



What is the GROW Cultural Exchange?

✧The cultural exchange is a 4 day/3 night immersion into the daily life and activities of one of our GROW students and his/her family and friends in Northeast Philadelphia.

What will I do?

✧You will meet each day with a GROW approved host family who will be your cultural teachers. You will stay overnight with the family in their home, eat dinner and breakfast with them, learn about the family, their home culture, religion, work, and unique situation in NE Philadelphia as immigrants. Our host families are instructed to teach you and involve you in what they do. This may mean a cooking lesson, an ethnic market outing, a little language practice, a trip to their place of worship, and perhaps even a couple hours with them at work. As a student of your host family's culture, you will be expected to ask questions, humbly and adventurously try new things, listen to your host's story, and overall take great interest in learning all that you can! In exchange, you also will have the opportunity to give back to your host out of your vast expertise in American culture, English language, regional knowledge and perhaps the most lasting and endearing, your friendship.

Who should come?

✧Our GROW families are diverse. We have families with kids as well as households with singles. For this reason we will place families with families, single men with single men, and single women with single women.

Interested?

✧Attend the information meeting: March 31st 12:45pm at NLD.
Contact T.J. Highley if you have further questions - tjhighley@gmail.com



What's the schedule?

✧In general, mornings will begin with breakfast with your host family and then gathering at a common location with your cultural exchange coordinators and other program participants. The morning team meeting will consist of debriefing the previous day's experiences, learning about cross-cultural communication, exploring more in-depth your host's culture and beliefs, planning for the afternoon outing, and a large dose of encouragement and support. Lunch will be taken with the team and then you will gather members of your host family for a group outing along with all of the other program participants. The group outings will vary day-to-day and will have American and cultural elements. Example: A Friday afternoon visit to the mosque for the noon day sermon followed by tea at the Middle Eastern café and a hike together through Pennypack Park. A Saturday trip to Independence Mall and Penn's Landing followed by a stop by the Middle Eastern market to gather items for dinner. Evenings will be spent with the host family for dinner, activities and personal exchanges. Note: Outings will be planned according to host families and program participants' interests and abilities.

When does this take place?

✧Thursday afternoon, July 25 – Sunday morning, July 28 2019.

What's in the cost? \$400

✧The cost covers outings, activity costs for both participant and a member of the host family, and a per guest stipend of \$200 paid to the host family for room and half-board.