



FACT SHEET

Mission:

Borderless Friends Forever promotes world peace through cultivating opportunities for cultural and educational exchanges. These exchanges allow people to learn more about each other's core values. We bring the international traveler and the host family together to create meaningful relationships through which we celebrate our differences and similarities.

Credentials:

- BFF is designated by the U.S. Department of State.
- BFF is recognized by the IRS as a public not-for-profit educational exchange organization.
- BFF has been granted full listing status by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET)

Organization:

With the national office located in Cary, NC, BFF maintains a network of dedicated and trained community advisors in communities throughout the United States who provide program services at the local level to participants, host families, and schools. Community advisors and the national office are committed to providing the best possible exchange experience to participants, host families, and schools. Something we feel sets us apart from other organizations is the fact that we require our community advisors to see our students in person each month. This BFF standard is well above the required minimum put forth by the US Department of State. We feel it is necessary in order to build a strong relationship with our students and families and it is the strength of this relationship that allows for program effectiveness.

Programs:

U.S. High School/Homestay Exchange Program

Students ages 14 to 18 1/2 spend one semester or one academic year in the U.S. living with a volunteer host family, attending high school, and participating in extracurricular and community activities.

Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Program (YES Program) & Future Leaders Exchange Program (FLEX Program)

BFF is proud to serve as a placement organization for the YES and FLEX scholarship programs! Students ages 15 to 18 from more than 35 countries with significant Muslim populations (YES Program) and more than 15 countries across Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia, spend one academic year or one semester living with an American host family while attending high school. These programs are funded by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Students receive scholarships to participate in the program, which includes enhancement activities to develop their leadership potential. Program alumni return home galvanized and inspired to share their new experiences and positively impact their home countries and communities.