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# PROGRAM DESIGN, DELIVERY, AND EVALUATION: LPC US HOST FAMILY PROGRAM

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**PROGRAM DESIGN, DELIVERY, AND EVALUATION:  
LPC US HOST FAMILY PROGRAM**

Gillian Wigton Bell

A capstone paper submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Master of Arts in  
International Education at SIT Graduate Institute in Brattleboro, Vermont, USA

November 9, 2017

Advisor: David Shallenberger

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Student Name: Gillian Wigton Bell

Date: November 9, 2017

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## **List of Abbreviations**

<b>BCI</b>	Bureau of Criminal Identification, the abbreviation used for state background check reports
<b>CC</b>	Christmas Conference, the annual meeting of LPC camp directors, held at the Ecole d'Humanité in Hasliberg, Switzerland each December
<b>IRB</b>	Institutional Review Board
<b>LPC</b>	Luethi-Peterson Camps, a catch-all phrase for the camp operating organization
<b>LPC, Inc.</b>	Luethi-Peterson Camps, Inc., the legal name of the organization also known as the LPC Board, a US-based support group of Luethi-Peterson Camps
<b>LPC, Int.</b>	Luethi-Peterson Camps, Int., the legal name of the camp operating organization of Luethi-Peterson Camps
<b>SIT</b>	School for International Training and/or SIT Graduate Institute
<b>US</b>	United States of America

## ABSTRACT

This capstone paper outlines the design, delivery, and evaluation processes of the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program, a short-term, pre-camp host family experience administered by the LPC Board, a US support group of Luethi-Peterson Camps, International. It seeks to evaluate the program effectiveness and to determine a set of recommendations for future organizers, based upon the results of evaluative surveys and literature review.

A full review of the research proposal was conducted by the SIT IRB, due to the sensitive nature of research participants below the age of 18. Once approved, online surveys were disseminated to participating campers, camper families, and host families, the results of which were tabulated over the course of several weeks. A literature review of host program best practices was also conducted by the researcher. Findings from both methods of inquiry were synthesized, indicating general program success, and resulted in the development of several recommendations for future program organizers.



## **Introduction**

This capstone will expound upon the design, delivery, and evaluation of the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program, a short-term homestay experience offered to international summer campers ages 11-17 attending US locations of Luethi-Peterson Camps (LPC). The 2017 iteration of this program is an original design based upon earlier versions of this program previously offered through the LPC Board (LPC, Inc.), a US-based support group of Luethi-Peterson Camps, International. Founding members of the LPC Board's Host Program Committee, in addition to myself, who contributed to this program's development, include June Vinhateiro and Jessica Gillis. Much of the information, below, presented about the LPC Board and its relationship to LPC stems from my personal experience as Board member (2009-present), Board Secretary (2009-2011), and member of various Board committees, including the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, Camp Support Committee, Fundraising Committee, and Host Family Committee.

Luethi-Peterson Camps (LPC, Int.) is an international children's summer camp organization that has operated month-long sleep away camps in the US and Europe since its inception in 1949 (What is LPC?, 2013). As is stated on the LPC, Int. website "LPC is a non-profit volunteer organization whose aim is to foster international understanding by bringing together children from various cultural backgrounds,"(What is LPC?, 2013, para. 5).

Approximately five to seven camps are held at different sites annually, including two sites in the US: Freedom (located in Freedom, New Hampshire) and Birch Point (located in Harrington, Maine). While the LPC central office is located at the Ecole d'Humanité, an international boarding school and sister organization of the camps, in Hasliberg, Switzerland, LPC, Int. also

benefits from the assistance of their oldest support group, the US-based LPC Board (LPC, Inc.) (Luethi-Peterson Camps, Inc., 2017).

The volunteer LPC Board is comprised of a group of dedicated veteran LPC campers, counselors, parents, and friends-of-LPC. Though today the Board's members are spread out, geographically, throughout the US, the Board's base remains in Rhode Island- the birthplace of LPC's founder, Natalie Luethi-Peterson. The primary functions of the LPC Board are to maintain the camp house in Freedom, New Hampshire, which the Board owns, and to support and contribute to the maintenance of the camp house in Harrington, Maine, which is owned by former camp directors (Luethi-Peterson Camps, Inc., 2017). Additionally, each Board member is assigned to at least one committee, through which they work collaboratively to provide camp support, fundraise and distribute an annual appeal, create and disseminate a bi-annual newsletter, manage Board finances, and complete a collection of other duties in line with the missions of both LPC, Inc. and LPC, Int. The Board is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, as well as a US Department of State sponsor of the J-1 visa Camp Counselor program (Designated Sponsor Organizations, 2017). The mission of the Board, according to bylaws put forward by Luethi-Peterson Camps, Inc. (2016) is:

...to support the Luethi-Peterson camps, in purpose, practice, and philosophy. To that end, the Board of Governors raises funds, maintains any and all property owned by the Board, including vehicles and the house in Freedom, New Hampshire, and acts in support of Luethi-Peterson camps physically held in the United States of America. Our means of doing so are guided by the mission statement of the Luethi-Peterson Camps, Int., (p. 2).

According to the Luethi-Peterson Camps website (2017), the mission statement of LPC, Int. reads:

Members of Luethi-Peterson Camps believe that good human relations and responsible community living can best be learned by personal experience at an early age. We believe that strife among people of different national, racial, and religious backgrounds stems from fear of the unknown, that both fear and ignorance can be overcome by bringing together young people from differing backgrounds and giving them the opportunity to live, work, play, and learn together over a period of several weeks in summer camps. It is our firm conviction that such experience provides the necessary basis for a better understanding among peoples as well as the independent thinking, self-reliance, and sense of responsibility needed by the individual participants to deal with a world which grows steadily smaller and a world population increasingly interdependent, (para. 1-3).

In this way, the two organizations are able to work together collaboratively towards the same goal of furthering understanding among international communities through participation in Luethi-Peterson Camps.

Because of its status as a volunteer-run at-will support group organization with fluctuating membership, leadership, and operating procedures over a 50+ year span of time, the records kept by the LPC Board as to its activities have varying levels of access and reliability. The predecessor host program operated by the board was run much more informally than would be acceptable in the field of international youth programming today, and its processes and policies were seldom formally developed or documented. There are no known records outlining its design or standard operating procedures. It could be that this lack of documented strategic vision and record-keeping may have been contributing factors in the program's demise, as it overloaded the lone program coordinator. The request to the Board to pursue the revival of the program in Fall of 2016 was met with mixed feelings; both great excitement to get it back on its

feet and “up to code,” and also a sense of apprehension that was felt among the group, whose members still had memories of stressors mounting around the program delivery in the past.

There is, however, one remaining active member of the LPC Board, June Vinhateiro, who worked to facilitate the earlier version of the program for some time, and she served as an invaluable resource in the re-envisioned version of the program outlined below. June identified an interest among Board members to revive the program in Fall 2016, at which time the Host Family Committee was formed. A proposal was delivered to the Luethi-Peterson Camps decision-making body of camp directors assembled at their annual meeting in Switzerland in December of 2016, at which time it was approved. The planning period for the 2017 US Host Family Program took place between October 2016 and June 2017 and participants arrived for host sessions in July 2017. An evaluation of the program was completed from August-October of 2017, the results of which are detailed below. There were 20 survey respondents (campers, parents, and hosts) who contributed to the evaluation of the program. The program has been recommended for continuation by the Board for Summer 2018 and a proposal to the camp directors will again be sent to their annual meeting in December 2017.

## **Theoretical Foundations**

### **Literature Review**

Many relevant studies have been published that speak to the benefit and merit of participating in a host family or homestay experience, as well as the challenges that can befall organizers. As Buffington argues in NAFSA’s *Guide to Education Abroad* (2014), students who live in host families “tend to adapt better to the change of living abroad and experience more of the host culture, making this housing arrangement one of the best ways to make the most of study abroad,” (chapter 17, section 3, para. 1). Many researchers, including Hernandez,

Wiedenhoeft, & Wick (2014) of NAFSA's *Guide* believe that, in ideal host family settings, "students tend to be more exposed to the real way of life of a host country, and over time, students gain confidence to function successfully in the host country," (chapter 17, section 3, para. 1). As Richardson (2003) writes, homestay experiences tend to feel more personal and less threatening than other options, which provides the perfect environment for an international student to be exposed to their host culture and language. "This facilitates interaction between two cultures, and consequently promotes multicultural understanding and acceptance of difference," (Richardson, 2003, p. 27).

Many students quoted in studies examining host family programming reveal that they got the most out of their experiences when they felt they were deeply involved in their host families' daily lives. As Shiri (2015) notes,

Students who found the homestay experience valuable shadowed their host family in their daily activities...The sojourners' comments emphasized the value of the homestay in facilitating socialization into the daily routines of the host family unit and into the society and its culture as a result of this interaction, (p. 11-21).

Advice for host families on how to integrate visiting students into the daily routines of their nuclear families, therefore, could lead to a more impactful experience for host students.

The literature revealed that there does not appear to be a legal requirement for the host family or the host program provider to go through any type of specific training surrounding the needs of international students. All vetting of families is left to the host program coordinator and all vetting of host program coordinators is left to the host program organization. Having a public statement or policy on host family requirements and training and host coordinator requirements and training, however, while not a legal requirement for participation, is widely believed to be a

strong contributing factor to successful homestay programming. As Richardson found in the 2003 study investigating homestay theory vs. practice,

[Many] homestay hosts and homestay providers are not adequately prepared for the services they are expected to offer... The development of cross-cultural training, conflict management and basic counselling techniques is important in order for providers to deal with both hosts and students. Providers also require information and skills in order to train the homestay hosts in their care (p. 31-32).

It is, therefore, as Richardson notes above, best practice for homestay organizations to provide their coordinators with cross-cultural and interpersonal training so that they can communicate effectively with host families and students about their roles and responsibilities, and about any conflicts that may occur. “They require a thorough working knowledge of cross-cultural communication and understanding of appropriate regulation and legislation surrounding the homestay industry. It is imperative they [do] their duty of care toward both the international students and the homestay hosts,” (Richardson, 2003, 33).

