



May 1, 2020

Dear Friends of AMIS,

As we move into a season of our “new normal,” we may need to adjust the way that we carry out AMIS’s mission during the upcoming fall of 2020. Although the universities have not yet finalized their plans, we anticipate that social distancing guidelines will remain in place and there will likely be limits on large group gatherings. With that in mind, we are asking for your support to help us introduce AMIS to new international students through our website, social media, and virtual gatherings.

**Will you help us?**

We are hoping to raise \$2000 to create new professional videos to communicate to students and potential volunteers what we usually say to them in person. Would you join us in this new endeavor?

As a global pandemic has driven us apart through social distancing, AMIS’s mission is to bring international students and Americans together through friendship, making the world a better and more peaceful place. Help us to communicate to international student friends from around the world that we Americans welcome them and want to be their friends through AMIS. You can make a difference with us as we create some new tools to carry out AMIS’s mission of friendship and hospitality with international students in Greater Atlanta.

**Did you know?**

The CARES Act recently passed by Congress makes it easier for you to make a charitable gift this year. Whether or not you itemize your deductions, you can claim a tax deduction for nonprofit donations of up to \$300, or \$600 for joint filers, for 2020. Also, for taxpayers that itemize deductions, the limit on how much of your charitable donations you can deduct in 2020 has been increased to 100% of your adjusted gross income (from 60%). Learn more at:

<https://www.pbpatl.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/The-CARES-Act-Encourages-Charitable-Giving.pdf>

In addition, the CARES Act suspends the requirement that seniors take a minimum withdrawal from their IRAs, 401(k) plans and other retirement accounts in 2020. However, qualified charitable distributions are still a great way for donors 70 ½ or older to make charitable contributions. A “IRA charitable rollover” allows you to contribute up to \$100,000 to charity from your IRA without paying income tax.

We realize that not everyone is able to give financially at this time, but in the spirit of #GivingTuesdayNow, we invite those who are able, to join AMIS in our spirit of welcome, friendship and hospitality with international student friends in our city.

Peace to you,

Rev. Irene Wong

Executive Director, AMIS