

LETTER FROM OUR MOGY TEAM CHAIR



Hello MOGY!

I am super excited to introduce myself as the Area Team Chair in our very first MOGY newsletter. I will share a little about me, and then more about the newsletter.

I have been a volunteer since 1993 when my husband, Roger, and I hosted our first student, a young man from Spain, for three weeks. Since that time we have sent two daughters abroad and we are currently hosting our 14th year program student, Snegugu, from South Africa. I have been a Hosting Coordinator, liaison, local AFS chapter president, an AFS bus chaperon three times, AFS flight chaperon twice and leader of a HOW team, culminating in a published guide for US families hosting students from South Africa.

Last year AFS-USA sent a survey to volunteers asking for feedback about the strengths and weaknesses of each Area Team. MOGY got high marks in many areas, but communication needed some help. We have volunteers and host families spread out over much of Missouri and Western Illinois. Great things are happening all over our Area Team. We hope this newsletter is going to be the voice to spread the news, events and some feel good stories about MOGY!

Feel free to submit stories and information about new ideas, upcoming events, fundraisers, etc. We'd love for you to join our newsletter team!



Sydney Finan
AFS MOGY Team Chair

AFS DIVERSITY PROGRAM COMES TO ST. LOUIS



By Suzanne Sebert
AFS Quest Scholarship Fund Advisor

For over ten years, the AFS-USA Faces of America (FOA) diversity scholarship program has awarded 50% program scholarships to high-achieving students from low-income communities in select urban areas when the remaining 50% was matched by community organizations. Last year, MOGY volunteers in the St. Louis area created the Quest Scholarship Fund to serve as the community organization providing the scholarship match and successfully brought the FOA diversity program to St. Louis!

Our first FOA/Quest scholarship student spent last summer in Paraguay. The program has grown steadily thanks to efforts of many of our AFS volunteers. We currently have six students applying for the FOA and Quest scholarships who plan to participate in AFS summer programs to Ghana, Costa Rica, Finland and Italy. Five of the six come from schools in St. Louis and East St. Louis that had not sent a student abroad on an AFS Program before 2017.



To donate or to learn more information about the Quest Scholarship Fund, please visit our website at qsfstl.org or reach out to Debbie Veatch, Suzanne Sebert, Al Geismar or James Butler.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MOGY

April Get Togethers!

We will be having several sessions where MOGY volunteers can get together, enjoy each other's company, have some good refreshments and learn the basics of Hosting 101. Stay tuned for the upcoming dates in Saint Louis, Columbia and Southwest Missouri!

MAY 5th

Parkway South High School in Manchester, Missouri is having a fundraiser for the AFS students called *WALK IN THE PARK WITH PSH-AFS*. This event will be held at Schroeder Park with games, prizes, live music and a barbecue. For more details, go to psh-afs.org.

June 1st – 3rd

MOGY Pre-Departure Orientation will be held at the same location as the Midyear Orientation with same transportation options.