

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

A to Z

For Those New to Rotary Youth
Exchange Program

NAYEN Anchorage Conference



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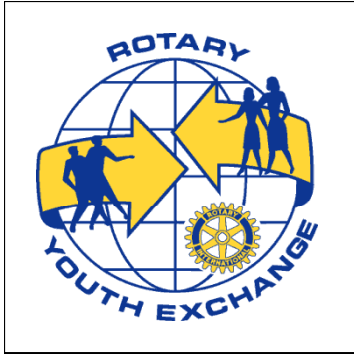
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ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

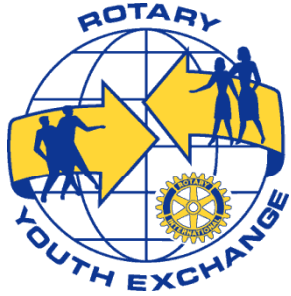
“An Opportunity of a Lifetime”

Quick Introduction for
Potential Outbound Students



What Is Rotary!

- International service organization
- Overall Goal – making community, world a better place
- One major goal – Polio Plus
 - \$240 million and counting has been raised to immunize children of the world
- Key program – Rotary Youth Exchange
 - Providing ambassadors through our youth



Youth Exchange Program Summary

- Two Programs
 - Short Term Program (Regular and New Generations)
 - Long Term Program
- Opportunity to experience new culture
- Opportunity to be an ambassador
- Opportunity to make friends for a lifetime



Short Term Program

Regular STE

- One on One exchange with another student
- Hosted by exchange student's family
- Normally three to four weeks in each country

NGE STE

- Each District has its own program



Long Term Program

- For one school year
- Total immersion in the culture
 - Will become fluent in the language
- Hosted by 3 families (on the average)
- Supported by Rotary club and Rotary counselor



Characteristics of RYE

- Careful interviews
- Thorough orientations
- Local support group (Rotary club)
- Activities provided by Rotary
- Low cost

WHY ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE IS #1 !



Qualifications of Rotary Exchange Student

- Good student (upper half of class)
- Willingness to adapt to new situations
- Initiative to get involved in activities
- Willingness to speak to groups
- Attitude for giving to others

THE TRAITS FOR BEING AN AMBASSADOR



Costs of the RYE Programs

Flat Fee or Non-Flat Fee

- Short Term --
 - Air fare
 - Insurance
 - Incidental costs abroad
 - Costs for hosting
- Long Term --
 - Air Fare
 - Insurance
 - Orientations
 - Language camp
 - Monthly allowance
 - Blazer, pins, slides

Host club provides allowance



Schedule

- Short Term

- Club Interview
- Dist Interview
- Orientation with parents
- Departure for Exchange

Note: Some districts combine Short Term and Long Term processes

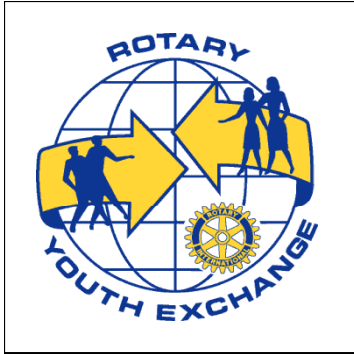
- Long Term

- Club Interview
- Briefing Meeting
- Dist Interview
- Orientations with parents
- Departure for Exchange
- Return from Exchange



For More Information

- Short Term
 - Local club rep
 - ST Outbound Coordinator
 - District Youth Exchange Officer
 - Web sites
- Long Term
 - Local Club Rep
 - LT Outbound Coordinator
 - District Youth Exchange Officer
 - Web sites



ROTARY CLUB INVOLVEMENT



Club Involvement is Critical

- No club involvement ==> no program
- Some districts have high club participation and other have low participation
- Improvement needed and certainly possible
 - A culture change



Challenges to Club

- For hosting students (long term)
 - Budget (\$1,500 to \$2,500) including allowance
 - Host Families (perhaps biggest challenge)
- For sending student (short term / long term)
 - Little cost unless providing scholarship
 - Provide banners
- For both
 - Having committee to lead effort (more later)



Paybacks Can Be Enormous

- Inbound / outbound students
 - Memorable experience of lifetime
- Rotary members
 - Opportunity to become true Rotarians
 - Friendships around the world
- Rotary clubs
 - Involved in making world a better place



