January 14, 2021

President-Elect Joseph R. Biden
Biden-Harris Transition
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. President-Elect:

We represent the sponsors, businesses, and industries that recruit, host, and support BridgeUSA exchange visitors every year. We urge you to rescind Presidential proclamation 10052 soon after taking office. That proclamation is based on mistaken interpretations of fact and law, was enjoined by the U.S. District Court for Northern District of California, and is causing significant damage to sponsors and hosts of international exchange programs.

There has been bipartisan support since World War II for people-to-people diplomacy programs because they are effective at advancing the United States’ national security interests. For example, seventy-five percent of cultural exchange participants on average developed a more positive opinion of the U.S. after their experience. Many become community, business, and political leaders when they return home. Their understanding and affinity for the United States supports our diplomatic efforts worldwide. Moreover, American hosts develop a familiarity with a different culture and language, which further advances our national security interests.

BridgeUSA participants also support our economy by enabling year-round American employment in local communities and among families. Without cultural exchange participants this past year, many American host employers had to cut back services to customers, reducing already diminished revenue. These programs are important to American businesses as many host employers have unique needs, including being in rural, low population areas. For example, teacher exchanges assist in addressing well-documented teacher shortages in some districts, but are not intended — and do not in practice — shape the U.S. teaching market. Families also benefit from having au pairs who provide live-in childcare and cultural enrichment. By law, participants in BridgeUSA programs do not displace American workers.

Prior to the pandemic, five of the cultural exchange programs targeted in the proclamation – Au Pair, Camp Counselor, Intern, Summer Work Travel, and Trainee – combined contributed nearly $1.50 billion to the American economy each year.

The impact on the international exchange community from the pandemic, however, is projected to result in losses to our economy of more than $1.23 billion and more than 6,500
American jobs. Program sponsors report over half of the $303 million in lost salaries are directly attributable to the proclamation. Program sponsors also reported over $181 million in costs associated with investment, program cancelation, and participant support. Those losses are having a negative ripple effect throughout our economy. In addition, some host families are struggling to juggle work without proper childcare. In effect, the Presidential proclamation is costing, not saving, American jobs and is hurting the U.S. economy.

The U.S. District Court in National Association of Manufacturers, et al. v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, et al. issued a preliminary injunction of proclamation 10052 this past fall. Judge Jeffrey White stated that Plaintiffs in the case “...demonstrated serious questions going to the merits of their claim that the issuance of the Proclamation is invalid based on the finding that it unlawfully eviscerates portions of the [Immigration and Nationality Act].” Most importantly, Judge White also found that the Administration failed to demonstrate that exchange programs have a negative impact on American employment: “Rather, although its stated purpose is to aid the domestic economy by providing job opportunities for United States citizens, the Proclamation completely disregards both economic reality and the preexisting statutory framework.” The current Administration, unfortunately, extended the proclamation to March 31, 2021.

While the pandemic poses continuing challenges to international exchange programs, proclamation 10052 makes those challenges much worse. Moreover, the proclamation is not supported by facts and is in violation of federal law. For all those reasons, we urge you to rescind proclamation 10052 soon after taking office.

