

April 2019

# Massachusetts Bay

Made up of the Cape Cod, Greater Providence, Metro West, North Shore, and Southeast districts

Happy spring!

The end of the year is coming up quickly for our current students and we are preparing for final orientations and other events as we head into warmer months. If you're interested in getting involved with a local orientation this is a great time to reach out and get the details. Of course, we are now also in hosting season for 2019/2020! This year we have students coming from over 90 different countries – can you help us spread the word and get these students placed in our communities? Read on for more idea on how to help with hosting.

As always, thank you for all that you do!

--Noelle

Mass Bay Districts	Hosting Goal	Students Placed	Distance to goal
Cape Cod	5	2	3
Greater Providence	11	1	10
Metro West	13	5	8
North Shore	13	5	8
Southeast	12	5	7
Total	54	18	36

Only 36 more placements to go – we're at about 34% placed. If we can keep this up we might be able to get all students here in August! It's always better to make placements early and when schools are still open, so please don't be shy about helping to promote our students – or asking me how to get started!

**We <3 Sponsored Programs!**



Some participants and Sponsored Program returnees at the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Conference in DC last weekend!

## Compliance Deets Monthly Contact Percentages

Type	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Fam	100%	100%	96%	94%
Stu	100%	98%	96%	92%
Type	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Fam	96%	94%	92%	75%
Stu	96%	98%	92%	87%
Type	April	May	June	
Fam	13%			
Stu	4%			

Overall we've been doing great this year, but what's happening with March? Let's backlog some contacts!

Please make sure to complete and log your April contacts – give those folks a call!

## In the Community

### Show #PrideAcrossCultures this June!

This June New York City will host [WorldPride](#) and commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, a watershed moment for the LGBTQ+ rights movement. We are proud to announce that AFS-USA will join the Pride March on June 30<sup>th</sup>!

If you are interested in proudly marching with AFS and meeting like-minded AFSers in NYC on June 29-30, please fill out [this form](#). You can also [join the Facebook group](#) to connect with our community and those marching in NYC.

This is a reminder that in addition to all of the information available to you on MyAFS and GlobalLink, we also have an easy-to-reference [Mass Bay Area Team roster!](#) This roster is updated regularly and contains a list of all current Mass Bay volunteers. You are in it. Take a look!



### Upcoming Events – Reach out to me for more details

Event	Where	When
Red Sox Baseball Game	Fenway Park	May 12 <sup>th</sup>
Pre-Return Orientations for the Cape, MetroWest, and North Shore districts	On the Cape, in Carlisle, MA, and in Westford, MA respectively	May 18 <sup>th</sup>
Pre-Departure Orientation (this is for American students who are going abroad)	Babson College	June 1 <sup>st</sup>
Pre-Return Orientation for Greater Providence	Pascoag, RI	June 1 <sup>st</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Departure Day	Holiday Inn, Dedham MA	June 24 <sup>th</sup> -wee hours of June 25 <sup>th</sup>

### Happy Birthday March + April Babies!

★ Janice Abarbanel, MW
★ Jody Barnard, MW
★ Sam Bartol, NS
★ Kara Britton, MW
★ Ginny Cohen, NS
★ Lisa Umholtz, NS
★ Brianna Fries, MW
★ Deb Gallagher, SE
★ Kai Guo, MW
★ JoAnne Hanrahan, GP
★ Sarah Heath, MW
★ Ali Hornung GP
★ Joan Iani, CC
★ France Livadas, MW
★ Samantha McGoldrick, MW
★ Cynthia Rankin, CC
★ Rhonda Reints, SE
★ Dorcas Sefton, NS
★ Hillary Weinberger, GP
★ Gemma Wilkens, NS
★ Amanda Alfano, GP
★ Arista Ely, honorary GPer
★ Emily Gonzalez, NS
★ Lizette Greaves, NS
★ Priscilla Jones, NS
★ Lynn Lake, SE
★ Juergen Loeber, MW
★ Joanne Marcoaldi, NS
★ Lauren McClure, MW
★ Mark Orban, GP

## Spring Hosting Outreach!

AFS students are coming from **90** different countries this year, and from all different kinds of backgrounds, belief systems, family structures, and experiences – though they are united in their desire to learn more about the world. Our team is responsible for placing **36** more of these fabulous students in our area. By placing incoming students, we are giving these kids and their host families, school communities, towns, and fellow AFS volunteers the opportunity to get to meaningfully know someone from a different culture. As we know, this has huge potential for positive impact on the world – that's why we do what we do!