Club Structure for YE

- President
- Board of Directors
- New Generations Director
- **YOUTH EXCHANGE COMMITTEE**
 - Club YEO (2-3 year term)
 - Counselor(s) for Student(s)
 - 3 to 5 members (2 to 3 year terms)



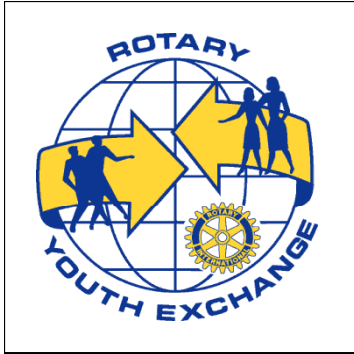
Tasks for YE Committee

- Inbound Program (for long term students)
 - Find host families (look for dynamic Moms)
 - Appointing counselor (the “best friend”)
 - Getting student involved (club, school, city)
- Outbound program
 - Advertising short term / long term programs
 - Interviews / orientations (club and dist levels)



Sources for Help

- District Committee (if active)
- North American Youth Exchange Network (NAYEN)
 - Web Site www.yeoresources.org
- RI materials / resources
 - See RI RYE Handbook
- yeotalk@yahogroups.com

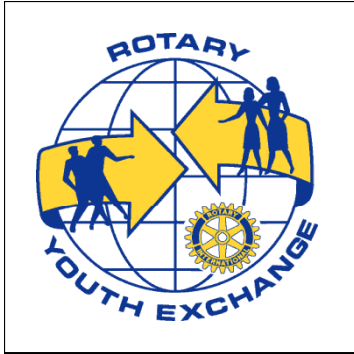


Rotary District Involvement



Strong District YE Leadership Essential

- Gain support of District Governor
- Promote club involvement
- Establish exchange agreements abroad
- Oversee budget and calendar
- Lead activities during year
- Support clubs as needed
 - Giving programs at Rotary meetings
 - Helping clubs to solve problems



- **Outbound Program**
 - Promoting program at schools
 - Student interviews
 - Family and student orientations
 - Rebound orientation
- **Inbound Program**
 - Counselor and host family orientation
 - Student orientation
 - Socials (Christmas party, ...)
- **District Conference**



District Committee Basic Structure

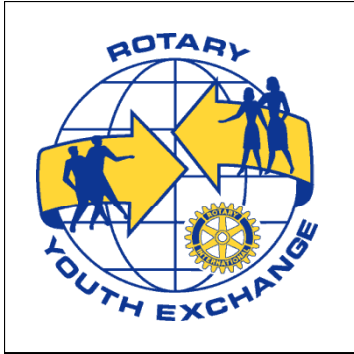
- Youth Exchange Officer
- Long term chairmen
 - Inbound students
 - Outbound students
- Short term chairman
- Treasurer

See RI RYE Handbook



Numerous Resources to Help

- RI (handbook, other materials)
- NAYEN Conference
- RI YEO Meeting at International Conference
- Experienced YEOs

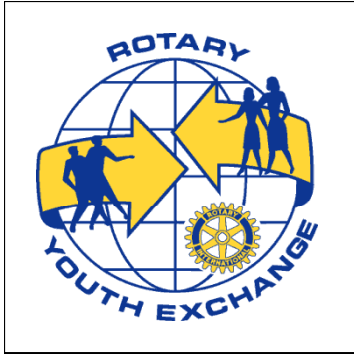


Outbound Program



Three Elements

- Recruiting
- Interviews
- Orientations



Recruiting Outbound Students



Recruiting Students

- Former exchange students (Rotex)
- Inbound Exchange Students
- Web Sites, Facebook, ...
- Videos
- Enlightening Message from Rotarians
- Rotarians talking to friends



Club Involvement is Key

- How many clubs make visits to schools
 - 5 or more clubs
 - 10 or more clubs
 - 25 or more clubs
- Visitor does not have to be expert
 - Sample presentations are available
 - Experienced people will help



Approaching Schools Does Work

- One Rotary club in Houston visited 4 schools, each for a day.
- Result for 2009 - 2010
 - Long term outbounds – 13
 - Short term outbounds – 10
- Result for 2010 - 2011
 - Long term outbounds – 16
 - Short term outbounds – 10



