



FOR IMMEDIATE NEWS RELEASE (PLEASE) – All Papers 10/20/14
Re: STILL NEED FOR HOMESTAY HOST FAMILIES over Thanksgiving Weekend

Plans are proceeding for this year's fifty-fifth annual visit of international college students (some with families) in area homes over Thanksgiving, November 26-30. Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship Program (GITFP) is supposed to place fifty guests. The application deadline—November 12-- is fast approaching, GITFP still NEEDS many HOMESTAY HOSTS. Interested hosts should call coordinators, Arlyn and Marcia Helke at (309) 944-4486 as soon as possible for more information.

There will be a Host Information Meeting for ALL hosts on Monday, November 17 at 7:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church, 133 East North Street, Geneseo. Everyone should attend to get acquainted, pick up materials including an optional activity list, and get current details and changes. Helpful hints for successful hosting are also shared.

GITFP needs neat fingerfoods by November 25 for students waiting to depart Chicago and during the bus ride to Geneseo, and tax-deductible financial contributions to the all-volunteer nonprofit organization anytime. Supportive people who can not host can assist the program in other ways. Contact the Helkes if you wish to help.

The international guests are expected to arrive at First Congregational Church, 101 West Pearl Street, Geneseo, approximately 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 26. Hosts are encouraged to get acquainted and wait patiently. Late arrival in Chicago by students, heavy traffic, and inclement weather have delayed that time some years. It is comforting to have hosts at the site when nervous students arrive, though, rather than have to wait for them. The students are always concerned about having a host.

(Thank you!
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