2019 FFI Award FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

1. **What are the current award categories?** Club of the Year by Region, Volunteer of the Year by Region, Outstanding Club of the Year, Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, and FFI Lifetime Achievement Award.

2. **How are regions defined?** Regions are defined as: Asia, Europe/Eurasia, Latin America/Caribbean, Mid-East/Africa, North America-Canada, North America-USA, and South Pacific.

3. **What are the specific criteria for how each club and volunteer will be evaluated?** This criteria for evaluation will be exemplary work shown across a broad spectrum of activities (such as innovative programming, revitalization, marketing and public relations, etc.) that resulted in membership growth and diversity, successful Journeys, outreach to home and visiting communities, and visibility for FFI activities.

4. **Are there any special awards being considered by FFI that clubs might be eligible to receive?** Yes! Friendship Force will be looking for clubs worldwide that have made special advancements in their use of technology, creativity in recruitment or raising awareness for the mission of FFI, and so forth. In addition to our standard awards, FFI will likely be presenting special awards at the World Conference, so please, submit your stories and recommendations! Email awards@friendshipforce.org to do so.

5. **How, exactly, do we submit our clubs or an individual for nominations?** FFI will be sending out an online Call for Nominations submission form that you will use to place your nominations with the organization. The deadline to submit the form is **January 15, 2019**.

6. **Can clubs and volunteers nominate themselves to be recognized?** Absolutely. We encourage this process as we know some clubs may be the only club located in a given country or located far away from other clubs. In some cases, self-nomination is the only way certain clubs and individuals may have an opportunity to be recognized.

7. **Why has the awards process changed?** Over the years Friendship Force began adding on many different award category areas, complicating the process and leaving some categories with few nominees. Therefore, we wanted to get back to basics and simplify the process.

8. **Who is on the awards selection committees?** Regional Selection Committee: FFI staff and Field Representatives will create regional selection committees based on regional leadership. These committees will review the nominations and select winners in their regions using the selection criteria. Current Field Reps and other key leaders will serve on these initial regional committees. International Selection Committee: A team of FFI staff, Field Representatives, and other key volunteer leaders from around the world will then select the outstanding recipients from among those regional winners.

9. **How frequently will FFI give out awards?** Volunteers will be recognized by FFI on a biennial basis (every other year) at the World Conference.

10. **Are we able to recognize clubs and volunteers at the local level?** Absolutely! Moving forward, we encourage all of our regions around the world to recognize those valuable contributions of clubs and members at both the local level at club and also at regional meetings and national conferences. Our hope is that the changes indicated here will result in an improved, more inclusive volunteer recognition process for 2019 and beyond.