Message at School

- RYE program is special
- Looking for students who want a challenge
- Not right for all students
- Fantastic opportunity for those wishing to be ambassador



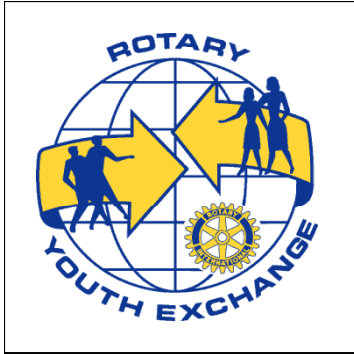
Follow Up Meeting

- For Students and Parents
- Those supporting
 - Rotarians
 - Inbounds and Rotexes
 - Rotex parents
- Tools
 - Presentations
 - Videos
 - Speeches (Rotex, Rotex parents, Rotarians)



Keys to Success

- Numerous Rotarians working across district
 - Active approach, not waiting for students to magically appear
- Repetition of process year to year
 - Learn from experience
 - Schools will expect you and advertise
 - Improve as you go



Interviewing Outbound Student Applicants



Qualifications of Rotary Exchange Student

- Good student (upper half of class)
- Willingness to adapt to new situations
- Initiative to get involved in activities
- Willingness to speak to groups
- Attitude for giving to others

THE TRAITS FOR BEING AN AMBASSADOR



Interviewers

- Rotarians
- Students – Rotexes and some inbound students
- Previous host parents
- Student & Parent Interview Panels



Interview Forum Idea

- Suggest interviewing long term and short term students at same meeting
 - Students may change minds on which program they want to be in
 - Short term students will gain insight into long term program and may later apply for long term



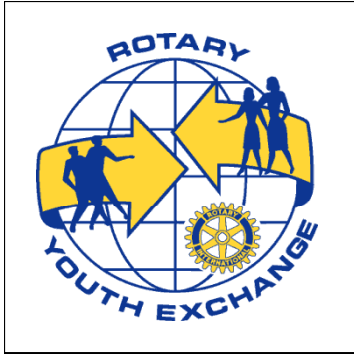
A Process

- Multiple interview stations
 - Adapting to Host family
 - School
 - Being an ambassador
 - Speech
- Students rotate to each station
- Compilation of scores / discussion
- Later independent assessment by Rotex
- Further Assessment over week-end
(Christmas party with inbounds)



Decision Making

- Factors to consider
 - Number of slots available
 - Likelihood that student will succeed in new culture / language environment
 - Would interviewer be willing to host student in own home?
- Better to say no than to have student fail
- Short term exchange may be alternative for students who have good attitudes but are less mature



Outbound Student Orientation



Purpose

- “To prepare student as well as one can be prepared to spend their time abroad”
 - For long term students
 - For short term students
- Superb material in RI RYE Handbook
 - Long Term Orientation
 - Short Term orientation



Categories of Material

- Topics for all orientations
 - What is Rotary
 - Why does Rotary sponsor Youth Exchange
- Preparation for departure
- Helpful hints for time abroad



Preparation for Departure

- Importance for learning the language
- Knowing the country culture
- Passport, VISA, Insurance, Airline tickets
- Immunizations
- Gifts, Photography, Luggage, Packing
- Importance of making right first impressions
- Blazers, trading pins, ID cards
- Rotary club presentations



Helpful Hints for Year Abroad

- Rules and expectations of Rotary
- Being the ambassador
- Adapt to Host Family, 1st night questions
- Importance of Rotary counselor
- Participation in School
- Homesickness, communications home
- Making close friends, speaking language
- Getting involved with club and community



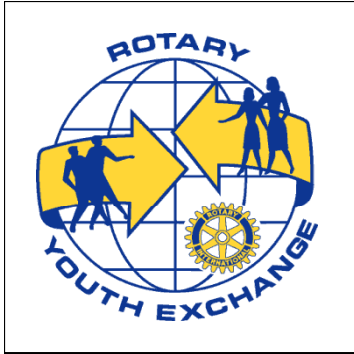
Schedule for Orientations

- Long Term Students – 2 to 4 orientation sessions (one session may be combined with an inbound orientation)
- Short Term students
 - 1 orientation session (may be combined with long term orientation)



