

EPD Ref. #778
February 18th, 2010

**Notice Regarding the Accepting of Applications for the
Host Family Bank Program
(Homestay Program for Overseas Youths of Okinawan Descent)**

Dear Overseas Kenjinkai Chairmen and Presidents:

I hope that this message finds you well. Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to you all for your continuing cooperation with Okinawa Prefecture's international exchange policies.

Since 2007, the Okinawa Prefectural Government has been conducting the Host Family Bank Program. The goal of this program is to facilitate international exchange with local residents, stimulate overseas Okinawan society, and develop the worldwide Uchinā network through the promotion of two-way exchange between young Okinawans and young Okinawan descendents overseas.

According to the information detailed below, the Okinawa Prefectural Government is now seeking participants for the Homestay Program for Overseas Youths of Okinawan Descent.

I would like to kindly request your assistance in recruiting applicants, as well as composing recommendation letters and submitting the necessary documents to the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

1. Documents to submit: (submission is possible by either fax or e-mail)

① Application Form

② Recommendation Form (filled out by *kenjinkai* Chairman/President)

③ Statement

Topic: what you hope to gain from a homestay in Okinawa and why you
should be chosen

Length: one page (A4 or 8½ x 11 inch size)

* Please submit with a Japanese translation provided by the *kenjinkai*.

2. Submission deadline: Friday April 9th, 2010 Japan Standard Time
3. Homestay period: 11 days & 10 nights from June 16th, 2010 to June 26th, 2010
(projected dates)
4. Number of applicants who will be selected: roughly 8
5. Other conditions: Please refer to the attached “Okinawa Prefecture Homestay for Overseas Youths of Okinawan Descent - Application Guidelines”

Please submit documents and direct any questions to:

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Sincerely,

Nobuyuki Miyagi

Director

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