

Policy - Sister Chapter

Effective Date: 6/08

Reviewed by:

Approved by: WI Badger APIC Board of Directors

Revision Dates:

PURPOSE:

WI Badger APIC, through the International Committee, defines a Sister Chapter relationship as follows:

A sister chapter is one that represents a long-term partnership between two agreeing foreign organizations. The relationship is broad-based in the principles of infection control. The relationship is officially approved by the WI Badger APIC Board of Directors. There exists a formal signed document acknowledging the sister chapter relationship between our two professional organizations. The relationship is a non-profit one.

Through time and experience with a sister chapter relationship, there exists an opportunity for both countries to gain cultural understanding, and through collaborative efforts of both professional groups, an increased global understanding regarding the epidemiology and management of diseases and infections. While our countries can be very different, our goals and day-to-day issues are very much the same. An ongoing sister chapter relationship motivates and empowers the involved groups to develop projects that are reciprocal and jointly planned, executed and evaluated. Through correspondence and meeting periodically our organizations develop annual plans for the continued partnership. WI Badger APIC and the Sister Chapter have ongoing discussions regarding areas of interest, realities of budgets and other important details in carrying out proposed exchanges or projects.

Through this ongoing international cooperation, (official meetings, educational opportunities, hospital and public health site visits, home stays, friendships,) WI Badger APIC and a sister chapter can continue to improve the health and well being of peoples in diverse settings.

PROCEDURE:

Key Elements of Success for a Sister Chapter program:

1. Official recognition from WI Badger APIC and a commitment for ongoing, active involvement by WI Badger APIC and the Sister Chapter membership.
2. The WI Badger APIC International Committee is made up of enthusiastic supporters for the sister chapter program. The membership has various roles in Infection Control and Epidemiology, which enhances the full potential of projects agreed upon with the Sister Chapter.
3. Excellent communication links, including reliable phone, fax and internet communications between both countries. In that communication connectivity, each country shares its progress and publishes updates to its membership through established forums for membership readers.
4. Maximize limited resources.
5. Ensure activities are in accordance with local Ministry of Health officials.

Annual Responsibilities and Requirements for Fiscal Support Decision Making:

1. Provide a joint annual report to the WI Badger APIC and sister chapter Boards, accounting for expenses and accomplishments of the year.
2. Renew the WI Badger APIC Award to be given at the sister chapter conference to a nurse or hygiene specialist for outstanding work performed in Infection Control.
3. Create an annual plan and budget for the next fiscal year, which supports the sister chapter relationship between WI Badger APIC and sister chapter.