Useful Hints in Orientations

- Use of Rotex students
- Rotary video, materials
- Preach little as possible
 - Use role play
 - Have small group discussions
- Provide orientation manual (their Bible)
- Provide directory of participants
 - They do become close friends



Inbound Program



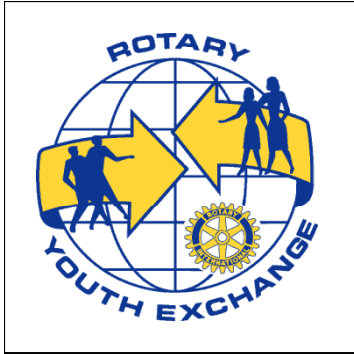
Two Orientations

- Counselor and Host Family Orientation(s) prior to student arrival
- 1st Student orientation 2 -6 weeks after arrival
- 2nd Student orientation 5 months after arrival



Counselor / Host Family Orientation Tidbits

- Address calendar / budget
- Former host family/counselor speak
- Stress “treating student as your own”
- Emphasize club involvement
- Prepare, prepare, prepare
 - Be Proactive, not reactive to stay ahead
 - Example: contact school club sponsors in student’s area of interest prior to student arrival

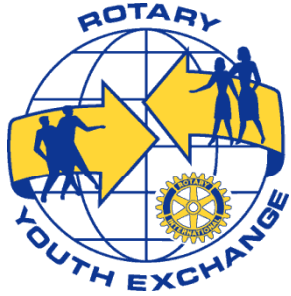


Importance of Rotary Counselor



Rotary Counselor Is Key to Success

- Year-around Rotary contact for student and host families
- Best friend to help solve problems for student and host families
 - Students 16 to 18 years old and need help
 - Important small problems get resolved before they become big problems !!!
- Rotary counselor must want to devote time



Tasks Begin Before Student Arrives (Being Proactive)

- Welcome letter to student with pictures
- Ensure contact from host families
- Insert articles in club bulletin
- Plan options for school (classes, clubs, activities)
- Look for initial set of friends (Interact, neighbors, clubs, ...)



Tasks on Student's Arrival

- Build rapport (host in home for 3-4 days)
- File important papers or make copies (passport, Visa, DS 2019, return airline ticket)
- Ensure insurance in order
- Discuss end-of-year tours with student
- Arrange with families for welcome party

