



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL

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## Introducing FFI's Homestay Auction Fundraiser!

Dear FFI Club Leaders and Officers,

As your Board of Directors, we continually work to help our organization grow and adapt to our ever-changing world. Many of the advancements needed to keep us current in this increasingly global environment require significant investment on behalf of FFI. For 2019, the Board has identified the translation of our website into six additional languages as one of our top priorities, making it easier for our current and potential members around the

of our top priorities, making it easier for our current and potential members around the world to learn what we are about and participate in our mission.

Instead of simply identifying this as a fundraising priority, we wanted to find a fun way to bring in donations to fund these translations while also encouraging new friendships – **an international homestay auction!**

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We are challenging each of our clubs to find *at least one* volunteer member to host a new friend for up to one week. The host commitment is to provide a bed and breakfast for up to one week, (1-7 days) with no obligation to provide additional meals, tours, or entertainment unless the host wants to provide these to their guest(s). **We ask that all volunteer hosts fill out their host information using [this form](#) by May 15.**

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*The host's information will be available on the online auction site - [www.myminiauction.com/friendshipforce/](http://www.myminiauction.com/friendshipforce/) - but no names or contact information will be listed, only information about the home and homestay available.*

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Each homestay will begin with a minimum bid of \$100.00 USD, payable to FFI. Bidding will be open to all FFI members, and each bidder will be notified via email of their bid or if they are outbid. The host's name and contact information will only be shared with the winning bidder when the money for the homestay has been received by Friendship Force International. Winning bidders should be prepared to provide references and answer basic questions for the host as any member would if participating in a regular Friendship Force Journey.

Bidding will be open for approximately six weeks, beginning in the middle of June and closing at the end of July. After the auction, the host and winning bidder will be able to communicate about the logistics of the homestay, set to occur between August 15, 2019 and December 31, 2020. There will be no refund if the homestay is not used.

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**These homestay weeks made available through the auction could be used to:**



- have a stopover on your way between two locations
- extend a Friendship Force Journey for an additional week in a nearby location
- enjoy and explore a new destination
- visit a friend you have not seen for a while, or make a new friend!

# Volunteer to Host

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This auction to fund the translation of our website and club support documents will only be successful with the participation of our exceptional clubs and members. Please consider offering up a homestay or encouraging others in your club to do so. This is a unique chance to not only make a new friend, but to also support the organization that has given so many people fantastic new opportunities for cultural exploration over the last 42 years.

In friendship,

**Lyn Hargreave**, Board Vice-Chair

*Writing on behalf of your FFI Board of Directors*

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Contact [ffiboard@friendshipforce.org](mailto:ffiboard@friendshipforce.org) with questions.

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