Sincerely,

Alliance for International Exchange, Washington, D.C.
1 Atelier LLC, New York, NY
A & P Beach Rentals, LLC, Ocean City, MD
A Cultural Exchange Service, Inc., Riverview, FL
Acro Pizza World LLC, North Wildwood, NJ
Adelaide Hostel, San Francisco, CA
Adirondack Pub and Brewery, Lake George NY
AFS-USA, New York, NY
Agent Au Pair, Inc., New Haven, CT
AHRC Camp Anne, Ancramdale, NY
AHRC New York City, New York, NY
AIESEC United States, New York, NY
AIFS Foundation, Stamford, CT
AKKA North America, Plano, TX
Alhonna Resort, Inc., Lake Ozark, MO
Alliance Abroad Group, Austin, TX
Alpine View Properties, Lake Placid, NY
American Councils for International Education, Washington, D.C.
American Cultural Exchange LLC dba Go Au Pair, Salt Lake City, UT
American English Institute, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
American Hospitality Academy, Summerland Key, FL
American Immigration Council, Washington, D.C.
American Institute For Foreign Study, Stamford, CT
American Work Adventures, Petaluma, CA
American Work Experience, Greenwich, CT
Americana Hotel, Ocean City, MD
AMIDEAST, Washington, D.C.
Amity Institute, San Diego, CA
AMSCO, North Conway, NH
Angels By The Sea Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
Angels Rest on Resurrection Bay LLC, Seward, AK
Apollo Motel, Wildwood Crest, NJ
AquaSafe Pool Management, Inc., Hanover, MD
Aspen Lodge, Grand Marais, MN
ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, Laguna Beach, CA
Association of International Education Administrators, Durham, NC
Atlantic View Hotel, Rehoboth Beach, DE
Au Pair in America, Stamford, CT
Au Pair International, Boulder, CO
AuPairCare, San Francisco, CA
Avante International, Belleair Bluffs, FL
B.K Merchandising Inc., Ocean City, MD
Backyard Productions, Culver City, CA
BallenIsles Country Club, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Baxter Hospitality, LLC dba Sesuit Harbor House, East Dennis, MA
Beach View Hotel, Rehoboth Beach, DE
Beber Camp, Mukwonago, WI
Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA, Becket, MA
Belgian-American Chamber of Commerce in the United States, New York City, NY
Best Buns, Inc., Provincetown, MA
Bill’s Inc., Cannon Beach, OR
Birch Trail Camp for Girls, Minong, WI
Blue Ridge Camp & Resort, Clayton, GA
Blue Water Cafe, Grand Marais, MN
Boardwalk Convenience Store, Ocean City, MD
Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce & CVB, Branson, MO
Brant Lake Camp, Horicon, NY
Cable Nature Lodge, Cable, WI
Camp Agudah/Bnos, Liberty, NY
Camp Albrecht Acres of the Midwest, Sherrill, IA
Camp America, Stamford, CT
Camp Androscoggin, Wayne, ME
Camp Augusta, Nevada City, CA
Camp Birchmont, Wolfeboro, NH
Camp Canadensis, Canadensis, PA
Camp Chaviva, Ellenville, NY
Camp Chen-A-Wanda, Thompson, PA
Camp Cobbossee for Boys, Monmouth, ME
Camp Cody, Freedom, NH
Camp Deerwood, LLC, Holderness, NH
Camp Echo, Bloomingburg, NY
Camp Encore/Coda, Sweden, ME
Camp Farwell, Newbury, VT
Camp Foley, Pine River, MN
Camp Herrlich, Patterson, NY
Camp Hillcroft, Lagrangeville, NY
Camp Hilltop, Inc., Hancock, NY
Camp Horizons, Harrisonburg, VA
Camp Horseshoe, Rhinelander, WI
Camp Kinder Ring and Circle Lodge, Hopewell Junction, NY
Camp Lakotah, Wautoma, WI
Camp Lee Mar, Lackawaxen, PA
Camp Lenox, Otis, MA
Camp Livingston, Bennington, IN
Camp Marist, Effingham, NH
Camp Matoaka, Smithfield, ME
Camp Menominee, Eagle River, WI
Camp Micah, LLC, Chestnut Hill, MA
Camp Moshava, Honesdale, PA
Camp Mowglis, Hebron, NH
Camp Netimus, Milford, PA
Camp Nor’wester, Johns Island, WA
Camp O-AT-KA, Sebago, ME
Camp Oneka, Tafton, PA
Camp Pinewood, Hendersonville, NC
Camp Pontiac, Copake, NY
Camp Roosevelt Firebird, Cleveland Heights, OH
Camp Scatico, Elizaville, NY
Camp Schodack, Nassau, NY
Camp Scully, Wynantskill, NY
Camp Skazka, Saugerties, NY
Camp Skylemar, Naples, ME
Camp Somerset, Smithfield, ME
Camp Stella Maris, Livonia, NY