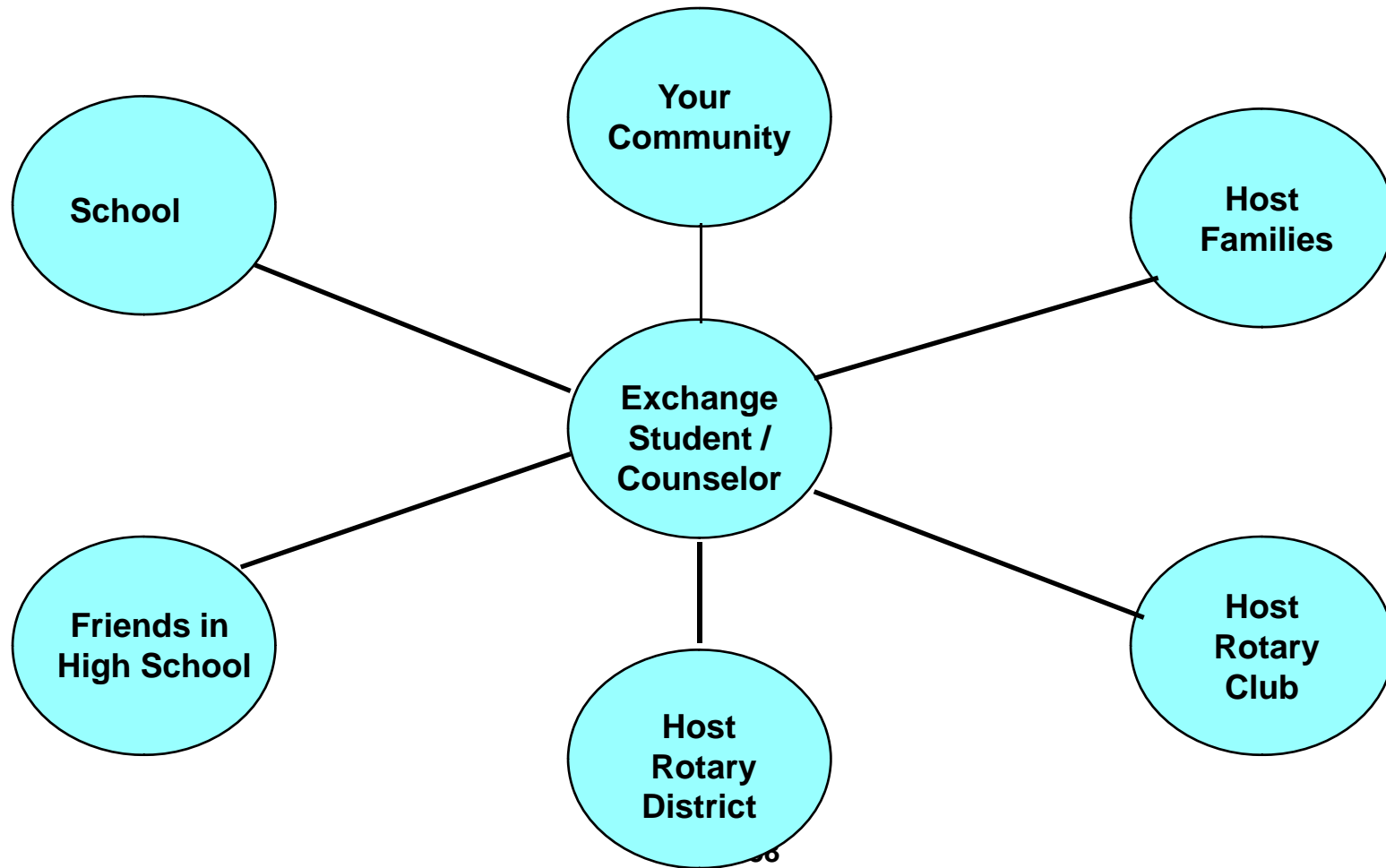


Ongoing Ways to Help

- Challenges for student are many
 - Adapt to host family
 - Apply self at school; establish rapport with teachers
 - Make right set of friends
 - Become involved in Rotary club
 - Be known in the community
 - Communicate to Rotary back home



CHALLENGES FOR THE ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT





Some Counselor Responsibilities

- Be the “best friend” for the student
- Support host families
- Serve as link from club to student
 - Help to get club involved
- Transition students from family to family
- Monitor student progress in school



Problem Solving

- Naive idea -- students will not need help
 - New culture, language, friends, families
 - 16 to 18 years old
- Numerous examples have occurred where student has a problem and counselor not there
- Small problem became big problem
 - Potential situation to be sent home



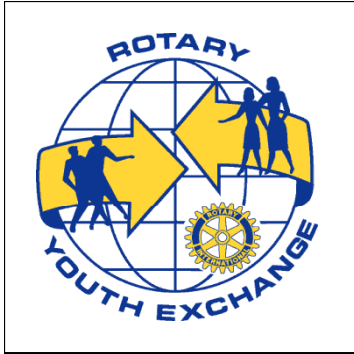
Ways for Counselor to Seek Help

- Club Youth Exchange Committee
- District Committee / YEO
- RI Youth Exchange Handbook



Summary

- Active counselor is vital to student
- Ensure orientations are held for counselor
- Good idea -- counselor-in-training for following year



Host Family Preparation



Basic Rule for Host Families

- **TREAT STUDENT AS YOUR OWN!**
 - Responsibilities
 - Rules (Curfew, ...)
 - Freedoms

Note: Students are here to learn and understand our way of life and are instructed to adapt, adapt, adapt



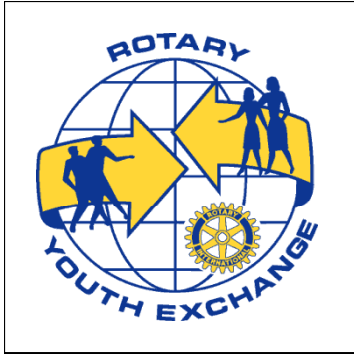
Expectations of Student Toward Family

- Be considerate, ask permission
- Allow host family to know your friends
- Understand parent position
 - Sometimes they will have to say “no”