But beyond responding to exceptional emergency circumstances and navigating cross-cultural interactions, one of a host program coordinator’s most stressful responsibilities can be simply finding local families who are willing to, and well-suited to, serve as host families for incoming international students. Successful coordinators know how to make good use of their extended personal and community networks and their interpersonal prowess to accomplish this goal. As Gooding and Wood (2006) note,

Local host or friendship groups can be invaluable allies when you take the time to develop a mutually beneficial and trusting relationship with them. You will probably find people who have had international adventures beyond your imagination...and people who

have their own networks in the community (and who are far more influential than most of us are likely to ever be) (chapter 3, section 2, para. 2).

Coordinators should be careful, researchers warn, not to be tempted to settle for the first prospective host family that agrees to participate and passes a background check. “Be aware of the kind of home you are looking for,” the Rotary International instructions for coordinators cautions, “Are the parents going to be partners in providing a safe, positive experience for the exchange student? Is this a family you can develop an open communication with regarding the student’s behavior and well-being?” (2017, para. 7). Host families must also be committed to the goals of the program, notes Shiri (2015), for effective student learning to take place. When vetting families, it is recommended to share the program goals with prospective host families and to judge their level of interest and investment in the supporting the success of these goals, before welcoming them into your program. It is considered standard practice to make homestay vetting policies known to the visiting student and their families, and to follow up once a match has been made with more details about the specific family they have been placed with.

In summary, it should be noted that significant trends were revealed in the literature, suggesting specific best practices for host family program management. First, program managers should offer professional development for coordinators to increase knowledge, skills, and awareness surrounding cross-cultural and interpersonal interactions, as well as host program management and responsibilities. This should be complemented by the development of policies regarding necessary host family and host coordinator requirements and vetting, which should be shared with all parties prior to participation. Second, managers should practice discerning host recruitment procedures, including sharing program goals with prospective host families to judge their level of interest in, and commitment to, the program. Third, managers should emphasize the

integration of visiting students into their hosts' daily lives. Although it may seem counterintuitive to hosts who wish to engage students in exciting activities and sight-seeing opportunities, students report that the biggest impact from host family programming comes from their participation in hosts' daily routines. Finally, managers should develop partnerships with local friendship groups in order to utilize their extended networks for host family recruitment.

Unfortunately no studies were identified that specifically reflected on short-term homestay experiences, such as the LPC US Host Family Program. Further study is needed to see if the same personal, cultural, and linguistic benefits can be extracted from an abbreviated form of homestay experience, though it is clear that the same level of host family vetting, and to some degree training, is necessary for this type of program delivery.

### Development Theories

The design and delivery of the LPC US Host Family Program also draws on foundational knowledge about student development and basic human needs. In his work, entitled *A Theory of Human Motivation*, Maslow (1943)

lays out a theory that has been used by social scientists to explain a person's prioritization of needs from most basic (food, warmth, water, rest) to most transcendental (self-fulfillment and actualization). Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, seen in Fig. 1: Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, is relevant to the design and delivery of the LPC US

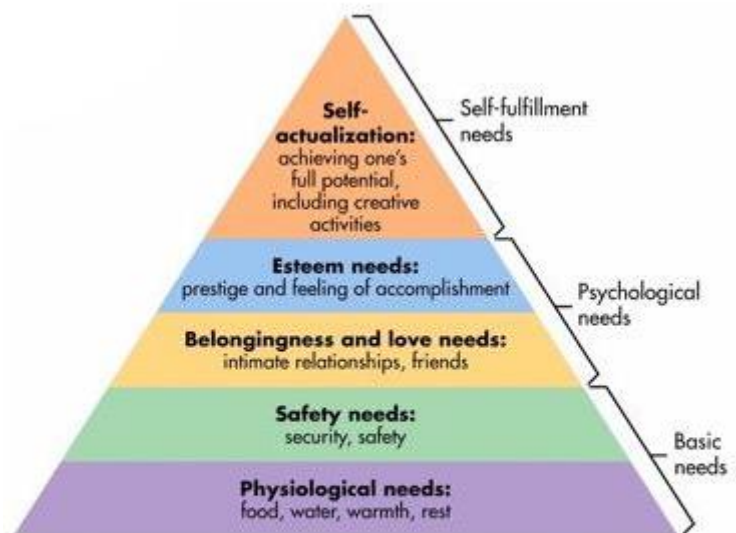


Figure 1. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. This figure illustrates the levels of Maslow's hierarchy, from basic needs to self-fulfillment needs.



Host Family Program because it conveys that for participants to be motivated to engage in higher levels of thought (such as cross-cultural understanding, conflict of identity, and personal growth), they must first enjoy the safety and security of a warm and welcoming host environment. The most basic goal of all host programs is to provide a safe environment in which students can begin to explore higher levels, once their immediate needs have been met.

The design also draws from an understanding of Erikson's (1963) model of Identity Vs. Role Confusion and Chickering's (1969) Psychological Vector Model (based on Erikson's model). Erikson (1963) posits that adolescence is a key period of time for the beginnings of identity formation and summarizes the main conflict for 12-18-year-olds in what he calls Identity vs. Role Confusion. During this time children and adolescents begin to take stock of the value systems around them and develop a sense of identity based upon occupation, sex roles, politics, and religion. Chickering (1969) builds upon this by proposing a Psychological Vector Model in which teenagers and adults move from a low level of competence to a high level of competence in each area. As they develop competence they also develop confidence, further cementing or adjusting their sense of identity. Particularly important to the LPC US Host Family Program is this change participants may be exposed to, moving from lack of awareness of differences to tolerance and appreciation of differences. Engaging in a cross-culturally immersive experience such as a homestay should allow participants to gain clarity over the question "who am I" and to experiment with lifestyles outside of their prior conceptions or exposure. Because children and teenagers depend on their parents, Chickering's (1969) model also points out, they must also work through the developmental stage of gaining independence and recognizing and accepting the importance of interdependence during influential self-discovery experiences such as these.

Chickering (1969) notes five major experiences central to the developmental change of adolescents, including requiring interaction with diverse individuals and ideas, involving adolescents in a variety of unique direct experiences, and engaging adolescents in complex social and intellectual creative problem-solving. Effective cross-cultural, immersive exchange environments such as host programming should provide participants with opportunities to practice movement in and out of these central experiences.

Although the primary participants and benefactors of the LPC US Host Family Program are the visiting international campers, a secondary group of participants exists, presenting equal opportunity for participant learning and growth: the hosts. Transformative Learning Theory, a model for understanding adult learning, “is the process of effecting change in frame of reference,” and developing autonomous thought (Mezirow, 1997) and could be the key to future expansions of the program’s curriculum to better engage hosts. As Mezirow (1997) notes, “Frames of reference are the structures of assumptions through which we understand our experiences,” which are comprised of two parts: what Mezirow calls habits of mind and points of view (p.5). He continues “An example of a habit of mind is ethnocentrism, the predisposition to regard others outside one’s own group as inferior. A resulting point of view is the complex of feelings, beliefs, judgements, and attitudes we have regarding specific individuals or groups,” (p. 6). As Mezirow (1997) writes:

Children commonly acquire a foundation to the specific learning required to think autonomously...In adulthood, the task is to strengthen and build on this foundation in order to assist the learner to understand new subject content, but in the process of doing so, to become (1) more aware and critical in assessing assumptions - both those of others and those governing one’s own beliefs, judgements, and feelings, (p. 9).

Mezirow outlines four processes of learning in his Transformational Learning Theory: elaborating an existing point of view, establishing new points of view, transforming our point of view, and transforming our habits of mind. “To facilitate transformative learning,” he writes, “educators must help learners become aware and critical of their own and others’ assumptions,” which should be a foundational goal of any cross-cultural training or experience (p. 10). Engagement with these theoretical roots and experiences of researchers examining this subject matter has ultimately created a more solid foundation on which to build a valid and fruitful needs assessment.

### **Formative Evaluation: Needs Assessment**

To understand the context for the program’s development more fully, the coordinator group discussed our shared vision of the program in detail, and ultimately identified the program purpose, goals, and objectives, major needs and issues, and sources of data. The primary goal of the coordinating team became to revive and bring new life to the defunct LPC US Host Family Program by infusing it with added levels of intention, situating it within LPC’s wider mission, and introducing internationally recognized best practices for host program facilitation.

### **Program Purpose**

The purpose of the LPC US Host Family Program, going forward, is to connect non-US campers with US host families in order to provide them with a friendly, warm, and welcoming cross-cultural experience before camp. Not only is this experience intended to provide interested campers with an opportunity to make new personal connections to the US, but it also internationalizes hosts’ local communities by providing an avenue for host families and communities to explore the home cultures of their visiting campers.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The following goals and objectives were created for the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program. Goals and objectives marked “NEW” were created in advance of the 2018 host program season, in response to participant feedback, detailed in Evaluation section, below.

**Program Goals.** The LPC US Host family program aims to

- **Goal:** Promote international understanding between, and increase cross-cultural competency among, participants (hosts, campers, and organizers).
- **Goal:** Provide visiting campers with an opportunity to be exposed to the people and way of life in the United States, in addition to the camp environment.
- **Goal** Internationalize our local communities by providing opportunities for host families to be exposed to the home cultures of their visiting campers.
- **Goal:** Create space for the Board to fulfill its mission of supporting US LPC camps and campers visiting those camps.
- **Goal:** Assist campers in their adjustment to time change, solo travel, and cultural change prior to the start of camp.
- **Goal:** Create meaningful and lasting connections between hosts and guests, that will continue after the program convenes.

**Program Objectives.** The program will fulfill these goals by

- **Objective:** Providing a safe US homestay experience for international campers traveling away from home alone.
- **Objective:** Allowing campers to arrive to camp better adjusted to the new time zone and culture.
- **Objective:** Achieving a fun, family-friendly energy.
- **Objective:** Actively including diverse camper and host family groups.

- **Objective:** Providing opportunities for cultural exchange between campers and host families.
- **Objective:** Continuing to build the “Friends of LPC” community
- **Objective:** Promoting cross-cultural capacity and skill-building, through training and orientation materials.
- **Objective:** Directly involving active Board members in current camp life and providing an opportunity for them to provide direct camp support.

