Mission: MFIS connects Madison-area international university and college students, scholars, and accompanying family with local residents to provide support and assistance and to foster cultural exchange, global goodwill, and friendships around the world. MFIS is an all-volunteer organization with no political or religious affiliations.

We provide services to the international communities of

UW-Madison Almost 5,000 students from 129 countries for the academic year
Madison College 101 students from 44 countries for the academic year

PROGRAM ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 2011-2012

Number of students served: 548 + family members (perhaps some duplicates)
Number of volunteers: 187 + 14 board members, many of whom also volunteer in programs
(Note that the differing natures of the programs make direct comparisons difficult.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th># OF STUDENTS</th>
<th>VOL. CONTRIBUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temp Home Stay</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>40 hosts; 6 coordinators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College receptions to publicize MFIS</td>
<td>contact w/600+</td>
<td>Several events at UW w/4 vols. each 1 at MC w/2 vols. + coordinating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture Loan</td>
<td>84 + families, many multiple contacts</td>
<td>420 hours; 5 vols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome to WI Picnic</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>40 vol. @ picnic + 25 hrs. work &amp; planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capitol Reception</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11 @ event; 8 hrs. work &amp; planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-Day Hospitality</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>35 hosts; 20 hrs. coordinating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a Second Language</td>
<td>127 students from 27 countries</td>
<td>19 staff; 2 classes 2x/wk for 2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Friends</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30 vols. + coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Staff</td>
<td>5 vols.; office is staffed 10 hrs./wk.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletters (3)</td>
<td>3 vols.; approx. 25 hrs.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Annual Dinner Com. 4 vols.; approx. 25 hrs.
Board members 14 members X 22 hrs. board meetings + tasks

EVALUATING THE YEAR

If you enjoy a hobby like cooking, you know what a pleasure it is to plan and prepare and serve a good, attractive, healthful and satisfying meal. You also know that not every meal is perfection. There are usually improvements and changes that could make the experience for you and your guests better: forget the lite sour cream for the dip—use the real thing! And sometimes your guests have to overlook an experimental dish that didn't go well at all. But evaluating the experience and taking notes for next time is just what good cooks do. What follows is a description of processes that we are evaluating in the coming year in order to improve them and others that, in particular, we want to celebrate.

The numbers of international students served, number of volunteers involved, and number of volunteer hours can be found elsewhere in this report. Here you will briefly look behind the numbers, and reference will be made to last year's goals.

--We are seeking help in using our Donor Perfect program and analyzing database needs and options to make more improvements in efficiency this year.

--We need to improve our system for providing clear and detailed job descriptions and past activities for volunteers new to leadership of programs.

--We have not developed a connection to Edgewood College's international student population; this goal may have to wait another year.

--We provide many services and often have a waiting lists for these, so recruiting volunteers is always an issue. A publicity chairman and recruitment person are new roles for MFIS that need to be filled.

--Our pool of volunteers for Temporary Home Stay is being updated and enlarged to bring this program to past levels of service.

--We have begun a relationship with the Madison College international student population, now at 101 for its Centennial Year! More intentional publicity to this population will encourage more participation.

--The establishment and processing of the Volunteer Application Forms continue. The use of this safety device for our students is a priority.

--The newsletters and our newly redesigned website have increased our communication with students and volunteers.

--Our treasurer has an expert eye on our financial status, so we are well served. More detail on financial issues appears further on in this report.

--ESL leadership was successfully and smoothly transferred from Coe Williams to Anna Biermeier. The ESL year has gone very well despite major construction at the class site.

--Our board is active, meeting attendance is very good; we have a trend of more and younger members.

--MFIS announces a pilot program for October 2012 of a one-day activity with the DNR and MFIS to invite students to spend a few hours in land stewardship on a State Natural Area property
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MFIS maintains a budget of approximately $10,000, excluding the ESL program, which is self-funded. The programming that comprises our budget is mostly subsidized by donations from our volunteers, as well as contributions by business and civic organizations and furniture loan fees. We had a successful fall appeal, combined with the other aforementioned donations, that enabled us to cover our budget for 2011-12.

MFIS programs are coordinated and our office is maintained by unpaid volunteers. Therefore, all donations are used for programs and administrative needs, such as database software, newsletters and office supplies. This year we found ways to reduce costs, such as working with the database software company to find a package that better fits our needs, utilizing our email lists to deliver the newsletters and other communications electronically (only having one newsletter mailed to all volunteers), as well as negotiating the price with the Picnic caterer.

Our members—that is, anyone who supports or has supported MFIS in any manner—are the main source of our financial well-being.

****Here are the business and civic donors who have aided MFIS****

University League, financial, for many years

Graphic Juice, website and newsletter design, other

Susan Bulgrin of Culver’s for donated ice cream for our picnic; financial

First Business Bank, financial

UW Credit Union, financial

Chase Bank for underwriting the MFIS banner

Alliant Energy Foundation matching gift

MG&E matching gift

FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Different cultures, different concepts—this is not news to MFIS members. Sometimes a concept can be unique to a culture, or almost so. In conversation with friends and acquaintances from outside these U.S. borders, we have come to realize that the concept of volunteering might be in that category—an old value to us, but a fresh idea to others. So many students have said: "We have nothing like MFIS in our community. We need it, too!" And some have mused about importing volunteerism. No duties on that product!

And it always adds value.

Thank you for your support of the all-volunteer MFIS.

Sherry Caves and Joanne Lenburg, Co-presidents, MFIS

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SOME QUOTES REGARDING AN MFIS PROGRAM

On Thanksgiving Hospitality

--Host: Wonderful student who is social, polite, kind; he was a real contribution to our event.

--Host: Very enjoyable time helped us to reconnect with the meaning of Thanksgiving and see our holiday through our student's eyes

--Student: We enjoy this easy way to get to know someone. When you sit around a table full of food you just naturally talk to each other.

--Student: Watch the football game, eat the turkey together.

--Student: When you are missing your own family it was nice to feel a kind of family spirit for an afternoon. It was also fun to see a more suburban area of Madison.