

Dianne Brotherson  
400 Ash Ave.  
Ames, IA 50014  
October 21, 2013

Dear Mayor & Members of the City Council:

The Ames International Partner Cities Association (AIPCA) thanks you for your support of our organization. Thanks to your financial contribution, membership dues, and in-home hosting of the Japanese delegates by Ames residents, we have been able to provide the visiting delegates with educational and culturally-rich experiences. This year, 2013, marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our sister-city relationship. We sent an adult delegation to Japan in June and received a delegation from Japan in September, which are both costly endeavors and have strained our finances.

Since we were celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a sister city, we had such additional expenses as scheduling a Welcome dinner and Farewell dinner, and inviting fourteen Japanese English teachers (JETs) who are studying at Iowa State University to assist in translating for the Ames host families and their Japanese guests. Having a translator was so helpful that several host families then invited a JET on their Saturday outings to translate and make verbal communication possible. We also had some additional expenses because we created pins and magnets to commemorate the event and had the anniversary graphic etched onto a walnut box for the gift to Kosshu city.

We became aware that our organization did not use \$1,554.76 from our budgeted allocation in FY 2012-2013. Based on the financial expenditures during this fiscal year, we would like to request that this money be carried over to this current fiscal year.

Again, we appreciate your financial support of our organization and we look forward to many more sister-city delegations.

Sincerely,

*Dianne Brotherson*

Dianne Brotherson  
Ames International Partner Cities Association President