**Goals for Participants (Campers and their families).** Campers (and their families) will

- **Goal:** Increase their cross-cultural competency and awareness.
- **Goal:** Increase their knowledge of US culture and people.
- **Goal:** Develop greater comfort speaking English.
- **Goal:** Increase their independence and self-confidence.
- **Goal:** Learn the basics of being a good guest.
- **Goal:** Arrive to camp well rested and adjusted to a change in time and culture.

**Objectives for Participants (Campers and their families).** Campers (and their families) will fulfill these goals by

- **Objective:** Engaging with orientation and pre-departure materials.
- **Objective:** Engaging in conversation with hosts online prior to their arrival.
- **Objective:** Comprehending and following safety guidelines at all times.
- **Objective:** Staying in a US homestay for three nights prior to camp and getting a good amount of rest and downtime.
- **Objective:** Stepping outside of their comfort zones by engaging in a solo-immersion style homestay accommodation.

- **Objective:** Engaging in cultural activities with host families (either family activities, tourism activities, or both).
- **Objective:** Practicing communicating with hosts in English. (Campers may also communicate with hosts in their mother tongue, depending on hosts' abilities.)
- **Objective:** Interacting with peers from another culture.
- **NEW Objective:** Practicing being a good guest and implementing cross-cultural conceptions of politeness and graciousness.
- **NEW Objective:** Refraining from the over use of distracting personal technology, to better and more fully engage in the host experience.

**Goals for Participants (Hosts).** Hosts will

- **Goal:** Provide a welcoming homestay environment for campers that promotes discussion and cross-cultural learning.
- **Goal:** Maintain camper safety and comfort throughout the host period.
- **Goal:** Increase their awareness of their visiting camper's culture, as well as their own.
- **Goal:** Learn more about LPC.

**Objectives for Participants (Hosts).** Hosts will fulfill these goals by

- **Objective:** Participating in pre-arrival orientation and training.
- **Objective:** Introducing their family and engaging the camper and his or her family in conversation prior to the camper's arrival.
- **Objective:** Comprehending and following safety guidelines at all times.
- **Objective:** Engaging campers in cultural, community, and family activities.

- **Objective:** Engaging campers and coordinators in conversation to learn more about LPC.

### **Stakeholders and Their Needs**

Major stakeholders for the LPC US Host Family Program are listed in the sections below.

**LPC Board members (including coordinators).** The Board is the official sponsor organization of the LPC US Host Family Program. The Host Program Committee is comprised of interested Board members who carry out the planning and implementation of the program. They have vested interest in the program's safety, legitimacy, and success. Any and all legal disputes potentially held against the LPC US Host Family Program lie directly under the responsibility of LPC, Inc. Coordinators have a vested interest in the program's success, not only for their personal fulfillment, but also for their professional development. The needs of the LPC Board include (1) clear and manageable time commitment for volunteer coordinators, (2) commitment from LPC Board members to serve as coordinators, (3) affordability, and (4) the ability to properly evaluate the program needs, successes and challenges to continue to improve upon the program and the sustainability of its delivery.

**Luethi Peterson Camps, Int. camp directors.** Active camp directors representing LPC, Int. will decide whether or not to approve the proposal for a US Host Family Program each year. They have vested interest in the program's safety, legitimacy, and ability to complement the in-camp experience. Any legal disputes directed towards the LPC US Host Family Program, though they do not inherently fall under the responsibility of LPC, Int., would certainly be cause for concern, due to the organizations' close ties and joint venture agreement. The needs of the camp directors include (1) clear communication from coordinators as to the scope and nature of the program prior to the annual meeting at their December "Christmas Conference" (CC), (2)

cooperation from coordinators whilst sharing planning of overlapping program elements, such as receipt of camper forms and camp arrival day logistics, and (3) commitment to LPC's standards of operation by the LPC Board and the program coordinators, such as in delivery of program content and communication with camper families and hosts.

**Campers and Camper Families, their home communities.** Campers and their families are the primary program participants and beneficiaries. They have vested interest in campers' health, safety, comfort, cross-cultural experience, and overall camp experience. Ultimately they make the decision whether or not to put their trust in the organization and in the program. They may have a wide range of reasons for participation and will benefit from very clear expectation-setting by organizers. Their opinion of the program will contribute significantly to the overall feeling about the program in their surrounding communities, due to distribution of information through personal and familial networks. Needs of the camper participants and their families include (1) commitment to camper safety, security, and comfort as priority number one, (2) clear communication and expectation-setting in advance of the program, (3) information about arrival dates and length of program well in advance of the program, for planning purposes, (4) camper access to contact with parents and guardians back home throughout the duration of the program, (5) transportation to and from the host family and to and from arrival day meeting point, (6) commitment to providing an impactful cross-cultural homestay experience that encourages learning, and (7) affordability.

**Host Families, their surrounding communities.** Host families are the secondary program participants and beneficiaries. They have vested interest in campers' health, safety, comfort, and cross-cultural experience, but also in their own health, safety, comfort, and cross-cultural experience. They may have a wide range of reasons for participation, given the volunteer



nature of their offer to host, and benefit from very clear responsibility and expectation setting in order to ensure a positive perception of their experience. Their opinion of the program will contribute significantly to the overall feeling about the program in their surrounding communities, due to distribution of information through personal and familial networks, and may impact the availability of future hosts. Needs of Host Families include (1) comfortable length and timing of program to facilitate cultural exchange without infringing on competing work and/or personal commitments, (2) logistical support to facilitate camper travel, arrival, safety, departure, etc., (3) clear communication and responsibility and expectation setting, (4) in-depth training and orientation to increase confidence and cross-cultural competency as well as to inform hosts of policies and procedures, (5) a vetting process that ensures camper safety and protects hosts, (6) commitment to providing an impactful cross-cultural homestay experience that encourages learning, and (7) affordability.

### **SWOT Analysis**

A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis was also conducted (see below) to complete the formative evaluation phase.

**Strengths.** The program's major strengths include (1) LPC, Inc.'s cooperative relationship with LPC, Int., (2) LPC, Inc.'s independent status and function as the "only game in town," (3) LPC, Inc.'s existing infrastructure for mass communication, (4) LPC, Inc.'s existing personal and professional networks, and (5) LPC, Inc.'s staffing and budgetary structure.

By seeking program approval from LPC, Int., the Board avoided potential conflicts of interest between the two organizations while administering the program, making them partners in the planning of program elements with overlap, such as collecting camper forms and planning camp arrival day. This also allowed the Board some influence on camp dates, as camp directors

of US camps agreed to be mindful of coordinator “black out days” in order to complement coordinators’ personal schedules. Working with LPC, Int. also added to the program’s perceived legitimacy. By working with LPC, Int., gaining their approval, and inviting participants through their camp invitation letters, we gain legitimacy in the eyes of parents and hosts. It is a win for the program that LPC, Int. is willing to work with the LPC Board in partnership on this program. Rotating membership in the decision-making body of LPC, Int. means that this may not always be the case, so LPC, Inc. should continue to “strike while the iron is hot.”

As this program serves campers invited to US camp sites only and extends invitation to prospective participants directly through LPC, it benefits from a lack of direct competition. LPC, Inc. also benefits from the at-will nature of its involvement, as there are currently no direct repercussions for any decision to stop the programming as they see fit. Camper families may seek out alternative homestay experiences beyond LPC, should the LPC Board decide to discontinue this program, but are unlikely to do so prior to the program’s end.

The program also benefits from the Board’s developed system of communication with the wider LPC community (including the LPC database, email outreach CRM, Facebook, website, etc.) The Board is well positioned to communicate with a mass of constituents in this way, which benefitted coordinators in their planning and outreach efforts. Coordinators’ personal and professional contacts outside of LPC allowed us to take a two-pronged approach to recruitment of potential hosts (mass communication and personal outreach).

As the program draws from an existing Board structure for staffing, by way of committee creation, it was easy to find appropriate staff in 2017. Though not necessary in 2017, in times of need, funds may become available through the Board for expansion and/or inclusion purposes in line with LPC’s mission, after further discussion.

**Weaknesses.** The program's major weaknesses include (1) the volunteer nature of staff, and (2) a modest budget. At times coordinators' personal schedules did not align with ideal workflow for program planning and implementation. Incentive to participate is all personal, which begs the question - how can we best incentivize coordinators to continue their efforts in the future? In 2017 the program operated without a budget from the LPC Board. This put stress on coordinators and hosts to contribute financially, as well as with their time, home, and families. This also meant there was no compensation for coordinators, creating stress on their work-life balance and there was no room for thank you gifts for hosts, which could be a nice touch at the end of each host session.

**Opportunities.** The program's major opportunities include (1) invigorated host communities, (2) interested campers, and (3) engaged Board members. It is possible that there is an increased interest in direct engagement with cross-cultural programming in progressive communities in the US, due to a politically polarized climate in recent times. An excitement for demonstrating good hospitality to international participants in the US may be the result of a reactionary protest of an explicitly nationalistic presidential administration. At the same time, there is demonstrated interest from camper families and a high level of trust in the LPC brand. These factors are complemented by the existence of an engaged group of Board members, who are eager to participate, due to the fact that the host program is currently one of the Board's only opportunities for direct involvement with campers attending US camps.

**Threats.** The only major outward threat that looms for the LPC US Host Family Program is the existence of a general tightening of laws and regulations surrounding international travel, and cross-cultural and diplomacy programming. There is an explicit threat to J-1 visa programs (especially Camp Counselor, Summer Work and Travel, Au Pair, Intern, and Trainee) that would

not limit international campers' receipt of visas, but would likely limit staff, causing a trickle-down effect on LPC's ability to host camps in the US.

In summary, the LPC Board is well-poised to offer an affordable cross-culturally immersive homestay experience that benefits LPC campers and hosts and aligns with LPC, Int.'s broader mission to increase international understanding between people from varying backgrounds and global perspectives. Despite the program's meager (nonexistent) pilot budget, the program is able to maintain program affordability for participating campers with support of dedicated volunteer staff, as well as generous host communities. There is a need to conduct this program in a more formal manner than in the past, for instance in the development of formal policies and procedures. These should be made known to all participants (campers and hosts) before commitment to program participation, due to tightening laws and regulations surrounding international travel and an increasingly litigious US society.

