

Serving Multicultural and Immigrant Families in Korea

Pearl S. Buck Foundation Korea (PSBFK) was founded as the first South Korean institution specializing in caring for Korean American biracial children born as a result of the Korean War.

Multicultural families formed by marriages between Koreans and immigrants are becoming increasingly common in South Korea and experience numerous difficulties caused by economic responsibilities, roles for child rearing, and blending of diverse cultures. This is the population served by PSBFK.

The spread of COVID-19 in 2020 added to these difficulties. COVID-19 shrank economic activities in most sectors and low-income families among the multicultural community experienced difficulties in making ends meet. Foreign members of multicultural families are the first to be let go from jobs or denied work opportunities. In rural and fishing areas, Multicultural Family Support Centers were closed, leaving those served vulnerable to isolation and without COVID-19 safety measures.

In the face of these challenges, PSBFK's main projects were focused on measures to prevent at-risk multicultural families from being even more isolated in society.



- PSBFK conducted seven projects supporting about 770 households (2,300 people), including providing emergency COVID-19 livelihood support, providing daily necessities and groceries for national feasts such as the Lunar New Year and Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving Day), and distributing winter clothes for the Christmas season.
- As the transition to online classes for students and the reduction of educational support for children in vulnerable communities persisted, PSBFK implemented scholarship support, literature and Korean traditional music classes through Pearl S. Buck Afterschool Academy as well as on-line and off-line multicultural understanding education for students.
- Annual scholarships were offered to more than 900 children from multicultural families.
- PSBIK signed a project cooperation agreement with governmental institutions to establish close networks of

support. Also, an active effort was made to promote Pearl Buck's legacy, by playing a key role as adviser for diverse projects organized by Bucheon City, where the Foundation is located.

- PSBFK took part in support projects for Amerasian youth and helped to prepare a translation of the autobiography of Julie Henning, an Amerasian who was raised as Pearl S. Buck's daughter. PSBFK also assisted with the operation of the Korea Pearl S. Buck Research Association and activities of the steering committee of Pearl S. Buck Memorial Hall.

The staff of PSBFK know they are able to carry out their mission thanks to loyal sponsors, sponsoring companies, and devoted staff members. 2021 is the 90th anniversary of the publication of Pearl S. Buck's famous novel, *The Good Earth*, which PSBFK is commemorating through the continued work to promote the legacy of Pearl Buck's philanthropic spirit.

PSBFK extends their deepest gratitude and blessing to all those accompanying them in this important mission.

Summer is Here and We are Fully Open!!!

Covid-19 restrictions are being lifted, and it is the perfect time to visit Pearl S. Buck International! As of June 7, 2021, in keeping with CDC guidelines, Pearl S. Buck International updated its Covid-19 health and safety guidelines for visitors, volunteers, and staff at its Bucks County, PA campus, including Pearl S. Buck International headquarters, the Pearl S. Buck House National Historic Landmark, Exhibit Gallery, Cultural Center, Janet L. Mintzer Center, and International Gift Shop.

Moving forward, masks are no longer required, both indoors and outdoors, for anyone who is fully vaccinated. Those who are not vaccinated are asked to continue to wear their masks. The number of guests on a tour of the Pearl S. Buck House has been raised from 5 to 10 guests per tour. For more information on our interactive dialogic Taking Action tour that explores Pearl Buck's social justice activism and our traditional historic Life and Legacy tour, as well as our most up-to-date tour times and prices, please go to <https://pearlsbuck.org/takeatour>. We are still recommending reservations for tours at this time.

While you are here, don't forget to peruse our International Gift Shop,



which always offers a unique variety of gifts, books, apparel, jewelry, crafts, décor, and more. You still have the opportunity to view Pearl S. Buck's many awards, recognitions, and citations, including her Nobel Prize and Pulitzer Prize, on display in our Exhibit Gallery. Admission to both the gift shop and exhibit gallery is free.

If the weather is nice, bring the family and a picnic lunch and stroll around our 67-acre property, featuring award-winning gardens—don't forget to visit Pearl Buck's



grave site while you're here, located in a peaceful bamboo grove near our front entrance.

Also keep us in mind if you have an upcoming special event - the Janet L. Mintzer Center is now open and can accommodate your graduation, anniversary, or birthday party; bridal or baby shower; and more! For more information, contact our event coordinator at events@pearlsbuck.org.

It's been a long and challenging year for everyone but there is a light at the end of the tunnel - whether you are able to visit us in person or not, we wish you all a fun and safe summer with all your family and friends!