



Jady from Hong Kong with the Fuller family in Alabama.

We love the experience. This is our 4th year to host and every year we believe to be our best. We recommend it highly to our friends and even have convinced 2 families to host next year!! Our coordinator is awesome and ALWAYS there when we need her.

The Fuller Family

Who can be a host family?

Host families are volunteers (aged 25+), with or without children, who can provide a private or shared bedroom, three meals per day, some transportation, and a comfortable and nurturing home environment for the student.

Who are the students?

Students are carefully chosen young ambassadors aged 15-18. All students speak English and have their own spending money and insurance. Students will attend the local high school for a semester or academic year.

Your International Coordinator is:

Visit our website at
www.aspectfoundation.org
exchange@aspectfoundation.org

Letters from PARENTS

I am writing to an unknown family to whom we are willing to give over the care for our daughter. In such a letter every parent would praise its child into heaven, I think. Therefore I will shortly tell you and please believe, it's a very good girl and we ask you to take care of her but don't spoil her! If you decide to take her, you will get "a little sun" in your house.

Mother from Holland

I hope that my son will learn about the famous American spirit of volunteerism. Please give him your hand to bring up his mind.

Father from Japan

Since a long time our daughter wishes to spend a year in America as exchange student. It was not an easy decision for us to send our daughter out into the wide world for such a long time. Therefore we really hope that she joins to host parents, and she comes out with very well. When you have determined to let our daughter be a member of your family, we will be very grateful and very relieved and very happy to hear from you.

Father from Germany

You can't imagine how funny feeling one gets, when he is trying to write a letter to someone he doesn't know, and he is going to send him the most precious person to live with, his own child. First of all, my wife and I would like to thank you for your decision, to accept someone from a different culture, language to your house, becoming part of your everyday. We will miss him very much of course, but since we respect his decision and his vision, we wish him the best. Of course we have our own concerns. That's why, my Friends, we understand how big a responsibility this is for you, and appreciate your decision to accept our son in your family.

Father from Slovenia

We hope this letter will be an initial step of friendship and open dialogue between two families of one son. As parents we have concerns and worries about sending our son to live with an unknown family. We imagine you share those feelings with us when you will host an unknown young boy. We believe this experience will be a positive one for our son, for you, and for us.

Mother and Father from Sweden

Letters from STUDENTS

Thank you for letting me learn so much about life and for making this the best year of my life! The idea of world I have now is completely different from the one I had before. This year made me realize that people are the same no matter how or where they live, and I became much more independent too.

Camila, from Brazil

I want to say thank you for my host family. They helped me a lot. When I was sad, they worried about me. When I was happy, they were happy too!

Reiko, from Japan

I would like to thank both of my host parents for showing me the kindness to let me live a lifelong dream by welcoming me into their home, and I would like to thank Aspect for giving me this opportunity!

Christopher, from England

My host parents have done so many things for me so I feel comfortable and happy! They help me when I need it and try to do the best for me. I wish "thank you" is not only that I can tell them!

Maria, from Colombia

I'd like to say the BIGGEST thank you to my host parents! We were perfectly matched! I love them dearly. They have helped me so much in gaining more confidence. My host siblings and relatives have all made me feel so welcome and a valued member of the family.

Danielle, from England

I want to say thank you to my host family for taking me into your home and treat me like a daughter, for caring about me and supporting me, and making me feel like this is my second home.

Irina, Switzerland

I became like a daughter and we had so much fun as a family! Thank you for giving me the best experience of my life, for showing me this wonderful country, and for making me get to know myself!

Eva-Karin, Sweden

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Aspect
Foundation

10 Steps to become

a Host Family



1-800 US YOUTH

See our NEW students ONLINE!
www.aspectfoundation.org

10 Steps

to become a Host Family

1 Check out the credentials of the exchange organization.

When you choose to host an Aspect Foundation student, you can be assured that you are in good hands. Aspect Foundation operates in full compliance with US government regulations and industry standards. We are happy to comply with these guidelines, because they exist for the safety of our students and for the support of our host families.

Aspect Foundation is a small personal program and a leader in the field of international education.



Naira from Armenia meets her host family in Virginia.