### **Program Description**

The LPC US Host Family Program is a short-term pre-camp homestay experience, offered to children ages 9-17, attending Luethi-Peterson Camps (LPC, Int.) sites in Freedom, New Hampshire and Harrington, Maine. The LPC US Host Family Program for Summer 2017 was organized by the LPC Board's newly formed Host Program Committee, who partnered with local families to host interested campers for three nights immediately preceding their camp arrival day. The primary aim of this program is to connect non-US campers with US host families in order to provide them with a friendly, warm, and welcoming cross-cultural experience before camp. Not only is this experience intended to provide interested campers with another opportunity to make new personal connections to the US, but it also internationalizes

hosts' local communities by providing an avenue for host families and communities to explore the home cultures of their visiting campers.

Two sessions of the LPC US Host Family Program were offered in Summer 2017: (1) July 6-9, immediately preceding camp arrival day at Birch Point in Harrington, Maine (for campers age 14-17), and (2) July 13-16, immediately preceding camp arrival day at Freedom in Freedom, New Hampshire (for campers age 9-14). Program sessions took place Thursday - Sunday. Campers were greeted at Boston Logan Airport on Thursday evening by their host families and program coordinators. From there, they traveled to their individual host communities. In 2017 the host communities were located throughout Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Southern Maine. Campers and host families spent Thursday night, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning together, before campers departed with individualized travel plans to their camp arrival day meeting points. At the meeting points (Boston Logan Airport or South Station, respectively) they were introduced to camp staff and the rest of the camper group with whom they would share the remainder of their camp experience. There is no formal program fee for the LPC US Host Family Program. Camper families pay camp fees to Luethi-Peterson Camps and those participating in the Host Program are asked to include ~60USD with their child: \$20 for incidentals and \$40 for travel to their camp meeting point on camp arrival day.

In 2017, ten host families hosted eleven visiting campers from four different countries (Italy, France, Spain, and Poland) in three different US states (Massachusetts, Maine, and Rhode Island). Together, the campers spoke nine unique languages. In addition to the eleven campers who eventually participated, three campers who were not able to participate displayed interest in the program. This number of interested campers (14) represents about 33% of all campers invited

to US camps in 2017, displaying significant interest from camper families. In addition to the ten host families who eventually participated, six additional families, who were not able to participate because of program dates, displayed interest in the program. This number of interested prospective host families (16) was encouraging to the program organizers, who were able to recruit significant support for the program through their extended networks of LPC Board members, friends of LPC, and personal connections.

Initial pre-placement discussions with participating camper families and host families revealed that in 2017, six of eleven visiting campers were first-time LPC campers; only two of ten host families had hosted LPC'ers before in earlier versions of the host program; and host families represented a variety of connections to LPC including Board members, friends of LPC, US camper families, prospective LPC families, and families linked to LPC and/or program organizers through personal and/or school relationships.

As is in line with international best practices for host family programs, the Board required our hosts to partake in background checks and personal interviews, as well as to submit a personal reference contact. All hosts were required to be 25 years of age or older and have access to reliable transportation and means of communication. Their home environments were required to provided campers with adequate personal space, meals, cultural and/or leisure activities, as well as much needed restful downtime. Interaction with camper-age peers was encouraged, but not required of hosts. Hosts were required to be present at all times for the entire duration of the host period.

### **Curriculum**

As it presently stands, the bulk of the curriculum for the LPC US Host Family Program is delivered during the pre-program phase, through dissemination of orientation and pre-departure

materials. In 2017, camper families and hosts were each provided with a set of pre-program materials. These can be found in Appendix F and Appendix H (for hosts) and Appendix E and Appendix G (for camper families). The pre-arrival and pre-departure materials delivered to hosts and camper families, respectively, outline travel plans and spending money needed, emergency contact information, tips for getting started, resources for cultural exploration, and safety and emergency guidelines.

This method of relying solely on self-study of reading materials, however, does have its weaknesses. In addition to its failure to appeal to different learning styles, it also does not provide opportunity for participants to move through all of the phases of Kolb's (2014) Experiential Learning Cycle. As in all experiential learning environments, the proper facilitation of the host family experience is critical to the end result of participant learning and camper-host relationship-building. Merely providing materials does not incentivize the self-guided learning or accountability to this preparatory phase of program participation. Alternative formats and additional opportunities for group activity, discussion, or reflection would add depth and context to these materials.

Upon reflection, I identified the curriculum for the 2017 program as an area of weakness that should be improved upon to provide greater opportunity for growth and learning to participants in future summers. A detailed pre-departure orientation for visiting campers and an informative host family training program go hand-in-hand with keeping all stakeholders informed and educated on the host family process. As Richardson (2003) pointedly states in "International Education: Homestay Theory Versus Practice," "The training of homestay hosts should be a priority for homestay providers, as it is the hosts who are caring for the organisation's clients - the homestay students..." (p. 32). Rotary International (2017) suggests

setting time aside for a one to two hour host family orientation for host programs ranging anywhere from two weeks to several months in length. “Every host family MUST have an orientation for every program year that they host, regardless of how many times they have hosted,” (Rotary International, 2017, para 9). As this program is quite a bit shorter than most, but there is important information to be imparted nonetheless, the Board will consider implementing webinar-style group Skype sessions for each group of participants (one for hosts and one for camper families) prior to the program start date, going forward.

Specific suggestions for topics for host family training from the literature surrounding this topic include: the importance of exposing students to the routines in hosts’ daily lives, tips for helping students’ foreign language acquisition, clarifying hosts’ legal rights and responsibilities and what to do in an emergency, the host family’s intended role, and cross-cultural interactions. Host families in Richardson’s study of homestay theory vs. practice also suggested that, “Such training programs might also provide a means of networking and collaboration between homestay hosts,” which would be an added benefit of participation (p. 32).

Di Silvio, Donovan, & Malone (2014) who examined the effect of homestay placements on study abroad participants, found that when students were exposed to proper preparatory pre-departure orientations, they reported greater satisfaction with the program overall and experienced greater gains from their travels than did their peers, who had not received such information. “First, students should be prepared for the experiences that they will encounter in the host community, and specifically the host home, that may challenge their expectations and values,” (p. 180). As Richardson (2003) notes in *International Education: Homestay Theory Versus Practice*, “homestay providers need to be proactive in training and equipping hosts with appropriate information and would benefit from undertaking some form of training in teaching



skills,” (p. 32). The Host Family Committee has committed to the continued study of how to improve the curriculum over the coming year.

### **Curricular Focus for 2018**

The curricular focus for the 2018 LPC US Host Family Program should be to continue to deepen opportunities for learning by expanding and improving upon the pre-departure experience, as well as connecting this experience to a post-camp reflection period. Suggested additions to the curriculum include (1) webinar-like group Skype sessions offered to the host and camper groups leading up to the host experience, (2) models for understanding cross-cultural interactions, such as the DIVE Model (Describe, Interpret, Verify, Evaluate) (*Tools to Suspend Judgement*, 2016), (3) a self-reflection re-entry guide for the post-camp experience, including resources for camper parents to assist campers in processing their time in the US, and, (4) suggested prompts for thank you letters to hosts for campers. Topics to be covered throughout this orientation curriculum will include information about the program and the LPC Board, hospitality and how to be a good guest in the US, arrival day logistics, departure and camp arrival day logistics, culture and cross-cultural interaction, learning about one another's' home and culture, and exploring sensitive topics of conversation.

### **Staffing Plan**

The 2017 US Host Family Program was designed to be facilitated by three board member coordinators, who form the Host Program Committee. It is ideal if each coordinator meets the following specifications: (1) represent (and be physically based in) a unique New England state and/or region, (2) feel comfortable recruiting prospective host families from that community, (3) be willing to, and have availability to, meet participants at Boston Logan Airport, (4) be able to commit considerable time throughout the Fall and Spring to program planning, in addition to

during the program dates, and (5) have access to and be willing to utilize technology to allow for remote meeting and planning efforts. Additionally, it is ideal if at least one coordinator is an experienced host family program coordinator. A job description for US Host Family Program coordinators can be found in Appendix B.

### **Recruitment, Admissions, and Marketing**

Recruitment and admissions of participating campers for the LPC US Host Family Program are completed in concert with the admissions process for LPC camps themselves. Prospective campers apply to attend an LPC camp in any location by sending an application to the LPC main office in Switzerland by December 1st. During the Christmas Conference (CC), the annual meeting of the LPC camp directors held each December, camp admissions decisions are made by the camp directors. Camp directors who agree to staff US camps extend an invitation for the LPC US Host Family Program (See Appendix C) on the Board's behalf to every camper (international or domestic) accepted to eligible US camps along with their camp acceptance letter.

In 2017, the coordinating team planned to accept eight campers for the first "pilot" group, on a first come first serve basis. These campers were accepted immediately following their outreach to coordinators. Once eight campers had been accepted, a waiting list was created and additional campers were accepted as additional host families were recruited and became available for pairing. Priority was given to campers from outside the US, though ultimately none of the campers who expressed interest in the program in 2017 were US citizens. Campers were advised not to make travel arrangements until their participation in the program was confirmed. The following benefits for participation were emphasized throughout the admissions process. As a participant, campers will (1) have meaningful exposure to US culture outside of the camp

environment, which tends to have its own international “camp culture;” (2) travel outside of rural campsites and see new areas of New England; (3) have additional time to get over jetlag and arrive to camp refreshed and ready to go; (4) practice speaking English with native speakers before camp; (5) meet and interact with peers from another culture; (6) exercise independence and practice being gracious guests; (7) have a meaningful cross-cultural experience; and (8) form lasting connections with host families.

Program coordinators work independently on recruitment of host families in their assigned regions, for the sake of organization, but are encouraged to share contacts, leads, and resources. Throughout the 2017 program planning phase, all three coordinators uploaded all prospective host information to Google Drive, where it was organized in a Google Sheet for easy access by all involved. Prospective hosts received a brief summary of the host process and their responsibilities (See Appendix D) to assist them in their decision-making process. The following benefits for participation were emphasized. As participants in the LPC US Host Family Program, hosts will (1) have a fun opportunity to introduce their families to peers from another culture and/or enjoy meeting others with an interest in cross-cultural interactions, (2) enjoy speaking English with campers for whom English is a second language and perhaps sharing a common second language with their visiting camper (in addition to English) providing an immersive opportunity to practice, (3) learn more about LPC from experienced campers and coordinators, and (4) form lasting connections with campers and their families.

