**Host Family Ask or Referral**

**Purpose:** To encourage current or former families to re-host again next year.

**Contents:**

* Email ask to family
* Directions for follow-up call

**Instructions:** This template is intended for distribution to current and former families who have not already committed to hosting again next cycle.

**ACTION ITEM: EMAIL**

Dear ,

Thank you for having served as a volunteer host family with YFU. Your time as a host family impacts students in a way difficult to express in words. Hosting may not always feel like public diplomacy when you are parenting an international teenager, but I assure you, it is. The exchange experience, all of it – the good and the bad – is what makes this one of the most life-changing years of a young person’s life. I am writing today to see if you would take the journey again this year, or, if you know of any families who might be interested in exploring the possibility of hosting.

Hosting a student from <<country>> came with unique cultural challenges. As we actively look to welcome new host families to the YFU community to host students from <<country>>, do you have any advice we can share? I would love to hear back from you with any words of wisdom for upcoming host families!

I’d also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the YFU Reward Program. Refer a family or individual you know to host with YFU and earn $150. Additional information is available at **yfuusa.org/refer-a-host-family**. If you have questions or are interested in helping, please call me at <<**866.493.8872**>> or email me at <<**@yfu.org**>>.

With heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all that you do to make youth exchange possible,

<<Signature>>

**ACTION ITEM: SUPPLEMENTALS**

Take a moment to do research on their prior student(s) before sending this email. Match interests of the former student(s) to those who are waiting for placement. Look for country or interest trends and try to match up similar new inbound students. Email those students as an attachment to this message.

**ACTION ITEM: FOLLOW UP CALL**

Call the family. Ask if they have received the email and if they have any questions regarding the profiled students. Ask them about the cultural challenges referred to in the above email and encourage them to reach out to the YFU Marketing Department at [**marketing@yfu.org**](mailto:marketing@yfu.org)if they have a unique story to share.