



NEWSLETTER

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International Outreach at Home

You don't have to be a big church with a huge budget to make a difference in the lives of young people from other countries, studying in our nation's colleges and universities, a long way from home. Whether the students need a place to go during the holidays, or simply want to make American friends and learn about our culture, students begin signing up for Christmas International House (CIH) in September.

Some churches will host 10-20 students in members' homes. Some will host just a handful. Some programs like Atlanta, GA bring many churches together in mission to do what one church alone cannot.

There is no need for an expensive mission trip when the world comes to your city – just open your doors!



Kansas City CIH students visiting the Tower of the National World War I Museum and Memorial



Lancaster CIH students shopping on Antiques Row in Philadelphia, PA



2017 Programs Report

In 2017, 50 students attended 9 National CIH programs. This was a low for us as we have averaged between 100-250 students annually over the last 10 years. This could be due to the absence of a National Director and we are pleased to announce that Rev. Irene Wong began as National CIH Director in August 2017. Since then, we've been revitalizing our CIH programs by launching a new website, logo, and promotional materials. We are excited and looking forward to growing our programs, establishing new ones, and hosting more international students in 2018.

Students in CIH Programs:

Atlanta, GA – 10
Chicago, IL – 5
Ephrata, PA – 5
Kansas City, CK – 5
Lancaster, PA – 2
Lithia, FL – 8
Malibu, CA – 4
Orange Park, FL – 7
St. Augustine, FL – 4

FROM AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICE:

Most of my exchange students have been utilizing the CIH program for many years. All have returned with wonderful memories and experiences. To quote a few: **"I have found my second Mom,"** **"I was invited back for the next break."** The CIH family consists of extraordinary folks who deeply care about their fellow human beings! CIH is a wonderful addition and extension to our program and I am grateful for its existence.

Sabine M. Eastham

Director of International Student Programs

Lindsey Wilson College, KY

“The best thing about this program is the idea of being with an American family. Being an international student in the States will create a lot of stereotypes and misconceptions about American culture and when you live with an American host family you’ll get to know more about American culture...”

— Surya from India



Atlanta CIH at the World of Coke

“I enjoyed the happy time with all the group ... and I also enjoyed time with my host family. We decorated the Christmas tree and we cooked together. It was a very wonderful time.”

— Mengyuan from China

TWO WEEKS DURING CHRISTMAS

The dates for 2018-2019 CIH are December 18 – January 1 or 2. You can offer a 1 or 2-week program. Students will pay for their transportation to and from your city, and you provide a place to stay in homes and meals. Some programs collect a local fee to cover admission costs to theme parks or museums, transportation, outside meals, and some do not. Some programs keep their students on a schedule from morning through dinner, and others let the students do whatever their hosts do. You decide how your program will be run and how many students you will take. The National Office will provide support, guidance, and resources for new programs as well as mentoring from experienced program directors.

BOARD OF ADVISORS

The National CIH Advisory Committee represents a cross-section of our programs and brings a wealth of experience. Donna Mountain (Orange Park, FL); Donna Dehn (Kansas City, KS); David Fox (Huntington, WV); Sue Steffy (Ephrata, PA); John Fox (ELI Director, Georgia SW State University, Americus, GA); and Anna Drexler (ELI Director, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA); Rev. Cody Watson (Birmingham, AL); and John Hibbard (Atlanta, GA)

NATIONAL CIH OFFICE STAFF

Ms. Dené Dixon
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Contact us:

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CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

CIH is a national program administered by the Atlanta Ministry with International Students, Inc. (AMIS), a 501 (c)3 nonprofit. All donors to CIH will receive a tax receipt from AMIS.

Visit us at www.christmasih.org
www.amis-inc.org
Facebook/
ChristmasInternationalHouse

Students from Countries:

Japan – 20	S. Korea – 6
China – 12	Nepal – 2
Australia, India, Iran, Lebanon, Malaysia, Russia, Taiwan, Tibet & Vietnam – 1 each	



Bringing in the New Year in Orange Park, FL.

“This year Christmas is best ever because I could experience American culture.”
— Mami from Japan

Students from Schools:

Purdue U – 4	
Agnes Scott – 2	
Coe College – 10	
Georgia Tech – 2	
Lindsey Wilson – 9	
Howard U – 2	
SE MO State U – 7	
U. MI – 2	
Ashland U, Bowling Green State, Illinois Wes. U., Jacksonville State, Notre Dame Coll of MD, PA State U, Randolph-Macon Women’s Coll, U Central MI, U MN, U Pikeville, Yale - 1 each	

“I didn’t go to church in Japan but now I know the church is a very good place for me because I have no family here and no friends in Atlanta before but now I could meet many good people in church. And it was very good time”

— Mikio from Japan



CIH in Lithia, FL