### **Timeline of Recruitment and Admissions Activity**

In October and November of 2016, the coordinators engaged in pre-program planning, including coordinator team self-selection and commitment, proposal development in anticipation of the Christmas Conference (CC), and camper invitation development. In December of 2016 the

host program proposal was presented to the CC, where it was discussed and approved by the camp directors. The directors then sent out host program invitations to campers, which were included in their camp acceptance letters.

Throughout January 2017, the coordinators accepted campers and recruited host families, engaged in the host vetting process, and collected background checks and personal references. They began to match campers with families. All campers who intended to participate in the host program were asked to notify the coordinators by February 15<sup>th</sup>, which corresponded with the deadline for submitting deposits for camp to LPC, Int. Between February and May 2017, the coordinator team continued to accept campers and recruit host families, engage in the host vetting process and collect background checks and references, and match campers with host families.

LPC, Inc.'s Annual Meeting took place in May 2017. All host families that had been confirmed so far were invited to the meeting. I made a presentation about the host program to board members and friends of LPC present at the Annual Meeting. We made a big push to secure the remaining host families and engage the greater Board community in referrals. We gathered resources and ideas from those present at the Annual Meeting. Throughout the remainder of May and June 2017, the coordinating team finalized host and camper matches and informed hosts and campers of their pairings with introductory emails once matches were made. In July 2017, two program sessions took place: July 6-9 and July 13-16.

### **Diversity Plan**

The promotion of participation in the LPC US Host Family Program by individuals representing diverse backgrounds and personal experiences is important to the Host Family

Committee and is indeed central to the mission of LPC. In 2017, the Host Program Committee took the following steps to encourage such participation:

**Program Fees.** No formal program fees were required of camper families who participated in the program. This was stated in the invitation letter to campers. Total suggested cost for participation for campers was \$60 for spending money and travel.

**Host Family Inclusion.** Host families were encouraged to participate, regardless of their family makeup. Hosts ranged in age from 30s-60s, some with children of their own still present in their home and some without. Some were pairs of married partners and some were not. They represented a range of professions and occupations. They hosted campers in a mixture of rural, suburban, and urban households. They had a variety of prior levels of experience with LPC and with hosting, including no prior experience.

Hosts were asked to pay for the minimal costs of hosting, including obtaining a BCI report (\$0-30 depending on home state), travel to and parking at Boston Logan Airport (gas + \$10-35 for parking), and inclusion of campers in family meals and activities for the three night stay. A decision was made by the Host Program Committee to try to work with any family who felt these costs were a barrier to their participation by pursuing Board funding, but no requests were made in 2017. This option was not publicized, however, which could have created a social barrier for families who would have otherwise requested this option.

**Inclusive Program Materials.** In order to maintain an inclusive flow of communication between all participants, program materials were presented in printed and digital formats throughout the course of the program. Photos in digital formats were accompanied by photo descriptions. The majority of communication between participants and coordinators took place over email, a form of communication generally accepted to be widely accessible for a variety of

users. It may be noted, however, that this does require personal or public access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Communications with parents and hosts also invited requests for accommodations early in the process, to anticipate any additional participant needs.

Although it was not within the program's means or ability to provide all materials in all of the many languages primarily spoken by participants, the evaluation survey materials for the summative evaluation were translated into three of four mother tongue languages spoken by participating campers and their parents. The Host Program Committee would like to continue to work with camp directors to see how they effectively overcome this logistical challenge throughout their many levels of communication with campers, parents, and staff from a variety of linguistic backgrounds.

### Marketing

The program coordinators leveraged LPC's existing social media presence to market the LPC US Host Family Program to prospective hosts. LPC's official Facebook page ([facebook.com/LPCamps](https://www.facebook.com/LPCamps)) is a collaboration between LPC, Int. and

LPC, Inc. As an advisor on the LPC, Inc. Communications Committee, which manages the LPC Board's social media presence, I was able to create content for and post about the US Host Family Program regularly throughout the Spring. An example of a social media campaign that

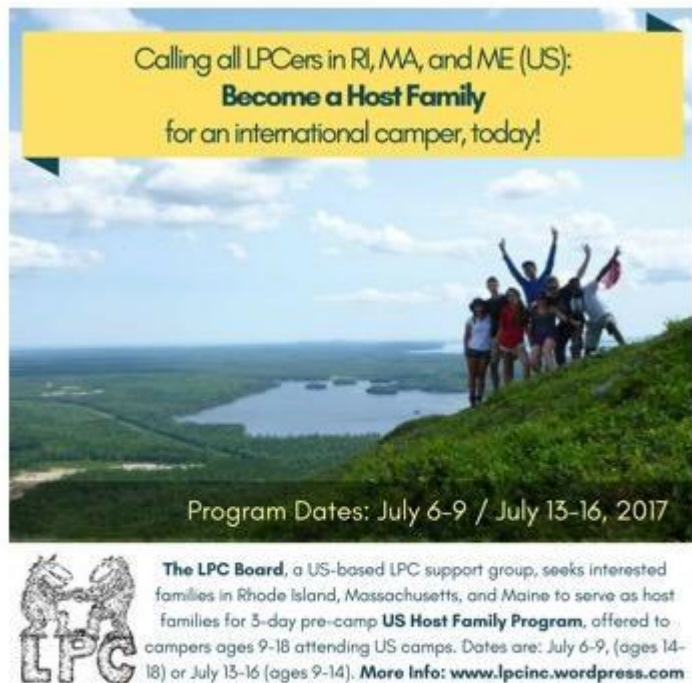


Figure 2. Social Media Content. This image depicts content from the host recruitment social media campaign.

was distributed on the official Facebook page is seen in Fig. 2: Social Media Content. [Image Description: a group of campers poses mid-hike in the mountains surrounding the Birch Point campsite. A yellow banner reads “Calling all LPC'ers in RI, MA, and ME (US): Become a Host Family for an international camper, today!” Program dates, a brief description of the Board, and the LPC logo are seen below.]

Accompanying marketing materials were posted to LPC, Inc.’s website (<http://lpcinc.org/host-family/>), which allowed for easy access and updating. Together with personal networking on behalf of the coordinators, these affordable (free) marketing solutions worked wonders for this small-scale program. The professional look and feel of the social media graphics and host website, as well as their presence on the official LPC Facebook account, added a sense of legitimacy to the program and helped link the Board’s efforts to the wider camp community.

## **Logistics**

### **Communication**

We used Google Docs and Google Sheets in 2017 for all host-program related documentation, which made organizing remotely very easy for all involved. The coordinators met regularly by phone and Skype throughout the fall, winter, and spring to ensure that the program would be a success. Each coordinator communicated with their assigned parties by phone and/or email and recorded their notes in the shared files on Google Drive. Updates to the board were shared in person and remotely at the board’s regularly scheduled meetings.

### **Travel**

Several modes of transportation were utilized to ensure that the program was a success in 2017. Campers arrived by air to Boston Logan Airport on the host program arrival day. Once

campers arrived and were introduced to their host families, they traveled by car to their hosts' homes. On the return to Boston to connect with camp staff on camp arrival day, different modes of transportation were utilized based upon age, location, etc. The younger camper participants (ages 11-14) hosted in Rhode Island in session two traveled as a group with one of the coordinators by train to Boston, while those hosted in Massachusetts were dropped off by their host families. The older camper participants (ages 16-17) hosted in Rhode Island in session one, however, traveled by train to Boston independently and were met at the train station directly by camp staff. The older camper participants (ages 14-16) hosted in Maine in session one were brought to a meeting point in Portland, Maine by their host families, where they met up with and continued on with camp staff, en route to Birch Point from Boston.

### **Insurance**

Camper families must submit personal travel and medical insurance forms for participation in LPC camps. Copies of these forms were shared with LPC, Inc. for the purpose of the US Host Family Program (See Appendix I).

### **Food and Accommodations**

Host families provided accommodations for campers in their homes, in addition to all meals while on program.

### **Health and Safety Plan**

The LPC US Host Family Program takes a proactive approach to health and safety of all participants through the following preventative measures. Camper families are asked to provide copies of their camp health, insurance, medical, and travel forms (see Appendix I) to LPC, Inc. in advance of their program start date. Once host family matches are made, copies of these forms are provided to hosts, who are asked to keep them on hand in case of emergency throughout the



program. All host families must obtain a BCI (state background check) report for each member of the household over 18 years of age and submit them to LPC, Inc. in advance of their program start date. This is standard practice for school-based and/or youth program activities throughout New England and many of the 2017 hosts were able to submit copies of background checks completed in the past year for their place of employment.

All 2017 camper families and host families were briefed on the host program safety guidelines (outlined in Appendix G and Appendix H). Host families were asked to sign a copy of this document to confirm their understanding of and their commitment to their role in ensuring the health and safety of campers prior to their arrival. An emergency contact person was assigned among the coordinator team for each day of the program. In the case that all coordinators are unavailable to serve as emergency contact person for a period of time, a substitute coordinator should be trained and assigned from the LPC Board. Each emergency contact person's personal contact information is then shared with hosts and camper families prior to the program start date with a copy of their on-duty schedule. Camper forms are shared with this person and their role is to facilitate the flow of communication from hosts to parents and emergency first responders or medical personnel, should an accident occur.

The schedule for camper travel on camp arrival day is shared with hosts, camper families, and camp directors. This ensures that the campers are expected by camp staff at a certain time and meeting point on camp arrival day, and all three parties (in addition to the coordinating team) understand the whereabouts of campers and their flow of travel. No emergencies or medical interventions were reported in 2017 and all campers arrived as expected at their respective meeting points on camp arrival day, in large part due to the team's excellent flow of communication.

## **Crisis Management Plan**

The Crisis Management Plan for the LPC US Host Family Program is outlined in Appendix G and Appendix H. Hosts are asked to practice their best judgement in times of crisis, and to follow the procedures outlined within the Safety and Emergency Guidelines.

