



McHenry County Youth Sports Association Summer International Championships Baseball Tournament

Homestay Program

For 25 years the MCYSA has been welcoming international teams to McHenry County for a competitive baseball tournament. Part of the experience for local and international teams has been the Homestay Program. This allows the players to live like Americans for the week and allows the host families to get a better idea of how other cultures live.

Host Family Requirements

We ask that each Host Family welcomes 2 players into their home for the duration of the tournament (6 days minimum). In addition to providing them with beds, meals, and transportation, we ask that you treat the players as you would want your child treated if they were traveling out of the U.S.

- All family members 17 and older in the hosting home are required to undergo a criminal background check. Background checks will be conducted and paid for by MCYSA.
- All driving must be done by a responsible adult 18 and older that has completed the background check.

Benefits of Hosting

In addition to the many cultural benefits -

- the host family will receive \$20 per night per player to cover food/gas/lodging responsibilities.
- Each member of the host family will receive a t-shirt from MCYSA representing the country/team they'll be hosting.

"Hosting the boys from Puerto Rico was a life changing experience. You don't think you will get attached....and yet you do! You treat them like your own....and when they leave, you miss them. We still keep in touch with our boys. And, playing pro baseball is still their dream after 4 years. You hope and pray that their dreams come true.....because they are now part of your family."

~ The Knoepfel Family

"We were nervous about hosting 2 boys from Brazil for the MCYSA tournament. But it turned out to be an awesome experience! We had so much fun with them, our kids included. There were lots of tears when they left."

~ The Blackmore Family

**Please contact Tina Gawerecki tinagawerecki@yahoo.com
with questions or to sign up to be a host family.**