2 Talk it over with your family.

The decision to host an exchange student is a family decision. Talk it over. Make sure each member of the extended family, from grandparents to toddlers, feels that they are a big part of this important decision. Hosting your first exchange student will be the most unforgettable year of your family's life!

3 Visit our website: www.aspectfoundation.org

Here you and your family can review wonderful student photos, letters and personal profiles. You can also download the Host Family Application. Or, if you prefer, just give us a call at 800-US YOUTH. A real live person will answer the phone during business hours, and we will put you in touch with the nearest Aspect coordinator who can answer all of your questions about hosting a student.

4 Complete the Host Family Application.

Aspect Foundation's host families are volunteers (25+) with or without children, who want to provide meals and a loving home for an exchange student. Each family fills out a detailed application, with information about family members, pets, daily routines, interests and lifestyle. You will also be asked to provide family photos and personal references. It is an honor and a privilege to be selected as an Aspect Foundation host family.

5 Review Student Applications at your Family's Home Visit.

When your Aspect Foundation coordinator visits your home, all family members should be present and share both their enthusiasm and their concerns. The coordinator may show you a few student applications, carefully selected to match the interests and lifestyle of your family. The coordinator will also want to meet your pets, and to take a tour of your home. If you have specific questions about how hosting will impact upon your teenage children or your small children, your local coordinator may arrange for you to speak with an experienced host parent who can best answer your questions. Many coordinators have hosted students themselves, so they can certainly describe the joys of hosting an exchange student.

Aspect Foundation students come from many different countries. They are fully insured and have their own spending money.



Adriana from Mexico enjoys her first snow day in Indiana with her host sisters, Lauren, Jenna & Lilly, and their friend Chi Fu.

Aspect Foundation students live with volunteer host families and attend the local school for a semester or academic year.



Candido from Brazil with his host family at school.

6 Choose your Student, and receive their Letters and Photo Album.

When you are approved as a host family and select your new "son" or "daughter," he or she will receive information about your family, including your original family photos. At the same time, you will receive your student's complete application, with letters from the student and the student's parents, and a photo album prepared by the student. You will also receive an Aspect Foundation Handbook that answers all the questions that might come up during your student's stay. You can now write to your student by mail or email, or call to say hello to your new family member. You will receive notification of your student's arrival plans just as soon as flights are booked.

7 Go to the Orientation and meet other host families.

Prior to your student's arrival, your local coordinator will have a Host Family Orientation. You will receive important information about Aspect Foundation policies regarding students and host families. This is also your opportunity to meet other host families in the area, and to share your excitement as the day of arrival approaches. Being a host parent brings you many new friends, not only from other countries, but also from your own hometown!

8 Greet your new family member at the local airport.

Finally the big day is here! You and your family meet your student at the local airport. Your local coordinator is often at the airport that day, as are other host families if the students arrive in a group. The first few days are a whirlwind of excitement, fun and adventure as you and your student get to know each other. Everything takes on new meaning as you see your "typical American life" through your student's eyes...

9 Enjoy the most unforgettable year in your family's life.

The year flies by. It is a year of "firsts": first day of American school, first American friendship, first peanut butter sandwich, first youth group, first Thanksgiving, first prom. Exchange students really grow up during this special year. As the host family, you play an important role in helping the student to become a young adult. Your family will also grow this year, by learning about a different culture, and learning to accept and love a new family member. Your Aspect Foundation coordinator will keep in touch with you throughout the exchange year.

10 Say goodbye to your student, knowing that you have gained a friend for life.

All too soon, it's time to say goodbye. Your local Aspect Foundation coordinator will host a pre-departure orientation, to help you and your student share the many mixed feelings you will have: love, gratitude, happiness, sadness...and most of all "wonder"—wonder at the miracle that a stranger came to your home nine months ago and now leaves as a lifelong friend. Many of our host parents travel overseas to attend their student's high school graduation, their wedding, the birth of their first child. It is a lifelong friendship, one that starts the moment you open your home to an exchange student.

Call 1-800-US YOUTH OR visit our website to see PHOTOS, LETTERS and PROFILES from our terrific NEW students! www.aspectfoundation.org