### Here are three things that you can do this spring to help place students:

#### 1.) Make an appointment with your local high school principal.

Many schools have limitations on how many international students they will enroll. A huge challenge for us is schools who are only interested in students coming on programs that pay the school to enroll them. [Meeting with your principal](#) to let them know that you are an AFS volunteer and international student supporter can be hugely impactful! Meeting with currently 'open' schools to say 'Thank you!' and discuss how AFS can work with the school to further its global education goals encourages them to remain open, and perhaps even include our student bios in a newsletter. It also lets principals of 'closed' schools know that there is interest in AFS students in their community.

#### 2.) Contact community groups and clubs.

First, [take a look](#) at our incoming students! Find a student with a particular interest – Nina from Germany is really into cheerleading and would love to continue on program! Do you know anyone whose child does cheerleading, is there a club or Facebook group in your community that might share the bio with their families? Maybe an Italian Club would love to share information about hosting Italians with their members! Asking community groups and clubs to share bios is a really great way to promote hosting in our communities.

#### 3.) Get in touch with a local columnist.

Reach out to your local paper and see if they would be interested in running a story about AFS in their community. Articles can be a great way to reach people and let them know that we offer study abroad, volunteering, and [hosting opportunities](#). If you are a liaison for a current student, there is a unique opportunity for a story about an international student who is currently here! [Press releases](#) are also great options.

Check out some of our available Community Placed kids – these students are currently available to be placed anywhere in Mass Bay!



### Meet Nina from Germany

**Gender:** Female

**Age (at arrival):** 15 years

**Program length:** Year

Meet Nina from Germany! After growing up with au pairs from all over the world she was inspired to participate on her own exchange year. Nina loves the idea of sharing cultures and learning about others. She is a very open, helpful, and positive person who cannot wait to make new friends. Nina has a background in gymnastics and is looking forward to participating in cheerleading at her American high school. Nina is very excited to get as involved as possible in the U.S. with her host family and school, she cannot wait to meet you!

**Service Ref :** 3863589



### Meet Gaia from Italy

**Gender:** Female

**Age (at arrival):** 16 years

**Program length:** Year

Gaia is an independent, determined student who loves animals and trying new things. She describes herself as quiet at first, but she develops close relationships with both friends and family. Her favorite subjects in school are law and languages, and her teachers describe her as responsible and hard-working. In her free time she enjoys trying new sports - even sailing and climbing! When she spends time with friends they will often go out to dinner or to the movies together, or sometimes just go for a walk. Gaia can't wait to cook for her host family and share her favorite dessert - Tiramisu!

**Service Ref :** 18-09546



### Meet Petra Minea from Norway

**Gender:** Female

**Age (at arrival):** 16 years

**Program length:** Year

Petra's friends and family say that she's a hardworking, generous, and good-natured person. And her sisters are some of her best friends! Petra is the youngest of three girls, and she loves her sisters very much. Together, they hang out and do a little traveling, and her family has both hosted and studied with AFS before. So now it's Petra's turn! She's a pretty studious person, too, and enjoys school very much she thinks maybe she'll become a lawyer one day. In her free time, she likes most to play handball, but also takes private singing lessons! She can't wait to meet her U.S. hosts!

**Service Ref :** 18-02672



### Meet THANAPAT from Thailand

**Gender:** Male

**Age (at arrival):** 18

**Program length:** Year

Thanapat (who goes by Earth) is an only child and lives with his parents. Cheerful, open-minded, and polite are just three words friends and family use to describe Earth. He is family-oriented and his family enjoys traveling to many places together. Earth's hobbies are drawing and painting. He has loved drawing since he was five years old and one of his goals is to become an illustrator after he graduates high school. He also stays active with school activities, like participating in art club. Earth is very excited and can't wait to come to the U.S. to meet his American host family!

