

Sister Cities Association of Belvidere, Illinois, Inc.



**To PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS to become YOUTH EXCHANGE
HOST FAMILIES for the SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION OF BELVIDERE**

Thank you for your interest in participating in our Youth Exchange Program as a Host Family. In an effort to provide an opportunity for families in our community to learn about our Sister Cities in Europe and at the same time strengthen our relationships with these cities, we have established an exchange program for high school aged youth. We have had successful youth exchanges with our Sister Cities, Schwieberdingen, Germany and Vaux le Penil, France since 1999.

In this exchange, four teenagers from Belvidere/Boone County are given the opportunity to live with a host family in one of our Sister Cities. Two teens will spend two weeks in Vaux-le-Pénil, France and two teens will spend two weeks in Schwieberdingen, Germany. In a reciprocal arrangement we then welcome two teens from each of our Sister Cities into our community so that they can experience life in Belvidere and the United States.

We are now looking forward to the summer of 2024. **We are looking for four (4) families living in the Belvidere/Boone County area who have a teenager and would be willing to host a teenager from Schwieberdingen or Vaux le Penil.**

WHO? : Families with teenagers living in the Belvidere/Boone County area are invited to apply. You will be asked to open up your home to a French or German 'son' or 'daughter' for a period of approximately two weeks.

WHEN? : A two week visit will take place between the end of July and the middle of August. Exact dates depend on school schedules and are not yet set.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF OUR FAMILY? : Host families are asked to provide 'room and board' in a safe family environment for this two week period. It is our hope that our guests will be included as a family member in the events of everyday life, thus learning about our community and life in the United States. We suggest that expenses incurred as a family are covered by the Host Family. Each guest should, however, have ample spending money to cover some expenses outside of the home or non-family activities. Purchases and souvenirs should be their own responsibility.

There are also several events organized by Sister Cities which we might ask that you attend or that you provide transportation to for your teen.

HOW DO I APPLY? : Applicants are asked to fill out a Host Family application and agree to an interview in their home. Although we highly encourage you to make application to host by the end of February, applications will be received until suitable accommodations are arranged for our four guests. Mail your application to: Sister Cities Association of Belvidere, Illinois, Attention: Youth Exchange Program, PO Box 1822, Belvidere, IL 61008.

Need further information?
Contact Youth Exchange Coordinators:
Brad Peters (815) 547-4566
Kris Meek (815) 222-8063
Or visit us at belvideresistercities.org

Sister Cities Association of Belvidere, Illinois, Inc.



PO Box 1822- Belvidere, Illinois 61008

HOST FAMILY APPLICATION 2024

Date _____

We would like to host a teenager from:

Schwieberdingen, Germany _____
Vaux-le-Pénil, France _____
either city _____

We would like to host:

a boy _____
a girl _____
either _____

Teen applicant: _____
(last name) (first name) (age)

Name of School: _____ Grade: _____

Names of Parents: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone:(815) _____ Email: _____

Father's Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mother's Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Others: _____

Other children / people living in your home - Relationship - Age - Name of school if attending

Although all the teens that have come here through our exchange program were quite fluent in English, it is good to be familiar with their language. Do any family members speak German, French or other languages? Is anyone studying a foreign language? Which & how long? _____

_____ (over)

Would your guest have his/her own bedroom or share with someone? _____

Is smoking permitted inside your home? _____

Do you have pets inside your home? _____

Your religious affiliation (optional): _____

In what activities and hobbies do members of your family participate during the summer?

What sights in the Belvidere and Rockford area would you like to show your guest? In what family activities could you include him or her? _____

Other remarks or concerns of the parents: _____

Signature: _____ (applicant)

Signature: _____ (parent)

(parent)

Please return application to:
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