jesus Gonzales Ortega School in Valparaiso for school supplies and educational materials, donated soccer uniforms with the Hanover Park Village logo and game balls to the local youth futbol team. They participated in the "Kids at Hope" Resource Fair to encourage schools to include sister cities programs for international understanding, exhibited indigenous crafts from central Mexico and coastal Ghana at "Art Appreciation Around the World" at the local public library, hosted a Black History Month event featuring West African food, art, and culture, and participated in the ribbon cutting of the playroom in the Children's Ward at Cape Coast District Hospital.

SCI's Annual Awards are awarded in several categories including Best Overall, Innovation (Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Humanitarian Assistance, and Youth and Education), and Volunteer of the Year. Award winners will be honored at the Lou Wozar Diplomatic Awards Dinner on Saturday, July 16 during SCI's 60th Anniversary Celebration in Washington, DC.

SCI's 60th anniversary celebration will include an [Annual Conference](#) and [Youth Leadership Summit](#) in Washington, DC July 13-16, 2016. The celebration will bring together hundreds of the most influential global leaders in diplomacy, foreign affairs, policy, business, and innovation. Elected and municipal officials, business leaders, youth delegates, and citizen diplomats will discuss this year's theme "Peace through People," building on President Eisenhower's initial vision of creating a more peaceful world by building global relationships.

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About Sister Cities International

Founded as a Presidential Initiative by Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for 570 member communities with 2,300 partnerships in 150 countries on six continents. The



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sister city network unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers who work tirelessly to promote the organizations' mission of creating world peace and understanding through economic development, youth and education, arts and culture, and humanitarian assistance.

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