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May 2022

Dear Fresh Air Families,

We hope this email finds you well and eagerly looking forward to a fun-filled summer 2022!

As The Fund announced in March, **our traditional in-person Friendly Towns program is operating on a limited basis this summer**. The focus is reconnecting returning participants to returning host families within a 3-hour car radius from New York City. In addition, all NYC children and all host families and their children who are eligible must be vaccinated. As we have shared both before and throughout the pandemic, The Fresh Air Fund remains committed to the safety of our youth, families, volunteers, host families, and staff. The decisions we have made regarding Friendly Towns in 2022 are guided by how we can safely relaunch the Friendly Towns program in a world where COVID-19 continues to present challenges.

We understand these decisions may bring some disappointment to those of you who are outside of the 3-hour program area, or who are not able to participate due to vaccinations or other reasons. If you choose to connect in person, please be aware that any visits not organized and facilitated by The Fresh Air Fund are not official Friendly Towns visits. We respect and acknowledge that some of you have built strong relationships and are in touch. **However, we wanted to take a moment to ensure all families are aware that any visits and gatherings in Summer 2022 not organized and facilitated through The Fresh Air Fund are outside the scope of The Fresh Air Fund's official programming.** The Fund will have no involvement in or responsibility for any incidents that may occur if families privately agree to get together.

We want to make sure that both NYC families and host families are aware that these visits are not official Friendly Towns visits. This means that the typical support, programming, and coverage you receive from The Fresh Air Fund is not available, including: medical insurance information, 24/7 Support Services support, updated background checks, local volunteer support, home inspections and host family interviews, transportation, and liability insurance.

This includes any visits that occur outside of the 3-hour radius and also any visits that occur in the program coverage area without approval and application processing (for both youth and host families) from The Fresh Air Fund. To qualify as an official Fresh Air Fund visit, both the participant and the host family must have completed 2022 applications and all necessary steps

to participate in the program, and received confirmation that the experience is arranged through The Fund. In addition, visits outside of our 2022 application process should not be referred to as Friendly Towns or Fresh Air Fund visits in your communities or on social media.

Summer is very much happening at The Fund, and we are excited about the opportunities that are in place. The Fresh Air Fund's Summer 2022 programs are: Fresh Air Summer Spaces, Friendly Towns (limited scope), Sleepaway Camp (limited scope), Fresh Air Family Wellness, and Fresh Air Summer Teen Academy. You can learn more about those programs on [The Fresh Air Fund website](#).

We encourage NYC families to [complete your child's application](#) as soon as possible as limited spots are available. We encourage returning host families in the program area to apply as soon as possible.

Thank you for being a part of our Fresh Air family and we look forward to connecting with you soon.

Best,

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