

JAMES A. GRAASKAMP COLLECTION OF TEACHING MATERIALS

XI. PERSONAL LIFE

A. Personal Correspondence

3. Foster Parent Program (1981-1988)

# FOSTER PARENTS PLAN

FOUNDED 1937



155 PLAN WAY, WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02887 • TELEPHONE (401) 738-5600

November 30, 1981  
FP# 103677

James A. Graaskamp  
202 A Breese Terrace  
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Mr. Graaskamp:

Congratulations! I understand you have decided to become a Foster Parent to Maria.

I want to welcome you to our family of more than 35,000 American Foster Parents. With them you turn your grave concern for the world's needy -- and often forgotten -- children into constructive action.

Apparently what you learned about a child's impoverished life touched you. Your regular contributions will help your Foster Child have the basic things needed for a happy and healthy childhood. Better nutrition, adequate clothing, medical care. And an education which is so important for your Foster Child's future.

Soon you will get to know one another better. In just a few weeks, you will receive your Foster Child's first letter and its translation. At first, the child's letter may seem a bit awkward and stilted. In part, this reflects the difficulty of translation in the field. Also, remember your Foster Child knows nothing about you until you write. Furthermore, your correspondent is not very literate! But, with time and continued correspondence, a mutual affection, understanding and commitment may blossom.

So that you will enjoy the Foster Parent/Child experience fully, we've enclosed your complete New Parent Kit. It contains your child's photograph and information about your child, the family and community. You will also be interested to learn about the many different ways in which we help children like yours. As letters are important in developing a relationship, there is information about corresponding with your Foster Child. You will also want to know about Cash Gifts and money-saving Alternate Support/Payment Plans.

You will receive a receipt for your first payment in a few days. Please mail your check early each month - if at all possible by the 10th. Otherwise we must advance your child's badly needed support from very limited reserves.

Also, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions for us, please write to me. I want to hear from you.

Thanks to you, this child will receive the essential material help and emotional support made possible only when someone really cares. Along with the newfound joy your sponsorship experience will bring, one desperately poor child overseas will smile more often.

Thank you for caring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reinhart B. Gutmann".

Reinhart B. Gutmann, A.C.S.W.  
National Executive Director

RBG:aka  
Enclosures

July 18, 1988

Nancy Fredrick  
Foster Parents Plan  
155 Plan Way  
Warwick, RI 02887

FOSTER PARENT NUMBER: US-103677

Dear Nancy:

I spoke to you on the telephone on April 26, 1988 regarding the death of Dr. James A. Graaskamp. At that time you indicated that Dr. Graaskamp's account would be put on hold for three months. I regret to inform you that it will not be possible to continue the contributions to Foster Parents Plan.

I have enclosed a copy of a letter I received today from Sheila . Please inform Sheila of Dr. Graaskamp's death, since she seems to be unaware his passing.

Sincerely,

Brenda A. McIntee

Enclosure