**If you know someone who may be interested in supporting Alina and Liza in their education, here is a letter you can copy, personalize and forward to them.**

**Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

**Thank you for considering supporting these two amazing young women. Here is a short summary of Alina and Liza's history.**

**BACKGROUND**

**In 2011, caring families in the Triangle began hosting Belarusian children who were growing up in aftermath of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear plant disaster. The goal was to provide relief from radiation contamination for six weeks each summer. Pastor Robin Phillips and his wife, Cathy, welcomed Alina and Liza to their home every summer for seven years. During that time, it became painfully obvious that the girls had little opportunity back home. Belarus is not only highly authoritarian but is also repressive toward women. As their concerns for the girls' future well-being grew, the Phillips’s traveled to Belarus to meet both sets of parents and extend the offer to educate the girls in the U.S. After much prayer and many tears, they let their daughters go in hopes that they would have a better life. Quoting scripture, they explained their sacrifice this way: "God gave his only begotten son."**

**LOTS OF SACRIFICE**

**The girls' birth parents love them endlessly. They knew that if they let their daughters go to the U.S., they might never return. Liza was in seventh-grade and Alina in eighth when they came to the United States on** [**F-1 Student Visas**](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/student-visa.html)**. Despite overwhelming language and cultural obstacles, they have succeeded at the highest levels both academically and socially.**

**Alina and Liza made the difficult choice of leaving behind family, language, culture and country. They have missed weddings and funerals and everything in between in the 7 years since they left. Having six children of their own, Cathy and Robin also sacrificed to raise their adopted daughters and put them through four years at a private Christian school.**

**Both girls have a strong faith in God. Alina is now a rising junior at High Point University, where Liza is a rising sophomore. Both are honor roll students who are active in campus and church activities. An entire village of people has blessed them in making a college education possible. For both young women, bachelor's degrees are in sight.**

**If you would like to learn more about them, click this link.**

**Both Alina and Liza have created short videos about themselves and the opportunities that are in front of them.**

**THE CHALLENGE: CROSSING THE FINISH LINE**

**Alina and Liza are exceptional students, but more important, they're both good people. As students with F-1 visas, they face several educational obstacles that others do not. Here are five:**

**#1 Educational costs are MUCH HIGHER for international students.**

**#2 They are not allowed to get a job in the United States to earn and save money for college.**

**#3 They are not eligible for federal loans or grants that are available to U.S. born classmates.**

**#4 They cannot take time off from school. If they are not in school, they must go back to Belarus, because they are here on educational visas. Without an official degree in hand, none of their educational accomplishments would be recognized in Belarus.**

**#5 Both girls were raised in the stark poverty of rural Belarus bereft of common necessities such as indoor bathrooms or even running water. No one from home is able to help them financially.**

**OUR COMMITMENT**

**We want to support Alina and Liza in their education because they have made the most of the opportunities that have been given to them. We couldn't be prouder of them and honestly can't think of two more deserving young women. The goal — graduation — is in sight but the financial challenge remains daunting.**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THEIR EDUCATION, KEEP READING!**

**The financial need to complete the upcoming year at High Point University is $35,000. We have a tax deductible means by which anyone can give. Alina and Liza were approved as applicants into the College Scholarship Program at New Path Church in Raleigh in 2021. Gifts given toward their college tuition and fees are made to New Path Church. 100% of every gift goes directly toward college costs.**

**You can learn more at:**

[**https://newpathchurch.com/newpath-college-scholarship-fund-1**](https://newpathchurch.com/newpath-college-scholarship-fund-1)**.**

**You can give online at https://newpathraleigh.churchcenter.com/giving. Click the drop down to the right of the amount and select "College Scholarships," and your contribution will go to Alina and Liza.**

**Or, you may send a check to:**

**New Path Church**

**P.O. Box 90984**

**Raleigh, N.C. 27675**

**Important: Put "College Scholarship Fund" in the memo line.**

**If you have questions, Robin Phillips may be reached via email at Robin.phillips15@gmail.com or at 919-889-6300.**

**Much love and thank you for considering this opportunity.**