

# Lifelong Connections



Intercultural Programs USA

A leader in international high school student exchange for more than 60 years

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Learn more about hosting a student:  
[www.afsusa.org/hostfamily](http://www.afsusa.org/hostfamily)  
**1-800-876-2377**

LOCAL VOLUNTEER CONTACT:



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Intercultural Programs USA

Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures



## Your Family is Exceptional!

### Bring the World Home with an AFS Exchange Student

*"Martin grew up in the north of Ghana near the equator. His family, as well as his community, barely had enough money to buy necessities. He has a special appreciation for the opportunity he was given to live with a family in the US.*

*When he left the US we knew his life would be changed forever. But Martin's incentive to 'share' what he has learned with his own country and community has had a transforming effect on us, his American family.*

*We have been given 'new eyes' to see the world! The gratitude (and love!) goes both ways."*

*-Dawn Fuchs, Host mom to Martin from Ghana (pictured with host brother John, above)*

## Become an AFS Host Family

Each year, more than 2,300 international high school students from more than 90 countries come to the US with AFS-USA to study in high schools and live with host families. Our AFS international partners select young ambassadors who are eager to experience life as a member of a family, school, and community in America.

Hosting an international student means more than providing a bed and meals. As an AFS Host Family, you'll welcome a new member into your home, share your everyday lives, and learn and grow as you get to know one another.

*Fred and Chana Hays have redefined what it means to be a family. They have hosted more than 25 AFS students. Two host sons, Aron from Iceland (front row, left) and Gyorgy from Hungary (front row, right) join in their family photo featuring several generations of AFS connections.*



Cover: Bennie and Ruth Eubanks opened their home to host daughters Boong and Therese.



*"The simple things matter most, like just spending time talking together, which is how we share and get to know each other. I envision we are only going to have more meaningful experiences together."*

*-Single mom Marcia Raglin with son Tariq and host son Per Kristoffer from Norway*

## Take the Next Step

A local AFS Volunteer will guide you through the process and answer any questions you may have about the hosting experience.

By telling us about your household, community, lifestyle, and values, the volunteer will work with you to help find the best student to fit your family.

Join other families across the US, and learn more about becoming an AFS Host Family. Contact your local volunteer or go to:

[www.afsusa.org/hostfamily](http://www.afsusa.org/hostfamily)

## Local Network of Support

AFS provides experienced staff and volunteer support prior to your student's arrival all the way through his or her return home. Your family is assigned a trained volunteer liaison who is your first line of communication. You will also have access to support 24/7 through our Duty Officer system. Many volunteers are former host families or previous program participants who have firsthand experience and are trained to support families like yours.

## Recognized Worldwide Leader

Since 1947, AFS has matched host families with high school students from all over the world. More than 370,000 families and students worldwide have embraced a new culture and become a global family. More than 36,000 volunteers worldwide make the work of AFS possible.

*"[Mareenah's parents] sacrificed quite a bit in order to send her here. Because we understand how much this opportunity means to Mareenah and her parents, we are doing all that we can to ensure that she does well in school and actively engages in her community."*

*-Doug and Dana Deane, Host parents to Mareenah from Thailand*

