

## RUF International – Reaching the Nations at Our Doorstep

**Program:** Hospitality Meal at an American Home

**Purpose:** For international students to experience the love of Christ and biblical hospitality through local Christians.

### **How does the program work:**

Each international student, who signs up for the program, will be matched with a local Christian. The student is welcomed to bring a friend or two to the home of the local Christian. The student and the host will be introduced through email and will communicate to arrange their meeting.



### **Guidelines for Hosts:**

- Pray for God’s blessing as you plan to open your home for international students. You can invite your student to your home on the weekend or weekday. Saturday lunch or supper work great.
- Pick students up, bring them to your home, then take them back after visiting.
- Be sensitive to food restrictions and plan your meal accordingly. You will be notified of any food restrictions the students may have.
- Respect the students’ culture, customs, and beliefs.
- If the students initiate a discussion of your Christian beliefs, you are welcome to respond to their questions. Otherwise, focus your visit on just building a relationship with them and avoid preaching.

### **Tips for conversation with your international friends:**

- ✓ Ask them about themselves and listen carefully to their responses. Topics might include: family, geography, customs in their countries (family life, recreation, work, etc.), and future plans.
- ✓ Avoid projecting the attitude that “America is the best.” Avoid questions such as, “How do you like America?” Instead ask, “What do you like the best about your time in America?”
- ✓ Don’t ask questions which might appear to “put down” their culture.
- ✓ Allow international students to ask you questions too. They may ask you about topics which are more acceptable in other cultures than in America, such as your age, cost of your house, etc. Don’t be offended or embarrassed.
- ✓ Learn to pronounce their names, and help them to pronounce yours.
- ✓ Speak slowly and be patient. Avoid slang and idioms. If they don’t understand you, try to phrase your statement in another way.

### **Additional Information:**

If the students you are hosting have initiated asking questions about Christianity and seem interested in having more discussions about the Bible or attending church, please inform them about:

1. RUF International has “Dinner and Bible Discussions” program every Friday at 6:30 pm at the International House on 2810 N. Calvert St.
2. Visiting a local church. You can offer to pick them up to visit your church or they can contact Jacob Jasin to visit a church near JHU campus.

Please take a couple of pictures of you and your students at your house and send them to Jacob Jasin. Your pictures may be used for ministry presentations to encourage others to reach the nations for Christ. **We hope that this program will be a wonderful experience and a blessing to you as you reach the nations that Christ has brought to you at your own doorstep.**