Camp Stonewall, Thompson, CT
Camp Taconic, Hinsdale, MA
Camp Tanuga, Kalkaska, MI
Camp Tekakwitha, Leeds, ME
Camp Timberlane for Boys, Chicago, IL
Camp Vega Corp, Fayette, ME
Camp War Eagle, Rogers, AR
Camp Waukeela, Eaton Center, NH
Camp Weequahic, Lakewood, PA
Camp Winnebago, South Portland, ME
Camps Airy & Louise, Thurmont, MD and Cascade, MD
Camps Equinunk and Blue Ridge, Equinunk, PA
Camps Newfound-Owatonna, Harrison, ME
Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber of Commerce, Buzzards Bay, MA
Cape May County Chamber of Commerce, Cape May Court House, NJ
Carousel Hotel Group, Ocean City, MD
Carowinds, Charlotte, NC
CCUSA, San Rafael, CA
Cedar Fair, Sandusky, OH
Cedar Point, Sandusky, OH
Center for International Career Development (CICD), Seattle, WA
Central Pier Arcade and Speedway, Atlantic City, NJ
Chatham Bars Inn, Chatham, MA
Chatham Chamber of Commerce & Merchants Association, South Chatham, MA
Chestnut Lake Camp, Beach Lake, PA
Chipinaw, Swan Lake, NY
City of Concord/Camp Concord, Concord, CA
Cliff Drysdale Management, New Braunfels, TX
Coastal Life Realty Group, Ocean City, MD
Coffeepot&more Inc., Provincetown, MA
Communicating for Agriculture, Fergus Falls, MN
Compass Student Insurance, Princeton, NJ
Concordia Language Villages, Moorhead, MN
Cottage Cafe East /DBA Bethany Boathouse, Bethany Beach, DE
Cottage Cafe Inc., Ocean View, DE
Council of American Overseas Research Centers, Washington, D.C.
Council of International Programs USA, Novelty, OH
Crystal Lake Camps, Hughesville, PA
Crystalaire Camp, Inc., Frankfort, MI
CSB International, Bay Shore, NY
Cultural Care Au Pair, Cambridge, MA
Cultural Exchange Network (Cenet), Cape Girardeau, MO
Cultural Homestay International, San Rafael, CA
Cultural Vistas, Washington, D.C.
Culver Summer Schools & Camps, Culver, IN
CZ Wellness Group, Inc., Lakewood, PA
Dairy Queen, Keystone, SD
DaVinci’s Restaurant, Ocean City, MD
Dolle’s Candyland Inc., Ocean City, MD
Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom, Allentown, PA
Down The Street Eats, Winter Park, CO
Dutch Soccer School, Ellicott City, MD
Dynamic Global Exchange, Bingham Farms, MI
Eagles Beachwear, Myrtle Beach, SC
Eastham Chamber of Commerce, Eastham, MA
Echo Hill Camp, Worton, MD
Ecocert, Plainfield, IN
Educational Resource Development Trust, Santa Monica, CA
EnglishUSA, Atlanta, GA
Envisage International Corporation, Neptune Beach, FL
Ephraim Motel, Ephraim, WI
Equishare USA, LLC., Morristown, NJ
EurAupair International, Inc., Laguna Beach, CA
Face the World Foundation, Petaluma, CA
Fairfield Portsmouth Seacoast, Portsmouth, NH
Farm and Wilderness, Plymouth, VT
Fashion Food LLC. Wendy’s, Dennis, MA
Fat Daddys Subs Pizza Wings, Ocean City, MD
FMI Food Industry Association, Arlington, VA
French Woods Sports and Arts Center, Hancock, NY
French-American Chamber of Commerce-New York, New York, NY
Gale Force Rentals, Ocean View, DE
Gardiner Gifts, LLC, Gardiner, MT
Gateway Hotel and Suites, Ocean City, MD
GeoVisions, Austin, TX
Glacier Park Collection by Pursuit, Columbia Falls, MT
Global Educational Concepts, Nashville, TN
Global Marketing Exchange, Wilton, CT
Global Secutive LLC, Princeton, NJ
Global Ties U.S., Washington, D.C.
Gold Advisory, Boulder, CO
Gold Arrow Camp, Clovis, CA
Golden Sands Resort, Lake George, NY
Grand Marais Hotel Co., Grand Marais, MN
Grand Pizza, Grand Lake, CO
Grand View Resort, Laconia, NH
Grayfield Development LLC, Lake Delton, WI
Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, Ocean City, MD
Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority, Wildwood, NJ
Greenwich Country Club, Greenwich, CT
Hampton Country Day Camp, East Hampton, NY
Hidden Valley Camp, Granite Falls, WA
High Sierra Pools, Inc., Arlington, VA
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce, Hilton Head Island, SC
Holy Terror Coffee Roasters, Keystone, SD
