

Lions Youth Exchange Program – District 37C

Perhaps one of the easiest and most rewarding ways to support Lions Club International's goal of working with youth is through hosting a Lions Youth Exchange Student. Each year students from around the world are sponsored by Lions Clubs to travel to another country and learn about life and Lionism there. In District 37C, this exchange takes place from mid-July to mid-August, with students in need of hosting for a period of one to two weeks.

Lions Youth Exchange students are eager to learn about our way of life and relatively easy to please. They do not need to be "entertained" or "catered to" – they simply want to become a part of your family and learn about North America and Lionism here. Each year loving Lions families open their homes and their hearts to these students, with the result that the family usually learns as much as the student! There are many families in District 37C that have hosted a youth exchange student and call it one of the best experiences they have ever had!

We are looking for more Lions who would be willing to share a week or two of their lives with these outstanding young people by offering to host them for a portion of this upcoming summer. This is an activity that an entire Lions Club can get actively involved in through having club socials during a time when your club may not normally meet, and through having different club members spend time with your youth exchange student. Clubs who have hosted students in the past have reported afterward that the hosting really brought the club closer together and gave all the members a lot of fun and fellowship.

If you think someone in your Lions Club might be interested in hosting a Lions Youth Exchange student this summer, or if you know of a family that is not currently a member of a Lions Club but who may be able to offer their home and heart to a youth exchange student, please contact Lion Kim Donais or Lion Kimberly Lyall, District 37C Co-Chair for the Lions Youth Exchange Program. Families interested in hosting must complete a Host Family Application form by April 15, 2002. All interested families will receive a full orientation and information about the youth exchange students available for hosting prior to the exchange.

The Lions Youth Exchange Program is a fantastic way to live Lionism to its fullest! Host a student and join the fun!!!

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