

## Friendship Family Match

### RCIPEVENTS

Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2010 11:12 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Hello [REDACTED],

We have matched you with a family through the friendship family program. We have matched you with [REDACTED]. You can contact [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] also has your contact information. Please contact [REDACTED] at your earliest convenience.

Here are a few helpful hints for the friendship family program -

**Frequent communication is very important.** It is difficult for family's to plan activities if you do not respond to their e-mail (phone call, text or message) in a timely manner.

- o Please check your e-mail frequently. E-mail is a common form of communication here in the United States and most people check their e-mail daily. Your family has your BSU e-mail address. If you do not check this e-mail address often please give them your main e-mail address.
- o If you are comfortable talking in English on the phone please give your family your phone number. Texting is also very common in the United States especially among younger people. If you decide to text your family please ask them first, some older people do not have text services on their phones.
- o Facebook is very common here especially with people 35 and under. Ask your family if they have a Facebook account and if they do add them!

**When your family invites you to an activity make sure you are clear about the actual day and time.**

Ask the family the name of the day, the date and the time of the activity. Check a calendar - many days of the week sound similar in English so it is easy to mix them up.

**Try new things with your family!** Your family might invite you to do activities you think you will not enjoy - please give it a chance!

- o If your family invites you to do an activity and you are busy or you are really not interested it is ok to tell the family you are unable to attend with them.

- However, if a family invites you to do many events and you always say no they will think you are not interested in doing things with them. It is important to do at least one activity a month together.

**Families enjoy having the students recommend activities.** This shows you are interested in spending time with them.

- There are numerous activities on campus which you can attend with your family, many of these activities are free.
- One popular activity to do with your family is cooking – offer to make your family food from your country!

**If your family invites you to dinner and you do not eat certain foods please tell them ahead of time so they do not prepare that food!**

**If you have a question about American culture ask your friendship family!**

**Take lots of pictures during your friendship family activities** – your family and friends in your own country are interested in what you are doing in the United States. Also, these make good keepsakes when you return to your home country.

**If you think you do not have time for the friendship family program please tell me as soon as possible.** There are many students who are waiting for families and are eager to be part of the program.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about the program.

Have a good day,

Mindy

Mindy Ward  
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