Suggestion

- Students and host families review list of questions provided by Rotary
 - What do I call you?
 - Should I wash my clothes?
 - Does Dad have a favorite chair?
- Proven effective technique for heading off problems / awkward situations before they occur



Inbound Student Orientation



Key Factors

- Utilize Rotex
- 2-way communication
- Stress maintaining calendar
- Emphasize good decision making, being the ambassador



Sample Family Rules

- No smoking (it may be against law)
- Be on time (call if going to be late)
- Curfew
- They need to know your friends
- Keep up with homework from school
- Follow rules using computer



Rotary Expectations toward School

- Rotary requires you to attend classes regularly and be a good student
- Have clear understanding of school credits you wish to transfer home
- Say thank you to school teachers
- Sometimes Rotary will take you out of school; you are expected to make up work



Making Close Friends

- A major challenge to YE students
- Be careful to choose right set of friends
- Join clubs; actively participate
 - Interact (in many of the schools)
 - Sports
 - Theater
 - Band, orchestra



Speaking Host Language

- At times students speak first language
 - Considered quite rude
 - Forces others away from them
- This can be major problem



Following Rules of Rotary

- No drinking
- No driving (including no drivers' education class)
- No drugs
- No serious dating
- No downloading or disfigurement

Quick ways to go home!



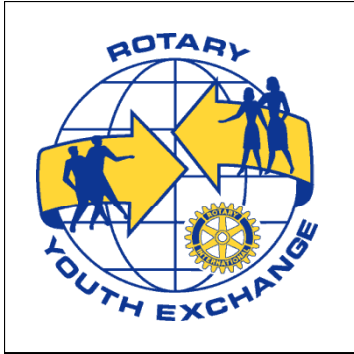
Rotary Expectations

- Follow rules signed in application
- Make every effort to adapt to family
- Seek Rotary help (counselor, others)
- Remember – **RYE is not a travel program**
- Be prepared to give presentation to Rotary club during year



Getting Involved in Community

- Rotarians will encourage your involvement in Rotary and community
 - Rotary meetings
 - Programs to Rotary clubs
 - Programs to schools and clubs
- Be prepared to say “yes” and be proud to be ambassador for your country and for Rotary



Short Term Exchanges



Three Categories

- Home stays
 - Most of our experience
- Camps (can include college students)
 - Conducted Europe, Turkey, California, ...
- New Generations
 - For individuals or groups

See RI RYE Handbook



Home Stays

- Ages 15 to 18 (high school)
- 1 on 1 exchange with another student
- Hosted by exchange student's family
- Normally 3 to 4 weeks in each country
- In home interviews and CBC required



Camps

- Brings students together from several countries
- Examples
 - Wilderness camp in Canada
 - Turkey
- Any district can initiate one of its own
- Mentors – friends in above areas



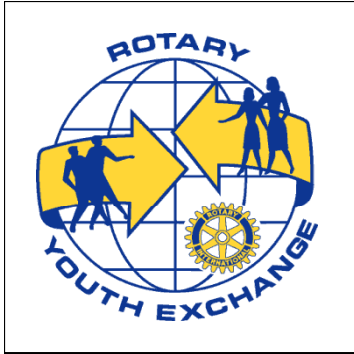
New Generations

- Can be for individuals
 - Short term exchange at higher age level
 - Vocational experience
- Can be for groups, led by Rotarian
 - Much like a GSE team, but not foundation supported
 - Examples – College class



Common Characteristics

- Provide introduction to new culture
- Require interviews
- Require orientations
- Provide opportunities to be ambassador
- Predicted cost – mostly driven by airfare



Budgets



RYE District Budget

- **Outbound RYE District Budget**
 - Line item in your District's Budget
 - Outbound Students - Flat Fee System
 - Outbound Students – Administrative Fee
 - Fund Raisers



Items District RYE Budget May Cover

- Multi-District fees
- Meetings – travel, hotel, registration
 - for Dist Governor, YEO, committee chairs
- Sending Representatives to regional conferences
- Interviews and Orientations
- Promotional material
- Administration office expenses