## **Budget and Budget Notes**

The LPC Board is a volunteer-run organization and the LPC US Host Family Program operates as such, without receiving funds from LPC, Inc. or LPC, Int. to carry out its programming. There are no formal program fees for participation, but merely suggested amounts for camper families to send with campers for their travel and incidentals. Program coordinators are not paid. All other minor costs for operation are absorbed by host families and the LPC Board, respectively. A proposed budget can be found in Appendix J. A breakdown of the program expenses are as follows:

### **Expenses**

Major expenses for the program include (1) host family and coordinator background checks, (2) host family and coordinator travel to and from the airport, (3) airport parking, (4) camper travel to camp meeting point on camp arrival day, (5) incidentals, (6) marketing, and (7) time and activity of program coordinators.

LPC, Inc. asks that host families pay for their state background check (BCI) reports, if they are able. Costs range from \$5-30, depending on the state. LPC, Inc. is registered as a non-profit provider with the Massachusetts BCI, which allows Massachusetts host families to forgo this fee. Families who are unable to pay for background checks out of pocket may request assistance from the LPC Board.

Host families are responsible for all travel expenses except for camper travel to the camp meeting point on camp arrival day (if bus or train is needed). Host families are also responsible for airport parking fees incurred during their pick-up of campers on host program arrival day. Both of these expenses vary based upon the host family's location and proximity to Boston, Logan and/or their visiting camper's camp meeting point. Camper families provide a suggested amount of \$40 in cash for camper travel to their assigned meeting point on camp arrival day. In 2017, this meeting point was negotiated between coordinators and camp staff, to find a comfortable solution for families and camp directors. Camper families are asked to provide an additional suggested amount of \$20 in cash for incidentals and/or pocket money.

The LPC US Host Family Program marketing and recruitment information was included in existing LPC, Inc. print and web materials (such as website, Facebook, and board newsletters), which falls under accepted use of these resources and incurs no additional costs to the LPC Board. In addition to volunteering their time, coordinators also utilize their personal communication devices for all communication with camper families and host families.

### **Summative Evaluation**

The evaluation process for the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program began by conceptualizing how best to measure the program, its outcomes, and its effect on the target population of program participants. Given the remote, web-based nature of the program's design (and to some extent, delivery) by the coordinators, an online survey option seemed to fit the needs of the coordinators and participants most appropriately. It was decided that surveys would be administered to hosts at the end of both host sessions and that surveys would be administered to campers and their families upon their return home, following their camp experiences. Evaluation components included (1) pre-program needs assessment and literature review (see

Needs Assessment, above), (2) post-program host evaluative survey, (3) post-program camper and family evaluative surveys, (4) post-program coordinator debriefing, and (5) presentation of program summary to the LPC Board and Board feedback.

Evaluation questions were formulated after review of program and participant goals and objectives. The goal of the three evaluative surveys was to elicit feedback about the program design and delivery from its three beneficiary groups- the hosts, campers, and campers' families. Sample evaluation questions can be found in Appendix L. A full review of the research project, questions, and informed consent forms was conducted by the SIT Institutional Review Board (IRB) committee, due to the involvement of human subjects, particularly children under the age of 18, and approved prior to the research start date.

Surveys were administered via shareable Google Forms invite link (which was set to not collect emails or identifying information). Although the researcher was in possession of participants' phone numbers and email addresses, as is necessary for the administration of the US Host Family Program, this information was not included in any report or analysis of the research data. Participants' contact information is stored in a private Google Sheet, accessible only by the other US Host Family program coordinators, who have been granted permission to utilize this contact information by the participants in the program (campers, their families, and host families). Copies of informed consent forms were signed and delivered to the researcher separate from participants' responses to survey questions. Three translated versions of consent forms and survey questions were provided to participants in French, Spanish, and Italian.

Ethical issues and points for consideration when analyzing this data collection method include (1) the method of gathering information (in English only) from non-native English speakers, (2) the involvement of children as evaluation participants (with parent permission), (3)

the possibility of personal bias because of the researcher's direct involvement in, and deep personal commitment to, the subject organization, and (4) the possibility of participant bias because of the distribution of the survey by the program coordinators, with whom families communicated closely.

### **Findings (Hosts)**

After a period of several weeks, eight out of ten participating host families, representing both host sessions, responded to the evaluation survey. The majority of the hosts who responded either had friends or relatives who had attended LPC camps as campers or counselors (63%), were friends of the LPC Board themselves (63%), knew about LPC through the Ecole d'Humanité (63%), or a combination of the three. While the majority of hosts (63%) had hosted a student or camper before, for some (38%) it was a totally new experience.

Almost every host who responded (88%) noted cultural exploration (for themselves or their families) as their initial reason for participation. Other reasons included support of the program or its coordinators, and the opportunity for a fun experience. One host reflected on this in their evaluation survey:

I wanted to give a child from another country an opportunity to see how our family lives in the US and have an opportunity for our family to connect with someone from another country. It seemed like it would be a fun experience.

The majority of these respondents (88%) agreed or strongly agreed that their initial expectations for the program had been met (while one remained neutral). "This experience offered so much more than I could have anticipated," reflected one of the hosts, "We look forward to hosting campers again and maybe having our children hosted when they are older."

When ranked in terms of number of hosts in agreement, the following aspects of the program were rated as most positive. Of the hosts who responded, 88% agreed that communication with campers and their families prior to the host experience was the single most positive part of the host program experience. Communication with program coordinators and sharing family and community activities with campers tied for the second-most mentioned positive part of the overall experience with 75% of hosts in agreement. One host shared the following:

Our camper arrived, and became a wonderful addition to our family for a few days. He was engaging and enjoyed sharing pieces from his culture (music from a local band he loves, food, slang, holidays, school, etc.) with our family. We did some fun and ‘touristy’ things, but also brought him along to a morning where all the families in one of our son's class spent a few hours tidying up gardens and stacking wood at their home. It felt like the world shrunk in size while we made connections about life on different continents.

In addition, 63% of hosts agreed that interactions with campers during the host experience and especially sharing sight-seeing and tourist experiences with campers were also positive parts of the overall host experience. One host wrote the following:

Our experience was so rich. We all connected with our camper and felt like he connected with us too. We had a blast coming up with ideas of what "typical American families" do as well as trying to dispel...some of the stereotypes of Americans. Our children (8 & 5) were fully engaged in this process and it turned out many important and lovely conversations.

Overall, hosts felt well-prepared by the communication and materials provided to them by program organizers (88% agreed or strongly agreed), and felt they knew what to do in case of

an emergency (100% agreed or strongly agreed). The majority of hosts who responded also felt that the program added to their understanding of LPC (88%), their visiting camper's culture (75%), and their own culture (75%). Several of the hosts who responded wished the program was longer (50% checked this off as an option for improving the program and 38% mentioned it specifically in the suggestions to organizers). They asked for an extended host period or the opportunity to host on the tail end of the campers' camp experience.

This overwhelmingly positive feedback was coupled with some constructive criticism and ideas for organizers as well, detailed below. A surprising 50% of host respondents reported that their interactions with their visiting camper were negative parts of the experience, especially citing overuse of, or distraction by, personal cell phones and technology. One host reflected:

While my camper was for the most part very engaging (as much as a tired teen can be), she was often on the cell phone and I think campers should be advised to limit those phone/text/web interactions so they can immerse themselves in the new culture...clear expectations about seeing extensive cell phone use as rude or disengaged would be valuable.

"We found the cell phone issue to be problematic," wrote another, "Many times had to pull the campers away from their phones to experience what was going on. It became pretty annoying." In total there were five unique comments citing cell phone or personal technology usage as an annoyance that detracted from the overall experience and cross-cultural interaction.

Overall we found that by the end of their host experience, most participating hosts who responded to the evaluation survey would recommend the program to a friend (88% agreed or strongly agreed) and ultimately would also recommend LPC camps to a friend (88% agreed or strongly agreed).

## **Findings (Campers)**

After a period of several weeks, six out of eleven participating campers responded to the evaluation survey, with parental consent. Of the six who responded, half were experienced LPC campers and half were new to LPC camps in 2017. Together the respondents represented both host sessions. When asked about their prior experience with host programs, five out of six noted that they had never been hosted before, while one noted that his/her family had hosted international students or campers previously in their home. The campers' recorded reasons for participating in the host program ranged from trying a new experience and exploring the local community to speaking English with native speakers, exploring American culture, overcoming jet lag, and having fun. All six campers agreed or strongly agreed that these initial expectations had been met. In addition to this, all campers who responded to the survey felt that their hosts were friendly and caring (67% strongly agreed and 33% agreed) and 83% felt their hosts were genuinely interested in them and their culture (one respondent was neutral). "[My hosts and their children] were caring at all times," reflected one camper, "they made me feel part of their beautiful family." Another camper stated, "the family was very nice, gave a lot of love to me!" When asked whether or not they would recommend the host family they stayed with to a future camper interested in the host experience, 67% strongly agreed that they would, while 33% remained neutral.

Positive parts of the experience, as reported by campers, were ranked by number of participant respondents who agreed upon the positive nature of each activity. All of the campers who responded noted that speaking English with native speakers was a positive part of the experience, making that the single most agreed-upon positive aspect, among campers. The second most agreed upon positive aspects of the experience (with 83% of respondents in



agreement) included cross-cultural interactions, host community/neighborhoods, and family/community activities shared by campers and hosts. “I loved visiting Boston and getting to know better the American community,” shared one camper in his/her evaluation survey. In addition 67% also noted their communication with hosts before the program, sight-seeing/tourist activities shared with their hosts, and their personal bed/sleeping space as positive parts of the experience. Finally of note, 50% of campers who responded also stated that their safety while on the program, the people in their host family, the meals they ate during the program, the additional time the program allowed for sleep/rest, and the opportunity to meet other people their own age were all positive parts of the host experience.

In total four negative parts of the experience were shared in the campers’ evaluation surveys, though none garnered majority agreement. One participant (17%) noted that people in the host family were a negative part of the experience for them. One participant (17%) each noted that travel to and from Boston and food/meals were negative parts of the experiences for them, respectively. Finally, two participants (33%) noted that adjusting to the time difference was a negative part of the experience for them, though it was not clear if they were comparing this adjustment period to alternative travel experiences between time zones or simply reflecting that adjustment to this change is difficult, about which many travelers can certainly agree.

