J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program Reduction

ECONOMIC IMPACT

This fact sheet refers to findings from a survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020. Included are responses from 659 seasonal businesses and camps nationwide, 17 in NY-21.

### SUMMER WORK TRAVEL PARTICIPANTS*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>108,303</td>
<td>4,885</td>
<td>95% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>7,004</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>99% ↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Provided by the U.S. Department of State. Region specific 2020 figures refer to On Program SWT Exchange Visitors as of August 3rd, 2020 SEVIS report.

### NATIONWIDE IMPACT ON SEASONAL BUSINESSES

- **93%** Cannot meet peak staffing needs without J-1 Exchange Visitors
- **87%** Reported lower quality of customer service or longer customer wait times
- **2 in 3** Lost revenue
- **1 in 7** Laid off, furloughed or reduced wages of full time Americans
- **Half** Shortened their season or hours
- **1 in 5** Could not open this summer

In NY-21, 7 businesses reported an average loss of $70,833 in Summer 2020.
What business owners in **NY-21** are saying:

Quotes were provided by seasonal businesses who completed the economic impact survey conducted by the Alliance for International Exchange from August 4 to August 18, 2020.

“Guests want discounts and money back because we can’t maintain standards.”

“Shorter season, ability to do less things with not enough staff.”

“Shortened season, lower quality services, poor customer service.”

“It’s been difficult to serve the number of guests we have.”

“The impact of not having the J-1 program has hurt not only the business, but the American staff who have lost shifts due to reduction of hours.”

“Low morale because of this decision has been a huge factor this summer.”

“Missing the J-1 students!!”