



Interchange Family Reference Form

CISV, Inc.

The family named below has applied for participation in the Interchange program of CISV, Inc.

Family Applicant _____ Youth Applicant _____ The Interchange is an international exchange program that consists of reciprocal home visits by youth from two different countries. An Interchange may be completed within a single summer or may extend over two summers. During a single-summer Interchange, youth both host and visit their partners during the course of one summer, with both the hosting and traveling phase lasting for two to three weeks. During a two-summer or summer/winter Interchange, youth host their partners during one summer and travel to live with their partners during the other summer or winter, with each phase lasting four weeks. Please read the Criteria for Selection items listed below and respond to the questions on the other side of this form. CISV program officials and the local Chapter of CISV thank you for your assistance. Your response will be treated as confidential and destroyed as provided by law.

Criteria for Selection

Interchange Youth Participant

- Acceptance of CISV's goal of peace through understanding
- Awareness and appreciation of his/her own cultural values
- Interest in learning about other cultures
- Active interest in making friends with different people
- Openness to and interest in learning from experiences
- Ability to communicate even in the absence of a common language
- Ability to channel frustration or uncertainty into optimistic inquisitiveness
- Flexibility to accept and adapt to a different lifestyle, to new situations, and to unexpected circumstances
- Emotional stability in keeping with normal adolescent development
- Acceptance of rules and authority when appropriate
- Behavior guided by respect, kindness, forethought, and common sense
- Self-discipline and dependability
- Ability to function as a member of a group and to cooperate with others

Interchange Family Participants

- Appreciation of CISV goals, an understanding of the Interchange program structure and objectives, and willingness to be involved as effective participants in the program
- Willingness and ability to welcome their guest as a member of the family and to make him/her feel comfortable with the style of their daily life
- Readiness to learn, respect, and accommodate (when possible) the cultural values and needs of their guest, and ability to explain their own to him/her, and to clarify the differences
- Ability to provide adequate care and supervision as well as pleasant and stable family life for the guest, both physically and emotionally
- Participation in all planned Interchange group activities
- Support and cooperation with the Interchange delegation Leader(s)
- Communication with the partner youth/family prior to, during, and after each phase
- Compliance with International, National, and local requirements regarding the completion, submission, and safekeeping of all necessary documents and forms
- Confidence in their child's independent actions

In what capacity are you acquainted with the parents/family? (ex: friend, neighbor, co-worker, etc.) _____

How long have you known the parents/family? _____

Please complete the following statement:

In my opinion, CISV *would* *would not* benefit by this family's participation in the Interchange program for the following reasons: _____

Additional comments (optional): _____

To the best of my knowledge, the information I have provided about the Family Applicant is true, accurate and complete. I am not aware of any other past/present behavior on the part of this family that would disqualify them from working with international youth, acting as appropriate role models or functioning in a position of trust with CISV International.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Are you a CISV member? Yes No

CISV Programs with which you are familiar:

- Village Interchange Step Up Seminar Camp International Youth Meeting Mosaic

Please submit this completed form to the Interchange Selection Committee Chairperson identified below.

The reference should be postmarked no later than _____ (Date)

CISV does not consider persons with any of the following behaviors to be appropriate for participation in CISV programs: alcohol/drug abuse, criminal convictions, dishonesty, emotional or behavioral disturbances, prejudice or intolerance, sexual abuse, violence, lack of self control, or inability to handle stress.