

ROLE OF THE ROTARY COUNSELOR

COUNSELOR

- Carefully selected; a surrogate uncle or aunt, a defender of the exchangee's view
- A Rotarian with empathy towards the Exchangee, and dedication to the YE program
- Should stay on job for not less than three years.
- Should not be host parent
- Attend Training at orientation sessions, District Assemblies and Conferences

COUNSELOR'S DUTIES IN SUPPORT OF INBOUND STUDENTS

- Establish contact with inbound student
- Respond to exchangees queries
- Meet at airport, notify natural parents of arrival
- Arrange for bank account, identification with US address, USIA identity card, safekeeping of passport, IAP 66, airline ticket (prefer not to let student keep the passport and airline tickets)
 - Insure insurance coverage is in place
 - Explain Rotary's rules and guidelines; attend district orientation sessions with exchangee
- Move student to new host families, insure compatibility
- Enroll Exchangee in school, continue to monitor progress in school
- Establish rapport

On a continuing basis

- Keep in touch with Exchangee and host parents
- Arrange a program of contacts and activities
- Write natural parents to reassure them
- Allowance: 1st of month for sure; perhaps weekly to keep in contact
- Remember birthdays, Christmas
- Advise regarding travel and specific trips, club approves
- Encourage attendance at club and district functions
- Encourage Rotarians to host for weekend, or special events
- Arrange for exchangee to visit other schools and classes interview with local newspaper, TV, radio
 - Assist club YE committee in orienting new host families
 - Be a surrogate parent, and defender of the exchangee
 - Assist the district YE committee in orientations, selection interview, etc

ALSO Sometimes the counselor and the exchangee do not get along. The Rotary club and district must recognize this and arrange for another to take his or her place: a recent host parent? a teacher? The Exchangee must have a counselor; this is a specific club responsibility.

THIS MUST BE AN OLD CHINESE PROVERB

If you are planning for a year, plant rice

If you are planning for a decade, plant a tree

If you are planning for a lifetime, educate a person

If you are planning for the future generation...

PARTICIPATE IN THE ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

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