



YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING  
Intercultural Exchange Programs

## YFU Community/Online Introduction

**Purpose:** To compel outside groups, especially Meetups or email groups, to learn more about YFU and hosting opportunities.

**Contents:**

- Initial email ask with suggested supplementals
- Follow-up advice

**Instructions:** This template is intended for distribution to staff, host families or volunteers to send to local meet-up groups.

### ACTION ITEM: EMAIL

**Email Ask: Share With Your Network**

**Subject Line:** <<Group Name>> Assistance Requested

Dear <<Group or contact name>>,

**We are seeking host families for international high school exchange students.** At the nonprofit YFU, our host families come in all shapes and sizes. Right now, we have a number of students that have not yet been placed with an American host family. With your support, we hope to further our mission of advancing intercultural understanding, mutual respect and social responsibility through educational exchanges for youth, families and communities.

Will you share our message with your <<network, meet-up group>>? Below is a sample text to forward via email or listserv, and, of course, we would like to talk to you about any additional outreach we may do through your group. Through your assistance, we are hoping to find more families open to new and enriching experiences and willing to provide guidance, love and support to a young person embarking on a journey of self-discovery.

Thank you so much for your consideration. Please contact me if you think you can help.

Very best regards,

<<Contact Information>>

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**Listserv or Email Option 1:**

**If I had to start again, this is what I would do:**

**I would take action to better the world.** YFU has relied on families of all shapes, sizes and varieties to better the world one student at a time over the last several decades. Today, we boldly ask if you might change the world by agreeing to open your home and heart to exchange. By agreeing to this, you are advancing intercultural understanding, mutual respect and social responsibility through educational exchanges for youth, families and communities.

**I would tell others that they can choose their friends AND their family.** By hosting, you can choose a global family member to add to the mix. Students come from 60+ countries with varied interests and hobbies. Families may choose

to host an international student for a semester, school year or as a “welcome” family. A welcome family agrees to take a student (or two!) for about six weeks. Choose the next member of **your family today!**

**I wouldn't be afraid to tell others about what I believe in.** Families are still needed in your community. Share YFU information with your friends, your neighbors, worship community or a work colleague. Student profiles are below for you to share with those who might make a good host family. On behalf of the international teens waiting to hear about their new families, thank you for sharing!

**Act now.** Call **1.800.833.6243** option 2 to be routed to a local field director or start your host family application online today at **[yfuusa.org/applytohost](http://yfuusa.org/applytohost)**.

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**Short Listserv or Email Option 2:  
If I had to start again, this is what I would do:**

**I would take action to better the world.** Today, we boldly ask if you might better the world with YFU by agreeing to open your home and heart to exchange an exchange student.

**I would tell others that they can choose their friends AND their family.** By hosting, you can choose a global family member to add to the mix. Students come from 60+ countries with varied interests and hobbies. Choose the next member of **your family today!**

**I wouldn't be afraid to tell others about what I believe in.** Share YFU information with your friends, your neighbors or a work colleague.

**Act now.** Call **1.800.833.6243**, option 2 to be routed to a local field director or start your host family application online today at **[yfuusa.org/applytohost](http://yfuusa.org/applytohost)**.

**ACTION ITEM: SUPPLEMENTAL**

Profiles of a few local students may be included at the end of the email text either by copy/paste method or by email attachment.

**ACTION ITEM: FOLLOW-UP**

**If there is a phone number available, call post message to ensure that your email was received. Ask if there will be any action taken per your request.**

**If there is no phone number available, resend the original email with this new message pasted above:**

Hello \_\_,

Thank you for listening to me talk about YFU (yesterday, last week, a few weeks ago). I'm still seeking qualified host families ready to share their family traditions with some of our incredible exchange students. There is still time for us to match summer arrival students with host families, and I appreciate anything you can do to help me spread the word.

Warm regards,

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(Original message below)