

Prospective Host Family Welcome

Thank you for your interest in opening your home to an experience of international culture and tradition. The Soft Landings Host Family (SLHF) program is a chance to further international diversity and education in our community. It is an excellent opportunity for you and your family to learn the practices and traditions of different cultures firsthand. Welcoming international students into your home allows them to learn about our country, not only in the classroom, but also through the everyday American traditions at your home. This opportunity provides invaluable education to both host families and students, while creating memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

The Soft Landings program strives to provide first year international students a smooth transition to John Carroll, both academically and socially. With the Soft Landings Host Family program, we hope to offer these students a family connection so that they can further their sense of belonging to the John Carroll community.

The Soft Landings Host Family Program welcomes families who will provide students with a safe, friendly, and comfortable environment. Students look forward to learning American traditions and lifestyles, while in turn sharing their own cultures with your family.

Welcoming an international visitor into your home is an exciting and rewarding experience; however it also requires patience and understanding. While the SLHF program minimally requires a one-night stay in your home, our hope is that you and the student will make further arrangements for visits during weekends, holidays, semester breaks, and vacations. Adding a new person to your family's routine may require accommodations. If you are seriously considering hosting an international student, please discuss this matter carefully with each member of your family, so that everyone is willing to share his or her home life with the student.

You will find all the information you need regarding our Host Family program in this document. If you are interested in participating in the SLHF program, please return the completed and signed application to Eric Patterson, Rodman 422, epatterson@jcu.edu, x4947. After review of your application and reference check, and ultimately based upon the size of the incoming international student population, we will notify you of your application status.

Again, we appreciate your interest in supporting our international community and look forward to your candidacy. Should you have any questions, please call me at (216) 397-4947 or email me at epatterson@jcu.edu.

Sincerely,

Eric Patterson