

Get Involved!

- Host a Nigerian or Tanzanian high school student for a semester or a school year
- Contribute to or volunteer with Ames Friends of International Families, which helps international students and their families adjust to life in the ISU community
- Mentor or host one of our visiting professionals from other countries
- Become involved in an international development team
- Become an IRIS associate and help recruit host families in your community
- Help tutor a Nigerian or Tanzanian high school student



A sampling of our programs...

- Youth Exchange and Study—Nigeria and Tanzania
- Community Connections
 - Sister Cities and Sister States
 - American-Bulgarian Library Exchange
- Friends of International Families



Working together... we *can* make the world a better place!

Iowa Resource for International Service

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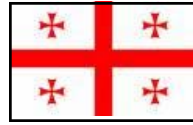
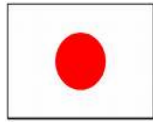
Iowa Resource for International Service

*A vision of Iowans
helping the world
and being enriched
by their experiences*

IRIS is a non-profit, non-religious organization founded in 1993 and located in Ames, Iowa. Its mission is to promote international education, development, and peace through rural initiatives.



President: Bob Anderson
Executive Director: Del Christensen



Founder

IRIS's founder and president is **Robert Anderson**, former Lieutenant Governor of Iowa and former executive

director of the Iowa Peace Institute. Mr. Anderson invites Iowans to share in his philosophy of promoting peace by becoming involved in IRIS's international programs. Learn more about IRIS at www.iris-center.org.

Programs

IRIS conducts many grant programs which bring students, journalists, business people, educators, and government leaders from Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, and Asia to Iowa. While in Iowa, the international participants stay with Iowa families, study in Iowa schools, intern in Iowa businesses, and become involved in community activities. When they return to their home countries, they take with them new ideas and strategies for economic development and peace advancement. They also return with new friendships and a better understanding of Americans and our democratic way of life. IRIS also links Iowans to the world by facilitating international relationships and arranging for travel opportunities for Iowans.

Summary of Accomplishments

- Generated 28 contracts or sub-contracts of the United States Information Agency, the Education and Cultural Affairs division of the State Department, Academy for Educational Development, and the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR/ACCELS) totaling more than six million dollars over the past eleven years.
- Facilitated Sister City relationships for Newton, Oskaloosa, Grinnell, and Adel. Collaborated with local Sister City groups in Marshalltown and Muscatine.
- Arranged internships for more than 150 foreign journalists. Collaborated with the journalism schools at the University of Iowa, Iowa State University and Drake University to conduct journalism workshops in Bulgaria, Ukraine, Mongolia, Hong Kong, and Thailand.
- Placed international journalists in 35 newspapers, eight radio stations, and nine television stations in 24 Iowa communities.
- Placed 510 business and professional persons from Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, and Armenia in internships with volunteer hosts in forty-four Iowa communities.



- Led follow-on trips for Iowans to Bulgaria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary, Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Armenia, and Nigeria.
- Conducted an educational program for 16 journalists and human rights advocates from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and Zimbabwe.
- Conducted follow-on activities in Zimbabwe and the DRC and helped create an NGO for journalists, lawyers, and human right specialists in the region.
- Hosted Muslims and Christians from Nigeria for practical training in conflict resolution, workforce development and government. Led training visits to Nigeria for fifteen Iowans.
- Organized a U.S. State Department exchange program bringing seventy-five high school students from Northern Nigeria to attend high schools in Iowa. Initiated fourteen high school peace clubs and four non-profit organizations for peace and development in Nigeria.