Horizons, Inc., South Windham, CT
Hosmer Point Summer Camp, Craftsbury Common, VT
Hospitality Placements USA LLC, Atlanta, GA
HospitalityMaine, Augusta, ME
Hostelling International USA, Silver Spring, MD
HRC International, Atlanta, GA
HRK Hotels LLC, Kenosha, WI
ICCE, Inc., Los Angeles, CA
iEARN-USA, New York, NY
Institute for International Education and Exchange, San Diego, CA
Institute of Global Exchange, Inc., Torrance, CA
Inter-Ed, Dyersburg, TN
InterExchange, Inc., New York, NY
International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions, Orlando, FL
International Center for Language Studies (ICLS), Washington, D.C.
International Cultural Exchange Services, Henderson, NV
International Educational Exchange, Inc., Hilton Head Island, SC
International Exchange of North America, Hackettstown, NJ
International Expert Resources, Austin, TX
International Gymnastics School-Camp Inc., Stroudsburg, PA
International Leadership Academy, Lake Oswego, OR
International Recruitment Exchange Services, Inc., Flowery Branch, GA
International Sports Training Camp, Stroudsburg, PA
International Student Exchange, Bay Shore, NY
International TeachAlliance - A program of ESI, Phoenix, AZ
International Teacher Exchange Services, Charlotte, NC
International Trainee Network, Los Angeles, CA
Intrax Inc., San Francisco, CA
IREX, Washington, D.C.
Iroquois Springs, Commack, NY
Island House Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI
Ivalua, Redwood City, CA
J-1 Visa Exchanges, Sandy Springs, GA
Janus International Hospitality Student Exchange, Ruther Glen VA
Jefferson Union High School District, Daly City, CA
Jerry’s Enterprises, Inc., West Yellowstone, MT
JNR Management Inc., Weston, MA
JTAMM Corp d/b/a The Talkative Pig, South Chatham, MA
Kamp Kohut, Oxford, ME
Keewaydin, Salisbury, VT
Keystone Camp, Brevard, NC
King Real Estate, Old Orchard Beach, ME
Kings Island, Kings Mills, OH
Koerner Law Firm, New Orleans, LA
L’etoile Restaurant, Edgartown, MA
Lake Erie Shores & Islands CVB, Sandusky, OH
Lake Geneva Fresh Air Association, Williams Bay, WI
Legacy international, Bedford, VA
Life Adventures, Inc., Riverview, FL
Luminary, New York, NY
Main Street Market, Egg Harbor, WI
Majestic Hotel, Ocean City, MD
Martin’s Market, Ocean City, MD
Merani Hotel Group Niagara Falls USA, Niagara Falls, NY
Moneysworth Rental Equipment, Kitty Hawk, NC
Mount Washington Valley Vacation Rentals, North Conway, NH
Mt. Management of Aspen, Inc., Aspen, CO
Multinational Exchange for Sustainable Agriculture (MESA), Berkeley, CA
Myrtle Beach Area Hospitality Association, Myrtle Beach, SC
National Defense Committee, Bethesda, MD
National Park Hospitality Association, McLean, VA
New Jersey Tourism Industry Association, Trenton, NJ
Nickerson Tree and Landscape, Inc., Harwich, MA
Nishiyamato Academy of California, Lomita, CA
NJ State Chamber of Commerce, Trenton, NJ
Nolen Invest, LLC, Berlin, MD
North Shore Country Day School, Winnetka, IL
NorthWest Student Exchange, Seattle, WA
Ober Gatlinburg Inc., Gatlinburg, TN
Ocean City Boardwalk, Inc., Ocean City, MD
Ocean City Development Corporation, Ocean City, MD
Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, Ocean City, MD
Odyssey International Exchange, Los Angeles, CA
Old Time Photos of Maryland Inc., Ocean City, MD
One To World, New York, NY
Orleans Chamber of Commerce, Orleans, MA
OSU/ The Ohio Program, Columbus, OH
Oui-Connect LLC, Aliso Viejo, CA
Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce, Kill Devil Hills, NC
Pan Atlantic Exchanges, Portland, ME
Patti’s Beach Service, Bishopville, MD
Perlman Camp, Lake Como, PA
Pierce Camp Birchmont, Wolfeboro, NH
Pocono Springs Camp, East Stroudsburg, PA
Pool and Hot Tub Alliance (PHTA), Alexandria, VA
Premier Aquatics, Alexandria, VA
PROJECT 10-15, Culpeper, VA
Provincetown Chamber of Commerce, Inc., Provincetown, MA
Purple Mesa, LLC, Gardiner, MT
Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, Put-in-Bay, OH
R & A Investments, Oak Creek, WI
Regal Plaza Motor Inn, Inc., Wildwood, NJ
Residence Inn Pompano Beach, Pompano Beach, FL
Roche Harbor Resort, Friday Harbor, WA
Sagamore Institute, Indianapolis, IN
Saki LLC, Provincetown, MA
Sandy Hill Camp and Retreat Center, North East, MD
SCOR Enterprises, LLC, Ocean City, MD
Seaboard Hotels, Rehoboth Beach, DE
Shelby Public School District, Shelby, MT
Signature Services Corporation, Dallas, TX
Silver Lake Camp, Swan Lake, NY
Ski New Hampshire, Conway, NH
Smaller Earth Inc., Austin, TX
Snow King Mountain Resort, Jackson, WY
SOAR, Inc., Balsam, NC
Socrates Academy North Carolina Public Charter School, Matthews, NC
Southern New Jersey Development Council, Turnersville, NJ
Southwestern Advantage, Nashville, TN
Spirit Cultural Exchange, Oak Park, IL
St. Thomas More School, San Francisco, CA
Stage Global Inc., New York, NY
Stagedoor Manor, Loch Sheldarke, NY
Stone Mountain Adventures, Huntingdon, PA
STS Foundation, Concord, MA
Subway Restaurant, Keystone, SD
Summer Semester, LLC, Ocean City, MD
Sunset Pool Inc, Arlington, VA
Swan Mountain Outfitters, Coram, MT
Sweetwater Pools, Inc., Atlanta, GA
Swift Nature Camp, Minong, WI
Symbio Design Group LLC, Scotch Plains, NJ
Talbot Inn Inc., Ocean City, MD
Teachers Council, Inc., Annapolis, MD
The American-Scandinavian Foundation, New York, NY
The Avenue Inn & Spa, Rehoboth Beach, DE
The Boardwalk Family of Restaurants, Put-in-Bay, OH
The Bonfire Restaurant, Ocean City, MD
The Branson Loop, Branson, MO
The British International School of NY, New York, NY
The Burgundy Inn, Stonehaven & Homestead Apartments, Ocean City, MD
The Center for International Education Inc., Chapel Hill, NC
The Forum on Education Abroad, Carlisle, PA
The Friendly Fisherman, Eastham, MA
The Guided Tour, Inc., Elkins Park, PA
The International Coalition, Carlisle, PA
The North-West Passage, San Diego, CA
The Oceanfront Grille, Corolla, NC
The Pizza Jerks, Ltd., Lake George, NY
The Producers Group, Glendale, CA
The Tiki Resort, Lake George, NY
The Washington Center, Washington, D.C.
The Woods Inn, Inlet, NY
Timber Lake West Camp, Roscoe, NY
TKo Hospitality Management, Dewey Beach, DE
Trail Blazers Camps, Montague, NJ
Trail’s End Camp, Beach Lake, PA
Trout Lake Camps, Pine River, MN
True Friends, Annandale, MN
UK International Soccer Camps, Redlands, CA
Union for Reform Judaism, New York, NY
United Steaks of America Inc., Leland, MI
United Studies, Inc., Hot Springs, AR
United Work and Travel, Owings Mills, MD
Vacasa Delaware, Bethany Beach, DE
Valley Mill Camp, Germantown, MD
Van Rensselaer’s Restaurant & Raw Bar, Wellfleet, MA
Vito Marcello’s Italian Bistro, North Conway, NH
Waldo Emerson Inn, Kennebunk, ME
Waukeela, Eaton Center, NH
Wausauke Club, Athelstane, WI
Wenatchee Valley YMCA/Lake Wenatchee YMCA Camp, Leavenworth, WA
Westcoast Connection, Mamaroneck, NY
White Birch Village Resort, Boulder Junction, WI
Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI
William Lawrence Camp, Inc., Tuftonboro, NH
Willoway Day Camp, West Bloomfield, MI
Windham Mountain, Windham, NY
Windigo USA, Inc., Santa Rosa, CA
Windridge Tennis and Sports Camps, Roxbury, VT
Winkler Pool Management Inc., Hyattsville, MD
Wise Foundation, Dyersburg, TN
Worcester County MD Office of Tourism & Economic Development, Snow Hill, MD
WorkandtravelJ1, Bozeman, MT
World Learning, Washington D.C., and Brattleboro, VT
World Wide Cultural Exchange, Inc., Valencia, CA
World’s Best Donuts, Grand Marais, MN
Worlds of Fun, Kansas City, MO
Wyonegonic Camps, Denmark, ME
YMCA Camp Bernie, Port Murray, NJ
YMCA Camp Cheerio, High Point NC
YMCA Camp of Maine, Winthrop, ME
YMCA Camp Ralph S Mason, Hardwick, NJ
YMCA of Northern Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
YMCA of Southern Arizona, Tucson, AZ
Yooz, Inc., Coppell, TX
Youth For Understanding USA, Saginaw, MI