

4-H EVENT/OPPORTUNITY:

Host Families for International Exchange Youth and Adults

DATE/DEADLINE:

Applications are due in the State 4-H Office by February 28 for first choice of exchangees. Applications are accepted thereafter until all exchangees are placed, with a final deadline of May 10. The exchange programs occur for periods of one month over the summer or the academic year.

LOCATION/LEVEL:

County; State

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Full information on all aspects of the program, including the nationalities of exchangees and application forms, is included in the 2010 International Programs Booklet, which is mailed to all county offices, former host families, former exchangees and other interested parties in early January. Please make potential participants aware of this opportunity. There is no cost to host families, other than providing room and board for their exchangee. Registration information and forms can be found on the web at: <http://www.ohio4h.org/youth/international/index.html>.

GOAL/OBJECTIVES:

- * Expose Ohio 4-H families to cultural diversity through a living experience with an international exchangee.
- * Increase awareness of other cultures on the county level.
- * Encourage Ohio 4-H youth to become involved in international exchange programs, themselves.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

More than 100 Ohio families will have the opportunity to host a delegate from another country through 4-H International exchange programs in 2010. Host families report that the experience is enjoyable and educational, and that many benefits are gained.

Extension professionals should promote and distribute information about Ohio 4-H International Programs, or involve a volunteer International County Coordinator (ICC) to do so. The reference checks, matching, orientation, transportation, counseling, departure and evaluation processes will be arranged by the State 4-H International Exchange Coordinator, in conjunction with ICC's or County Extension Personnel (whichever you prefer).

Program	Dates	Ages
< Japanese Labo Youth for 1 month	July 23 to August 18	12-18
< Japanese Labo Adults for 2 weeks	July 23 to Aug. 5 or Aug. 5-18	Adult chaperones
< Japanese Labo Youth for 1 year	July 31, 2010 to June, 2011	15-18
< Costa Rican Youth for 1 month	June 21 – July 18	15-19

CONTACT PERSON:

Mary Lynn Thalheimer, State 4-H Office, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive, Columbus, OH 43210 (614) 292-6941, thalheimer.1@osu.edu