

# *International*

## **WHAT IS IT?**

The Cameron University BCM International Friendship Family Program offers an opportunity for you to become friends with an American family and to enrich your educational experience while in the United States. There is no charge for this service.

## **WHAT IS INVOLVED?**

FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS are Lawtonians who are interested in meeting international people. By inviting students/scholars to their homes and sharing family activities with them, they help students get settled in Lawton and learn their way around the city. Volunteers may be single, a family with or without children, or retired persons.

STUDENTS/scholars in the program are those internationals genuinely interested in participating in American family life. New students/scholars are given priority because they need more assistance in learning about Lawton and in making new friends.

ONLY THOSE STUDENTS/scholars who will welcome a family's invitation, and work to build a relationship with a family, should sign up. The number of friendship families and singles is limited, so a student should not accept an assignment if he cannot commit to spending a few hours per month with a family.

# *Friendship*

Families are disappointed when the students repeatedly refuse their invitations or fail to return their calls.

## **HOW DO I SIGN UP?**

An application form is available at the Baptist Student Union/Baptist Collegiate Ministry (2614 SW "E" Avenue) or at the International Student Office. Please return completed application to the International Student Office.

It is essential that we have your current address, e-mail address and/or phone number. Without these, we cannot assign you to a friendship family.

## **WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?**

You will be given an information booklet when you return your application to the International Student Office.

You will be given information about your friendship family by e-mail as soon as an assignment is made. Your family or friend will receive information about you at the same time and will call or write to arrange a meeting within 2 weeks of being notified of your name and contact information.

# *Program*

Each family has its own lifestyle and will choose its own way of building a friendship with its student/scholar. Some things a family might do with you are:

- Take you sightseeing
- Show you their place of work
- Have you over for a family meal or holiday celebration
- Take you with them to a sports or cultural event
- Take you shopping or assist in finding items you need.

Families are encouraged to give you assistance as needed when you first arrive, then see or call you at least twice a month. As your involvement on campus increases, and you find a social life of your own, the frequency of meetings with your family may naturally decrease. But we hope you will stay in touch throughout your stay in America.

## **WHAT IF I HAVE PROBLEMS?**

If you do not hear from your assigned family/friend, or if you have problems in establishing a relationship, call the Friendship Family Coordinator, Patsy Sanders either by phone (580) 583-0152 or by e-mail-[patsykaysanders@juno.com](mailto:patsykaysanders@juno.com).

We will be glad to discuss the situation and help solve the problem.

*Baptist Collegiate  
Ministries  
International  
Friendship  
Program*

A Bridge to  
Understanding



**BCM**  
*...moving lives forward*

*The Cameron  
Community  
Welcomes  
You!*



**BCM**  
*...moving lives forward*

**International Student  
Friendship Program**

**F.I.R.S.T.**

Friends of Internationals Reaching Students Together  
2614 SW "E" avenue  
Lawton, OK 73505

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