# Host Family Home Visit Checklist

Bring any host family forms, organizational brochures and a measuring tape.

## Host Contact Information

Host Name:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

## As you are approaching the home, take note of these items:

* The location of the house:  Urban or Suburban or Rural
* Distance to school or center participant will attend regularly:
* Access to local public transportation (bus or train):  6 blocks or less  or 7 or more blocks
* Accessibility of local public transportation (wheelchair lifts, verbal stop announcements by drivers, etc):  Yes or No
* Presence of sidewalks to and from bus/train stop?  Yes or No
* Presence of curb cut ramps on corners of sidewalks?  Yes or No

## Meet the Family

Sit down with them in the spot of their choice. Thank them very much for their interest in being a host family for your organization. Introduce yourself and your role to the family and inform them of the information you will gather during the visit and encourage them to ask questions. Tell them that you will be taking notes while they speak.

* Family and pet member names: Age Hobbies/Interests
* Household – typical daily activities/schedule
* Why do they want to be a host family? Any past international or diversity experience?
* Foreign or sign languages spoken by family members:

## Discuss organizational expectations of host family:

* Orientation/meetings
* Room and board
* Transportation support
* Cultural support
* Diversity
* Food
* Emergency procedures
* Medical Insurance
* Other support/assistance
* Household adaptations based on participant’s needs
* Background checks

## House Assessment

Walk around the inside of the house with the family as they show you the spaces the participant will use.

### Bedroom

* Location: On main floor  or   Upstairs   or   Downstairs
* Bedroom set up:  Private  or Shared with same-sex family member
* Approx. open floor space in room:
* Size of bed:  Twin  or  Queen
* Bed style:  Futon style (low to ground)  or Full size bed (2-3 feet off ground)

### Bathroom

* Is bathroom on same floor as bedroom: Yes or No
* Bathroom door width is:
* Approx. open floor space in room and next to the toilet:
* Features: Bathtub or Shower (type of door, shower head/hose, and floor area)

### Inside House Layout

* Note areas with carpet and thickness:
* Note placement and number of steps inside house:
* Presence of handrails: Yes or No
* Measure the width of the main access and other internal doorways: bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, etc. (doorway width needed for an average wheelchair is 32 inches)
* Is there a computer in the house that the participant will be able to use for email or program work - or space for one to be set up?   Yes or No Location:

Other indoor notes:

### Outside the house

* Note location and number of steps to the front or main access door:
* Note location and number of steps to other entrances (back, side, garage):
* Note the slope (up or down) of driveway or walk way to front door from street:
* Driveway/walkway/pathway surface:

Other outdoor notes:

## Talk about possible adaptations that could be done to prepare for hosting:

* Designate a smoking area
* Participant dietary needs/preferences
* Have shower bench available
* Install a wheelchair ramp
* Remove a door
* Install a handheld shower
* Guide dog presence
* Closed captions on TV
* Connect up visual alarms

Other:

## Other Comments: