JUMP INTO SUMMER!

the *Fresh Air* fund
Friendly Towns Program
Each summer, thousands of NYC children are matched with host families for seven-to 10-day visits. Children are encouraged to explore life in a different community, visit local sites, take a break from technology, learn to swim (or practice their swimming skills), breathe in the fresh air, and make new friends.

The Fresh Air Fund provides 24/7 support from social workers during a child’s visit.

As part of a rigorous screening process, every host family has a home visit, interview, three references, and background checks.

The Fresh Air Fund provides transportation to and from Friendly Towns, on scheduled buses.

**NEW APPLICANTS:** 7 - 13 year old girls and boys
HOW HOST FAMILIES ARE SCREENED

As part of a rigorous screening process, every host family has a home visit, interview, three references, and background checks.

1. **PHONE SCREENING & APPLICATION**
   All families complete an application and phone conversation with a trained local volunteer.

2. **HOME VISIT & HOUSE INSPECTION**
   Next, we visit each home to make sure that it is a safe and kid-friendly environment.

3. **INTERVIEW THE HOUSEHOLD**
   Everyone living in the home during your child’s visit is interviewed in-person. (Including pets!)

4. **CONTACT 3 REFERENCES**
   Families provide 3 references. 1 must be from a professional who has worked with children.

5. **BACKGROUND CHECKS**
   Finally, we run a background check on all household members (18 years or older).

HOW TO APPLY

Please call 1-800-367-0003 if you have questions or need help completing the application. We are here to help!

→ **Online:**
   child.freshair.org
   This is the quickest way to submit your child’s application.

→ **With a Community Partner:**
   www.FreshAir.org/find-an-agency
   (to find an agency near you)

→ **In person/by mail:**
   The Fresh Air Fund
   633 Third Avenue, 14th Floor
   New York, NY 10017
   Attn: Community Outreach
   M – F 10 am - 6 pm

We encourage you to apply as soon as possible. Spaces fill up quickly!
Did you know...

New Hampshire’s state fruit is the pumpkin?

Whether you enjoy swimming, kayaking, or amazing mountain views, New Hampshire has plenty of ways to have fun in the summer!

The Fresh Air Fund had such an impact on my life and every summer that I see my son so excited for his visit, I am happy that he gets to experience a different lifestyle just like I did.

- Mylinda Lee, Fresh Air alum, whose son D’Andre, 15, has been visiting the Noyer family in Newbury, NH for seven summers

The Fresh Air Fund is good at communicating and making everything really easy. After having new experiences and seeing different places, I hope my son can see what he might like to do.

- Veenita Prasad, whose son Sameer, 15, has been visiting the Sweeney family in York, ME for six summers

Did you know...

Maine has 67 lighthouses?

Maine is full of beautiful scenery and exciting outdoor adventures, from hiking in Acadia National Park to whale watching in Boothbay Harbor!

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VERMONT

In Vermont, you can experience everything from breathtaking mountains to miles of scenic bike trails and even the Ben & Jerry’s factory!

Did you know...
Vermont is the largest producer of maple syrup in the US?

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts is full of fun and history, from the Basketball Hall of Fame to Boston’s Freedom Trail.

Did you know...
Basketball was invented in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1891?

My favorite things are going to baseball games and paddleboarding. I made new friends with the neighbors too and I’m excited to see them again. Everywhere you go, there are cows and trees.

- Shiqi, 13, of Brooklyn, has visited the Maloney family in South Burlington, VT for three summers.

My favorite part is going to Cape Cod, swimming at the beach, and playing with their dogs!

- Sadie, 9, of Brooklyn, has visited the Pantelides-Sola family in Wellesley, MA for three summers.
Rhode Island is known for its fresh seafood and historical sites!

Did you know...
Rhode Island is the smallest state in the US?

Evan had a lot of positive things to say about Friendly Towns – he enjoyed swimming and did a bunch of new things and went to new places. He came home really excited about his experiences.

- Jason Fortune, whose son Evan, 12, spent his first summer with the Dvorachek family in Cranston, RI

Did you know...
The first hamburger was invented in New Haven, Connecticut in 1900?

Lamar had so many new experiences – like swimming and fishing. He’s learned to deal with challenges in a positive way. Getting my son out of his comfort zone is the best thing I could have done.

- Louise Bell, whose son Lamar, 18, has been visiting the Byam family in Tolland, CT for 10 summers

Whether you enjoy swimming in lakes or visiting the Mystic Aquarium, Connecticut has something for everyone!
NEW YORK

Did you know...
New York State has over 70,000 miles of rivers and streams?

From the National Baseball Hall of Fame to county fairs, going to the beach, and hiking, New York is full of summer fun!

“Did you know...
Atlantic City, New Jersey has the longest boardwalk in the world?”

“New Jersey has attractions that are sure to keep everyone entertained!”

“I love to run around with their dogs!”

“My favorite things to do with my host family are canoeing on the lake and making pizza!”

– Danae, 12, of Queens, spent his second summer with the Valtin family in Rochester, NY

– Thailyn, 8, of Staten Island, spent his second summer with the Lawtons in Basking Ridge, NJ

NEW JERSEY

From beaches to boardwalks on the shore to mountains and waterfalls up north, New Jersey has attractions that are sure to keep everyone entertained!

“My favorite part of the summer is playing sports in the backyard. We play a lot of different games and I love to run around with their dogs!”

– Danae, 12, of Queens, spent his second summer with the Valtin family in Rochester, NY

– Thailyn, 8, of Staten Island, spent his second summer with the Lawtons in Basking Ridge, NJ
PENNSYLVANIA

Did you know…
Pennsylvania’s state insect is the firefly?

Pennsylvania is full of fun outdoor adventures from stargazing to waterfalls to Hershey’s Amusement Park and has 121 state parks!

Did you know…
Pennsylvania’s official insect is the firefly?

Caiis met new people and gained more confidence. His host mom taught him to swim and now he’s on a swim team here in NYC.

– Cleatha Abrams-Thompson, whose son Caiis, 14, has been visiting the Petrides family in Dover, PA for nine summers

DELAWARE

Did you know…
Delaware’s official dessert is peach pie?

Delaware has beautiful beaches, board walks, and water parks!

I love going to amusement parks, playing sports, and swimming with my host family. I’ve learned I can make friends anywhere.

– Michel, 11, of Brooklyn, spent his third summer with the Sullivan-MacPhee family in Rehoboth Beach, DE
In Virginia, experience thrilling theme parks and waterparks as well as historical sites and beautiful scenery!

Did you know…
Virginia has 42 islands?

Maryland offers scenic beaches, museums, and amusement parks that are sure to please all ages!

Maryland is known for having some of the best crabs and seafood in the US?

I’m encouraged to try new things. It’s made me more confident.

― Aeva, 12, of Manhattan, spent her third summer with the Henry family in Barboursville, VA

I am excited to see my host family’s goats and to go swimming in the lake.

― Deveah, 12, of the Bronx, spent her seventh summer with the Burkhart-Dominick family in Mount Savage, MD
Ontario is full of exciting experiences, from the CN Tower in the heart of Toronto to the wonders of Niagara Falls!

Did you know...
Ontario has over 250,000 lakes?

“It’s a great opportunity to get out of the city, meet new people, and experience new things.”

– Diane Velez, whose daughter Richanie, 13, has visited the Kuzmich-Park family in Caistor Centre, ON for four summers
ARE YOU READY TO JUMP INTO SUMMER?
FreshAir.org  |  800-367-0003
because a summer can last a lifetime™