

2007 4-H International Exchange Opportunities for Travel & Hosting

Poland Inbound 4-H Exchange

Host families are needed for 17 youth and two adult chaperons from June 22 to July 21 (participants will be at Expo Days from June 20-22). In the past the Polish youth have an educational project to research while with the host families. Several projects were to investigate agricultural practices, forestry, and culture. Host families are asked to help these youth by arranging for meeting with organizations or businesses that could help them since they will have a chance to apply for 4-H college scholarships when they return to Poland.

Japanese 4-H Exchanges

Michigan will participate in four different exchange programs with Japan next summer. Families who host a month-long Japanese student will receive a \$100 scholarship each summer they host and can use up to \$350 (maximum) of that scholarship money toward sending a member of their family to Japan on the outbound program. Families that host a yearlong student are eligible for \$1000 toward the cost of the outbound trip.

Labo Inbound

Michigan 4-H will host 57 Japanese youth between the ages of 12 and 16. Arrivals will be between July 21 and 25. Departures will be between August 19 and 23. If we have all youth placed and paperwork done by June 1, 2007, counties will receive \$20 bonus money for each home placement. We hope to identify host families early this year so they can communicate with the Japanese family several times before their arrival. The breakdown of applicants from Japan follows: 25 Males: 1-16 year old; 4-14 year olds; 10-13 year olds; 10-12 year olds. 31 Females: 2-15 year olds; 7-14 year olds; 17-13 year olds; 5-12 year olds. Potential host families can find information about Labo applicants on Isabella County website: <http://www.isbellacoounty.org>. On home page under Quick Links, click on MSU Extension. On Extension page, under Quick Links, click on 4-H Japanese Inbound Delegates List.

Outbound Nihongo Language Program (June 14 to August 9)

This program, offered by the Labo Japanese Language Research Institute, provides an innovative and fun language instruction program in Japan. Participants live with host families in the Tokyo area and attend classes at the Labo Center. The program precedes the outbound dates so delegates can combine the two programs. A chaperone (not necessarily from Michigan) accompanies the young people and stays for the outbound, month-long stay. The delegates are usually placed in another part of Japan for the second month (see Outbound July 11-Aug 9 below) of the program. Cost is about \$4000.

Outbound Japanese 4-H Exchange (July 11 to August 9)

This exchange is for young people aged 12 to 18. Participants must also attend Japanese Language and Culture session at Exploration Days. Cost is approximately \$3200.

Year-Long Hosting Program (August 2007 to mid-June 2008)

Michigan needs host families for five to seven Japanese high school juniors or seniors from approximately August 1, 2006 to the end of June 2007. We will also need host families for two FLEX students who come from the former Soviet Union (Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Armenia, Russia, etc.)

Belize 4-H Exchange

Inbound

Michigan will host from six to eight delegates to Michigan from approximately June 22 to July 7, 2006. The Belizean delegates will attend Exploration Days, and then go to host families. Host family applications are due by April 15th.

Outbound

Participants aged 15-19 will travel to Belize on July 17 and spend two and one-half weeks with host families and help out at a 4-H camp, returning on August 3. The trip includes several days of sightseeing in the country and out on the Belize Cays. This is not a tourist-type trip, but will be a chance to experience the true culture of a developing country. Other expenses include a passport, immunizations and personal spending money. Cost: \$1750. Applications are due by April 1st. A deposit of \$250 is required.

Jamaica Inbound 4-H Exchange

Michigan will host approximately six to eight Jamaican 4-H adults and youth in July for up to three weeks. They will want to visit 4-H club meetings as well as fairs.

Ambassadors Trips to Australia and Finland

These trips (mid-June to mid-July) are for 16-to-19 year olds. Groups will travel to Australia or Finland will stay with host families for one month. They be chaperoned by adults from participating states, but not necessarily Michigan. Chaperon applications are also available.

Cost: The program fee for Australia is \$3,500-\$3,800 depending on the exchange rates and flight costs. The fee includes international airline ticket, travel in host country, food, lodging, supplemental insurance, orientation and evaluation programs. The program fee for Finland will be in the range of \$2,350-\$2,600 depending on the currency exchange rates, flight costs, and the size of the group. The fee includes international airline ticket, food, lodging, supplemental insurance, orientation and evaluation programs. It does not include travel to the departure orientation city (Trip for Finland will be from June 16 or 17 with a group orientation in Detroit before departure, and returning on July 17) and return from debriefing.

IFYE Representative Program

Outbound

IFYE Representative programs are for individuals 19 to 25 years old and typically last three to six months. Rather than attending school in another country, participants in these programs live and work as part of the family. Participants move to a new family every three to five weeks, so they can gain a broader perspective about life in their host country. Cost is dependent on country location and distance.

Inbound

Host families are needed for month long stays during the summer for youth aged 19-to-25. The objective is the same as the outbound students.



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