Of the campers who responded, 83% strongly agreed that the program complemented, or added value to, their overall LPC experience (one respondent was neutral). The same 67% of respondents also agreed or strongly agreed that they would like to stay in touch with their host family after the experience, while one respondent reported that they would not like to stay in touch and the remaining respondent stayed neutral. Overall, 83% of campers who responded agreed or strongly agreed that the experience added to their understanding of US culture and

would recommend the program to a friend. When asked to reflect upon how the program impacted their understanding of their own culture, 50% agreed or strongly agreed that it had added to their understanding, while 17% felt it had not added to their understanding, and the remaining 33% remained neutral. After participating in the LPC US Host Family Program this summer, 83% of campers who responded would participate again and now want their own families to consider hosting an LPC camper in the future. The remaining camper who responded noted that they would not like to participate in the program again, as a result of their experience. Camper suggestions to organizers included only one comment, which read, “Maybe trying to match more the families with the campers.”

### **Findings (Campers’ Parents)**

After a period of several weeks, six parents of the eleven families that participated in the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program responded to the evaluation survey. They represented both host sessions and only one of the families had hosted international students or campers in their homes before. Half of the parents reported that their children were new to LPC this summer, while the remaining half were parents of experienced LPC campers. Of the parents who responded, 83% noted the chance for their child to have a new, cross-cultural experience within an American family as their motivation for encouraging their child to participate in the program. “The host program is a great opportunity for the LPC campers, to get to know the country where the camp is located,” shared one parent, reflecting on their expectations, “It is a way to give a particular beauty to [each] of the camps placed all over the world.” After the host experience concluded, 83% of parents who responded agreed or strongly agreed that these initial expectations had been met, while one parent (17%) remained neutral. In addition, 83% of parents

who responded also agreed or strongly agreed that the program had complemented or added value to their child's overall LPC experience this summer.

The positive parts of the host program experience that all parents who responded agreed upon included communication with the program coordinators and communication with hosts, prior to their children's host sessions. "I felt confident I was leaving my son in good hands," shared one parent, "Communication prior to and during [the] experience was fantastic due to great commitment on the other side." Most parents (83%) were also in agreement that their child's overall cross-cultural experience, travel to and from Boston, chance to engage in family/community activities with hosts, and chance to speak English with native speakers were also positive parts of the host program experience. "The host program was well organized," wrote another parent in their survey, "[and] the host family proposed a very good organization of the stay."

There was also significant agreement from parents (67%) that their children's host families, their children's host communities/neighborhoods, their children's opportunities to engage in tourist/sight-seeing activities with hosts, their children's safety while on program, their children's meals while on program, their children's opportunities to interact with people their own age, as well as the modest financial commitment required for their children's participation in the program all stood out as positive aspects of the host experience. "The times [my child] contacted us by Viber, he was very happy," wrote another parent in a note to her son's hosts, "He was very interested by the activities you proposed...and the outings on a boat for fishing for crayfish!" Additionally 50% of parents agreed their children's bed/sleeping space positively contributed to their host experience.

Only two aspects of the program were reported by parents to have been negative experiences for the campers while participating in the host program, though none represented a significant majority of opinion. One parent (17%) responded that their child had found the people in their host family to be a negative aspect of the experience and one parent (17%) responded that their child's bed/sleeping space had been a negative experience. One parent also commented that organizers could have made a, "better match between the family's and the child's attitudes toward animals or common interests." Suggestions from parents to the organizers included lengthening the program (67% of parents requested this) and creating opportunity for more interaction between host families (50% of parents requested this). "Involving more interaction between the host families should maybe give a wider idea to the children involved in the exchange," explained one parent respondent.

Overall, 83% of parents who responded agreed or strongly agreed that the program had added to their children's understanding of US culture (one parent disagreed). Additionally, half of all parent respondents felt that the program had added to their own, and their children's, understanding of their home culture, while the remaining half of respondents remained neutral. Ultimately, 83% of parents who responded reported that they would recommend the program to a friend as well as encourage their child to participate in the LPC US Host Family Program again in summers to come. One parent (17%) reported that they would not recommend the program or urge their child to participate again. Five parents (83%) reported that they would now consider hosting an LPC camper in their own home in future summers, as a result of their child's experience.

## **Summary of Findings**

In Summary, the evaluation survey elicited responses from the majority of participants and presented organizers with a great deal of very valuable positive and constructive feedback. This feedback will be shared with the LPC Board and camp directors present at the CC, and will be factored into the decision-making process of the Host Program Committee as we plan for future summers. We are left with the following take-aways as a result of the summative evaluation survey results.

The survey results suggest that a major motivating factor for participation by host families is a personal connection to someone involved in LPC or LPC's sister organization, the Ecole d'Humanité. We should continue to pursue these avenues for recruitment purposes. Hosts, campers, and camper parents all noted cross-cultural exchange as an important motivating factor for participation, and the Host Program Committee should examine what other time and resources can be dedicated to contribute to an even deeper level of understanding and satisfaction in this. The survey results suggest that participants were satisfied with their level of achievement of cross-cultural learning objectives, although achievement of self-reflective cultural learning objectives could be improved upon. Hosts, campers, and camper parents all noted communication with each other and with coordinators prior to the host experience as a program highlight. This is pertinent information for coordinators seeking to expand this pre-program communication in the form of deepened training and orientation sessions.

Notably, the majority of hosts, campers, and camper parents were new to the host experience and likely would have benefitted from deeper training and orientation, as well as additional expectation-setting, mentioned above and below. Nevertheless, hosts reported feeling well prepared for the experience after their communication with program coordinators, and

benefitted from the program's enhanced commitment to following best practices, especially surrounding health, safety, and emergency preparedness.

The major complaint from hosts was camper overuse of, and distraction by, cellphones and/or other personal technology, which detracted from the overall cross-cultural experience. The Host Program Committee should consider developing a policy statement or guideline for campers and their families for Summer 2018.

The surveys revealed a notable request from hosts, campers, and camper families to extend the length of the host period in future summers. The surveys also revealed a notable request from hosts, campers, and camper families to include more interaction between host families in future programs. These findings were integrated into the decision-making process surrounding the recommendations from the 2017 program coordinators to future coordinators, which follow.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

Overall, the Host Program Committee feels that the two 2017 program sessions were hugely successful, with overwhelmingly positive feedback, despite minor challenges. There appears to be great interest in, and appreciation for, this program by camp directors, camper families, and host families, and we highly recommend that the Board continues to offer this program for summers to come. We have developed the following list of recommendations for future organizers, to align the program even more closely with its goals and objectives.

First, hosts and camper families alike noted that connecting with each other prior to the camp experience was a program highlight. Our coordinating team conducted introductions between camper and host families by email when their matches were confirmed and all parties

enjoyed this exchange. We recommend conducting introductions this way again and continuing to encourage camper and host communication prior to the host period, to ease potential anxieties.

Second, communication with camper parents was conducted almost exclusively over email in 2017, which worked very well. One thing we recommend communicating to parents is the importance of reminding their children to express gratitude to their hosts throughout the host experience. For example: bringing a small gift from home and writing Thank You letters at the end of the program, during camp, or once campers arrive back home.

Third, the flow of communication with hosts by phone and email was exceptionally easy in 2017. We recommend checking in with hosts during the host period, even if by way of a quick text, call, or email, to make sure everything is OK. We also recommend checking in with hosts after their host session, prior to an evaluation survey, to chat about the experience while it's fresh in their minds. We did this in 2017 and received useful feedback from hosts. If program dates do not allow for a host picnic with hosts from both sessions, we would advise introducing hosts in the same session and region so they can feel free to plan and participate in some joint activities, appealing host, camper, and parent feedback for more interaction between host families.

Fourth, we recommend communicating a few key points to the decision-making body of camp directors gathered at the CC. The committee should stress how the program would be positively impacted if both camps had the same arrival day (or at least an overlap in these dates). We feel that the program would be much easier to facilitate overall and would require a lesser time commitment from coordinators, which would help program sustainability. This arrangement would also provide the coordinators with the opportunity to organize a picnic or social gathering for hosts and visiting campers, which was successful in the past and requested by this year's participants in their survey feedback. Additionally the coordinator team should consider creating

a permission document to be included with invitations for camper families to sign that allows directors to forward coordinators copies of the participating campers' travel, insurance, and health forms, directly, so that families don't have to send two copies to different parties. We believe this would improve "user experience" from the camper family point of view, and also improve transfer of sensitive information, which was a concern from the camp directors' points of view. At the end of each camp, we also recommend reaching out to each camp director to see if they note any trends among host program participants, positive or negative. We imagine they might notice trends in level of adjustment to time difference, possible social cliquing between campers who were hosted together, adjustment to culture change, etc., which would be useful data for organizers.

Fifth, a goal for the 2018 Host Family program will be to distribute orientation materials and conduct orientation sessions earlier in the year than the schedule of dissemination of materials and information that occurred this summer. In 2017, pre-departure and orientation materials were distributed about a month before the experience, or less. Now that initial orientation materials have been developed, coordinators should consider distributing them once a camper's participation has been confirmed, as this is not placement-dependent, meaning they can begin to dive into this information prior to their assignment to a particular host family. This will improve the experience for campers who are deeply involved in end-of-year exams in June and very busy closer to their departure dates, hopefully allowing for more engagement with program material leading up to their host experience.

Another goal for 2018 will be to create more pre-departure orientation opportunities and materials for campers and their families, especially on the topics of cross-cultural exploration, exploration of one's own culture, and cultural expectations of polite guest interactions and



displays of gratitude (See Curricular Focus in 2018, above). In 2017, survey feedback suggested that campers, parents, and hosts felt their objectives for cross-cultural learning had been met, but feedback regarding learning about one's own culture was mixed. Also in 2017, orientation materials emphasized useful tips to hosts for creating a welcoming host environment, but our instructions to campers on how to uphold their end of the bargain were lacking and could have been improved. The dissatisfaction expressed by hosts in their evaluation surveys with the incessant use of personal technology by campers throughout the host experience ultimately created distance between campers and hosts, as most hosts who experienced this considered it very rude and unappreciative behavior. This tension is something that could be prevented or at least lessened by creating a suggestion or formal policy for future summers, thus creating more returnee hosts and opening up space for dialogue and discussion.

