



## Host a Foreign Exchange Student Fact Sheet

### What is Hosting?

Hosting entails inviting an international high school student to live in one's home and experience life in America with their family. Ayusa host families will offer a high school student the opportunity to study in an American high school, experience a new culture, build lifelong friendships and develop language and leadership skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

### Who can Host a Student?

There is no such thing as a "typical" Ayusa host family. Regardless of the location of a family's residence or the size of their family, they are invited to host an Ayusa international student. In the past host families have included:

- Two parent families with young or school aged children
- Single parent families with or without children
- Empty nesters with grown children
- Young couples without children

### Host Family Responsibilities

An Ayusa host family is responsible for providing:

- A safe, warm and nurturing environment for their international student for either a full academic year or fall semester
- A private or shared bedroom (with a host sibling of the same gender)
- Three meals a day
- Necessary transportation

### Benefits of Hosting a Student

Hosting a foreign exchange student is a rewarding and life enriching experiences for American families for a variety of reasons:

- Introducing one's family to a new culture and language
- Growing closer as a family as one helps their international student to learn about their town and area
- Experiencing the joys of having a new family member to love
- Practicing hospitality and generosity with one's own family
- Supporting diversity and cross-cultural understanding in one's own home
- Increasing cultural awareness in one's community
- Helping to make a difference in the world
- Creating an international friendship that lasts a lifetime
- Claiming a \$50 per month tax deduction for each month one hosts an international high school student

### Receiving Local Support from Ayusa

Ayusa host families are assigned a local Community Representative (CR) who will support their family and student for the entire program. The Community Representative is supported by a team of Regional and National Ayusa staff who are available 24 hours a day in case of emergency.