



September 14, 2014

Dear Friends:

As we enter the colorful autumn harvest season, we begin thinking of Thanksgiving and blessings we should never take for granted. For fifty-four years another tradition in the Geneseo Area has enabled many families to share this American holiday with foreign students. World events and global business stress the need for people to learn more about each other's cultures in order to live together effectively. Would you help continue this important event through the Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship Program?

In the past, individuals, organizations, and businesses have helped bring foreign students at Chicago colleges to this area with their varied donations. Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship Program is grateful to all for their support. In order to continue GITF programs, we would appreciate your help again. We are a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, and funds for transportation (The bus alone will be \$1859.), insurance, publicity, supplies, telephone, and other operating expenses are realized through tax-deductible donations. Should you wish to SHARE, make checks payable to Geneseo International Thanksgiving Fellowship Program, and mail to Jan Corsaro, 217 South Vail Street, Geneseo, Illinois 61254. To those who have donated recently, **THANK YOU** for putting GITFP in your budget! We also NEED volunteer workers and travel snack contributions, as well as your prayers.

Most importantly, we need **HOMESTAY HOST FAMILIES**. Over 533 different area families from 44 communities have hosted over 2430 foreign guests from 124 countries over Thanksgiving weekends since 1960. Many others in the communities enjoy meeting these guests while they are here. Residents and international guests both increase their mutual understanding and respect for people of different countries and cultures, and many friendships result. Please consider becoming part of this special program.

GITFP is also active during the remainder of the year arranging information appointments and short-term HOMESTAYS for students and foreign dignitaries invited to this country mostly by the U. S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. With our additional programs our grand totals to date are: 3635 International Visitors from 167 countries and 698 Homestay Host Families from 49 local communities.

For more information on participation, please call or e-mail:

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**THANK YOU!!**

**GENESEO INTERNATIONAL THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**---in its 55th year!