

1 Niragawa-cho
Ota City, Gunma Prefecture
Japan
December 6th, 2005

Lubuto Library Fund
P.O. Box 6302
NW Washington, DC
20015-0302 USA

Dear Jane Kinney Meyers,

My name is Tara Connors and I am the Assistant English Teacher (ALT) at Joto Junior High School in Ota city, Gunma prefecture, Japan. I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Lubuto Library Project.

Each year, Joto JHS organizes a fundraiser for HIV/Aids and the people affected by HIV/Aids. In Japan, there is a fundraising event called GO-EN Dama. This fundraiser asks students to bring in as many 5 yen (approx 5 cents) coins as they can in a week to raise money for a specific cause. I know that 5 yen may seem minimal but there is a special significance behind raising five yen coins in Japan. Five yen is "goen" in Japanese. But the word "goen" has another meaning. The written characters for "goen" in the Japanese language mean "a strong connection between people". In many fundraising activities, five yen coins are used because of this significant meaning. So by raising money using five yen coins at Joto Junior High School, the Japanese students feel as though they are helping financially as well as creating a special connection spiritually with people infected with or by HIV/Aids.

Please accept this money on behalf of the students at Joto Junior High school in Ota city, Gunma Japan.

Sincerely



Tara Connors
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