



Be an IFYE/ Host an IFYE

IFYE Cultural Exchange Program

History of IFYE



- ▶ Founded following WW II to foster greater international understanding and cooperation
- ▶ First exchange was in 1948 with 17 youth from the United States traveling to seven European countries
- ▶ Six Europeans came to the United States
- ▶ Both inbound and outbound students stayed with host families.

History of IFYE continued

- ▶ The International Farm Youth Exchange name is adopted
- ▶ The IFYE motto becomes Peace Through Understanding
- ▶ Delegates participate in six-month exchanges with both inbound and outbound youth living and working with farm families in their host countries



IFYE Evolves

- ▶ Funding and staffing provided first through the National 4-H Foundation and then the National 4-H Council
- ▶ 1973 IFYE name changed to the International 4-H Youth Exchange



IFYE operations change

- ▶ In 1992 National 4-H Council focuses on programming only for youth up to age 19
- ▶ In 1999 the IFYE Association assumes funding responsibilities for the IFYE program
- ▶ In 2012 the name changes again. It is now the IFYE Association of the USA



IFYE in 2020

- ▶ Exchanges have continued for more than 70 years
- ▶ More than 4,000 U.S. IFYEs have lived in 116 countries and an equal number of inbounds have lived with host families here
- ▶ Exchanges are now offered for 2, 3 and 6 months



IFYE in 2020

- ▶ While programs are facilitated and funded by the IFYE Association of the USA, new opportunities for collaboration are now possible through USDA.
- ▶ On Sept. 6, 2019 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed at USDA headquarters in Washington, D.C. between IFYE and USDA, paving the way for promotion of the program through Extension.



Signing of the Memorandum of Agreement



Looking ahead

- ▶ Exchanges are conducted in collaboration with State Associations and State Coordinators and the National Program Director facilitates the programs
- ▶ Outbounds may choose from 17 countries in 2020.
- ▶ Some are from June-September
- ▶ Others are September-December



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