

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

What better way to “**Celebrate Rotary**” than by participating in one of Rotary’s most long standing programs? The first Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) Student was from Nice, France and the year was 1927! The most powerful force in the promotion of international understanding and peace is exposure to different cultures. The world becomes a smaller, friendlier place when we learn that all people — regardless of nationality — desire the same basic things: a safe, comfortable environment that allows for a rich and satisfying life for our children and ourselves. Youth Exchange provides thousands of young people with the opportunity to meet people from other lands and to experience their cultures. This plants the seeds for a lifetime of international understanding.

Outbounds – Those students from South Central Indiana who your Club and the District sponsors to study in one of the 44 countries we exchange with.

Inbounds – Those students from the 44 different countries who come to spend a year in District 6580 and your community.

Central States – The larger, multi-district, that District 6580 is a part of. We coordinate with Central States for both the Inbound and Outbound sides of the program.

Below you will find the steps to take to get your Club involved in the Inbound and Outbound sides of the RYE Program.

INBOUND	OUTBOUND
April/May 2005 – Discuss hosting with Board	Success with the Outbound program is all about contact with school guidance counselors and administrators. Establish and nourish those contacts throughout the year.
June – Submit commitment form to host in 2006-07 and \$400 fee	May 2005 – Send letter to eligible high school students (contact District Youth Exchange Chair for letter) or announce in high school
Identify a Youth Exchange Counselor in your club to assist the student	August/September – Announce again in high school, hold information meeting for student and parents
Begin soliciting host family possibilities, Rotarian or non-Rotarian	October – Hold Club level interviews to select qualified students
Jan/Feb/March 2006 – Receive papers of incoming student	Nov 15 – Completed Central States application due to District Youth Exchange Chair
Confirm school, first host family and Youth Exchange Counselor for student	February 2006 – Students are notified of country they will be going to
Begin communicating with student and Club	February – First orientation held (district level)
August 2006 – Student arrives	April – Second orientation held (district level)
September – District will orientate student and provide YE Counselor training	Spring – Be inviting the Outbound and parent(s) to club meetings and activities to establish the relationship and trust in Rotary
Assist student in having an amazing experience in your community and club, an experience that will change their life and probably yours as well.	July –Third orientation held (Central States level)
August 2006-July/August 2007 = Exchange Year	August 2006-July/August 2007 = Exchange Year

“One of the most important functions of the Rotary Youth Exchange program is that it gives people a chance to experience the breadth of the world at a time when you will feel it most deeply, and take that feeling personally. Once you have lived and actively participated in a foreign culture, it is no longer just a far-away place.” Former Rotary Youth Exchange student