**Service Ref :** 18-01733

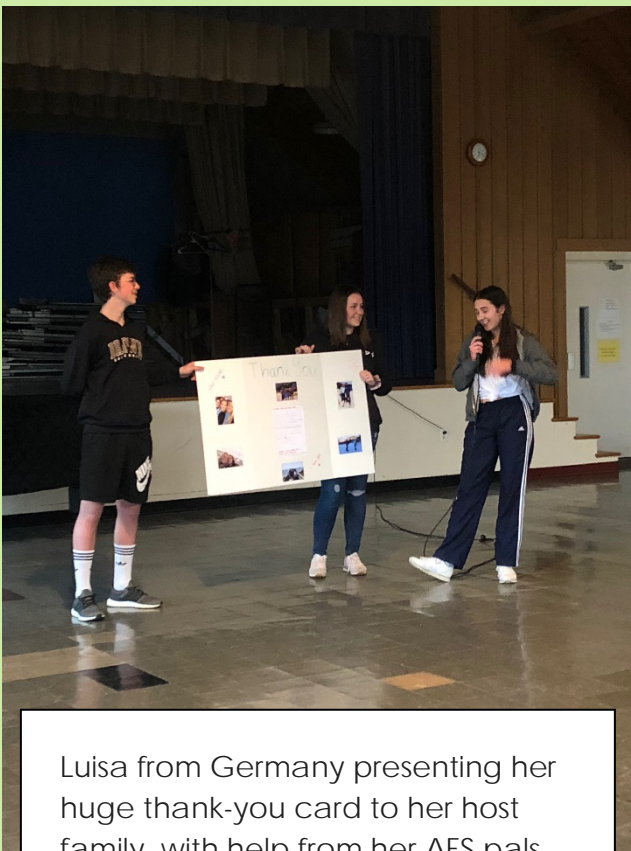




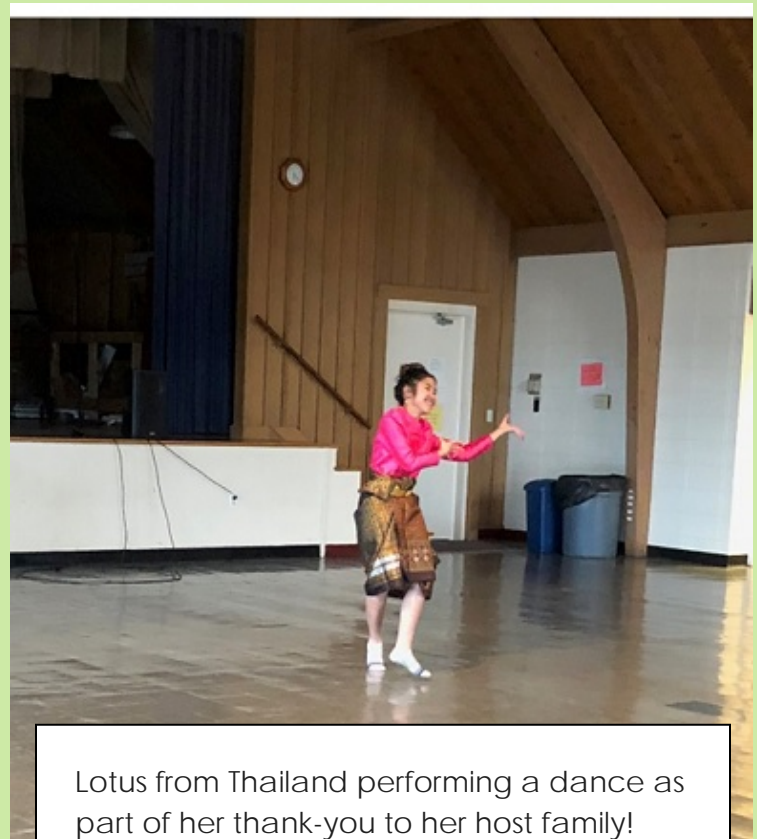
AFS students from Argentina, China, and Italy presenting at Canton High School!



Ana Luz from Argentina sang 'Can't Help Falling in Love' to her host mom at the Greater Providence Host Family Appreciation Day, with some help and a cell phone light from CBYX returnee and AFS volunteer Keldon!



Luisa from Germany presenting her huge thank-you card to her host family, with help from her AFS pals



Lotus from Thailand performing a dance as part of her thank-you to her host family!



Volunteers Carol Ritchie and Jennifer Freeman with a 'troop' of AFS students at the Girl Scout Conference in Newport, RI!



Hanko waiting patiently for warmer weather (and for the grass to grow back).