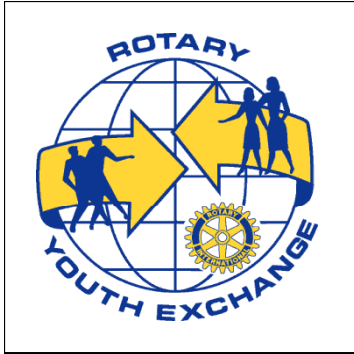
Outbound Student Flat Fee

- Student Fees to district cover the following:
 - Airfare
 - Insurance
 - Orientations
 - Business Cards
 - Blazer, Trading Pins, Shirts
 - Administrative
 - Rebound Meeting
 - Supplement to support district activities

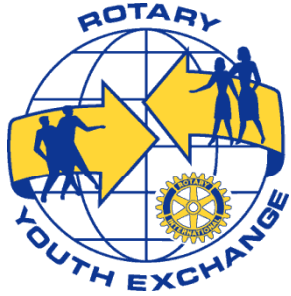


Club Budget

- Student allowance
- District activities for students
 - Orientations
 - Rotary District Conference
- Rotary meetings
- School fees
- Special activities (ski pass, tennis club, etc.)



VISA Process



VISA Process

Long Term Exchange

- Parts of the visa application process is different depending on the nationality of the student and the hosting country
- Items needed to start visa process
 - Completed application
 - Completed Guarantee Forms
 - Student has current passport



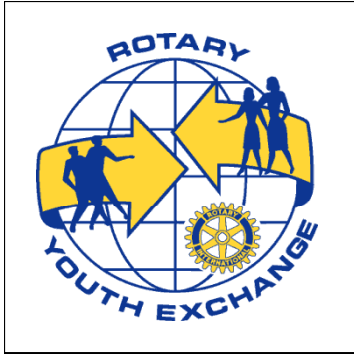
VISA Process, Continued

- Other items that might be needed
 - Confirmed airline reservations
 - Immunization records
 - Bank account statement
 - Police report
 - Documents required by a specific country (for the US, the DS2019 form)

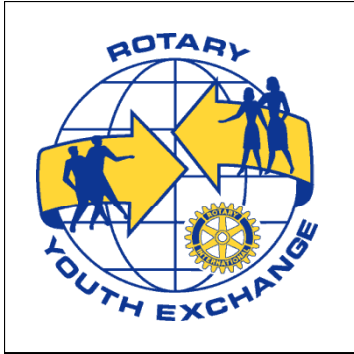


VISA Process, Continued

- VISA application
 - Student responsibly
 - Travel agent responsibility
 - RYE District responsibility



Initiating Exchange Agreements with Other Countries

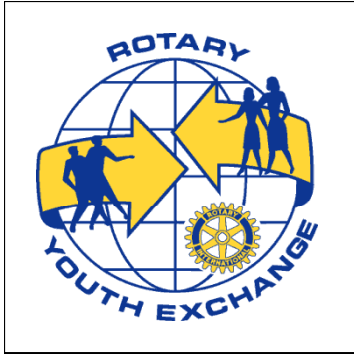


- Districts must be certified by RI
- Desirable to know district's level of involvement
 - Will student experience Rotary?
- Ask others about their experience with a potential exchange partner



Exchange Agreement

- Several items need to be agreed upon
 - Insurance
 - Student restrictions
 - Age / grade in school
 - Vegetarians (many countries will not accept)
 - Timetable for completing guarantee forms
 - Dates of Arrival
 - Language camps



Compliance



Compliance Issues

- All RYE Programs
 - Rotary International Certification
 - Rotary International Student Protection Policy
 - Counselor criminal background checks
 - Counselor training
 - Host Family criminal background checks
 - Host Family training



Compliance Issues USA

- US Dept of State
- State compliance requirements
- CSIET compliance

- Some US RYE programs have procedures because of US only compliance requirements



Resources

- RI Rotary Youth Exchange Handbook
- First night questions (yeoresources.org)
- Experienced YEOs
- Web Sites
 - www.rotary.org
 - www.yeoresources.org
 - Various RYE program websites



QUESTION TIME

??????????