Sixth, hosts and coordinators present on the arrival day for program session one in 2017, especially, had very long wait times for campers coming through Customs and Border Protections. Some hosts waited as many as three to four hours for their visiting camper. Because of this, hosts had to pay for additional hours of parking, which is something we should consider. It would be ideal for host families who are not local to the Boston area if we could facilitate pick-up on arrival day in the future, and might make it more likely that they would host again in the future. This was noted, though not with particular urgency, by hosts in the evaluation survey data.

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## **APPENDIX A: Program Summary to Camp Directors**

LPC Board “US Pre-Camp Host Family Program” Summary  
*Gillian Bell, June Vinhateiro, Jessica Gillis*

December, 2017

Dear LPC Directors,

The LPC Board (LPC, Inc.) is excited to announce our plans to offer a short-term pre-camp US host family program for campers accepted to US camps during the 2017 camp season. The following is a brief program summary to assist you in familiarizing yourselves with this new take on the pre-camp host family experience:

The host program for Summer 2017 will be organized by the Board’s newly formed Host Program Committee, comprised of June Vinhateiro (RI), Jessica Gillis (Boston area), and Gillian Bell (Southern ME). The Host Program Committee will partner with local families to host interested campers for 3 nights immediately preceding camp arrival day. It may or may not include a meet-up/picnic with other local homestay families. The primary aim of this program will be to connect non-US campers with US host families in order to provide them with a friendly, warm, and welcoming cross-cultural experience before camp. Not only will this experience provide interested campers with another opportunity to make new personal connections to the US, but it will also internationalize our local communities by providing an avenue for host families/communities to explore the home cultures of their visiting campers.

Program objectives:

- To provide a safe, fun, and inclusive US-based cross-cultural experience for international campers that compliments their camp experience
- To promote cross-cultural understanding and capacity building, through host program training/orientation materials, and in-person interactions
- To continue to build the “Friends of LPC” community in the New England area
- To provide an opportunity for the LPC Board to maintain direct contact with camp life and provide direct camp support

Program Enrollment:

- We will extend an invitation to every camper accepted to eligible camps (international and domestic), but preference will be given to international campers.

- We will plan to accept 8 campers for Summer 2017. If more than 8 campers are interested in participating, we will start a waitlist and accept campers as additional host families become available.
- Campers will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis to accommodate early travel arrangements, with priority given to campers from outside the US. Campers will be advised not to make travel arrangement until their participation in the program is confirmed.

Timing/Duration:

- 3-night stay, to occur directly preceding camp arrival day.
- To increase host family participation, we would request that these days fall over a weekend, if at all possible!
- Host program arrival day/Camp arrival day cannot be July 4th or July 8th
- We are unable to accommodate campers who are not able to arrive on the specified host program arrival date.

Who are our Hosts?

- Potential host families may include: Board members, friends of LPC/the Board, US camper families, prospective LPC families, and families linked to LPC through personal/school partnerships.
- As is in line with international best practices for host family programs, the Board will require our hosts to partake in background checks and personal interviews, as well as to submit a personal reference.
- All hosts will be 25 years of age or older and will have access to reliable transportation/means of communication. Their home environments will provide campers with adequate personal space, meals, cultural/fun activities, as well as much needed restful downtime!

Where are Host Families?

- Rhode Island
- Boston Area
- Southern Maine

Attached you will find an abbreviated program timeline and two letters designed to be distributed to interested families. We welcome any and all questions you may have and would appreciate your support of this reinvigorated program!

## **APPENDIX B: Host Program Coordinator Job Description**

### Luethi-Peterson Camps, Inc. US Host Family Program Coordinator

LPC, Inc. seeks a program coordinator for the 2018 LPC US Host Family Program. The coordinator will work remotely in a team of three co-coordinators to plan and execute the host family program for LPC's 2018 Summer season. Program dates are TBA. All coordinators must first be members of the LPC Board.

Job duties will take place on a part-time basis (5 hours per week or less) from November 2017 - August 2018. More hours, as well as local travel, will be necessary in July directly preceding camp arrival day at LPC's two US locations, when our host program takes place.

- Each coordinator should represent (and be physically based in) a different New England state/region so as to recruit host families from a variety of communities.
- Each coordinator should be able to commit considerable time throughout the Fall and Spring to program planning, as well as during the program dates.
- Each coordinator should have access to and be willing to utilize technology to allow remote meeting and planning efforts (Google Drive, Skype, Facetime, Google Hangout, or similar technology).
- Each coordinator should feel comfortable recruiting prospective host families from their communities utilizing contacts from LPC, community organizations, school/professional partnerships, etc.
- Each coordinator should be willing to and have availability to meet participants at Boston Logan Airport on the designated arrival date, and arrange camper transportation to the camp meeting point on departure day.

Interested parties should contact Gillian Bell at XXX-XXX-XXXX or [XXXXXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXXXXX@gmail.com).

All coordinators must be willing to complete a state BCI report.

## APPENDIX C: Recruitment-Campers

### Freedom 2017 Host Family Program Invitation Letter

Greetings on behalf of the Board of LPC, Inc. in the US! We would like to invite your child to be a participant in our pre-camp Host Family Program which provides a homestay experience for campers for a few days before the camp at Freedom starts on 16th July.

The Host Family Program is a great opportunity for campers from outside the US to get an inside look into life in the US, and it's a wonderful chance for the host family to establish what might lead to a deep connection and friendship with a young person from far away. If you choose to participate, your child will need to arrive at Logan Airport on 13<sup>th</sup> of July, between the hours of 8 am to 9 pm, 3 days before the beginning of camp on 16<sup>th</sup> July. We will arrange to pair your child with a host family in Rhode Island, the Boston area, or southern Maine. Your child will stay with a host family and participate in their daily life. On one of the evenings there will be a picnic or gathering of the LPC host families and their host campers that are in the area.

Your child's comfort and safety are important to us so we will be sending you a short questionnaire that will help us to match your child with an appropriate family here in the US. All participating host families are asked to obtain background checks for each adult in the household, submit personal references, and participate in a friendly interview with one of our host family coordinators.

Once we match you with a host family you will communicate directly with them to give them the details of your child's arrival. Your host family will pick your child up at Logan airport and transport him/her to their home. Your child will participate in the family's daily summertime activities and have a chance to acclimate to the time zone and being in America. The host family will also be responsible for taking your child to the meeting point for campers on the day camp begins. If the campers will be taking a bus back to the airport on Camp Arrival Day they will be accompanied by a host family and/or a member of the Board of LPC. While the host family will be responsible for your child during the program, a member of the Host Family Committee will be on hand at the airport and in the general vicinity of the host family's home if the need for additional support arises.

There is no charge for this program; however, we do ask that you send some spending money (\$20 in USD) to pay for incidentals such as movie tickets or other activities as well as an additional \$40 USD to cover transportation back to Logan airport on Camp Arrival Day. Any unused funds will be sent to camp with your child.

We are starting up this program again after several years of hiatus, and this first year we will take people on a first-come-first-served basis, giving preference to international campers, until we have assigned campers to all available host families. **The deadline for expressing interest is**

**Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>**, however, we cannot judge how quickly the program will fill up, so if you are interested please let us know as soon as you can, to increase chances that we will have a spot for your child.

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*YOU SHOULD NOT MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN MATCHED WITH A HOST FAMILY.*

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To indicate interest in participating, contact Gillian Bell, the Host Program contact person for Freedom campers at [gillianmariebell@gmail.com](mailto:gillianmariebell@gmail.com) no later than February 15.

**A few points important enough to mention again:**

1. Your child must be able to arrive at Logan Airport in Boston on the date and times indicated above.
2. Do not make travel arrangements until after your child's participation has been confirmed by a member of the Host Family Committee.
3. In addition to the money you are sending to camp, please send your child with an additional \$60 in USD to cover pocket money during the host program and transportation back to Logan Airport on Camp Arrival Day. **PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND THIS MONEY IN A SEPARATE ENVELOPE MARKED "HOST FAMILY"** - Unused funds will be sent to camp with your child.

Please feel free to contact Gillian with any questions you may have!

On behalf of the Board of LPC, Inc.,

Gillian Bell, Jessica Gillis, June Vinhateiro  
Host Family Committee



## **APPENDIX D: Recruitment-Hosts**

### **Being a Host Family for an LPC camper**

Thank you very much for considering being a host family for a few days for a camper coming to an LPC camp this summer! The information here will give you an idea of what's involved.

First, a little background about LPC: Founded in 1949 by young American college students, Natalie Peterson and Pavey Lupton, the Luethi-Peterson Camps are nonprofit co-ed summer camps for children ages 9-17. Five to six camps are held each summer in a number of countries throughout the world. The aim of the camps is to foster international understanding by bringing together young people from a variety of cultural backgrounds. We at LPC believe that good human relations and responsible community living can best be learned by personal experience at an early age. It is our firm conviction that such experience not only provides the necessary basis for a better understanding among diverse groups of people, but also the critical capacities of independent thinking, self-reliance, and a sense of personal responsibility needed by the individual participants to deal with a world which grows steadily smaller and a world population increasingly interdependent.

Most LPC campers come from Europe, the Americas, and Asia. Campers from outside the US who are coming to LPC camps at Birch Point in Harrington, ME and Freedom, NH are offered the opportunity to arrive a few days before camp starts and to spend some time with an American family via the Host Family Program. It's a great opportunity for the camper to get an inside look into life in the US, and it's a wonderful chance for the host family to establish what might lead to a deep connection and friendship with a young person from far away.

The Birch Point campers who are participating in the Host Family Program will arrive July 6th and will leave for camp on July 9th. Those kids are 14-18 years old.

The campers from the LPC Freedom camp who are participating in the Host Family Program will be arriving on July 13th and then will go off to camp on July 16th. The Freedom campers are 10-13 years old.

### **What's Involved in being a Host Family?**

We will have host families in RI, MA, and southern ME and there is a local Host Family program coordinator in each of those areas, as follows:

Rhode Island - June Vinhateiro XXX-XXX-XXXX [XXXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXXX@gmail.com)  
Massachusetts - Jessica Gillis XXX-XXX-XXXX [XXXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXXX@gmail.com)  
Southern Maine - Gillian Bell XXX-XXX-XXXX [XXXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXXX@gmail.com)

When you agree to act as a host family, the LPC Host Family coordinators will match you with a camper and will then connect you and the camper's family via email. Most communication will then lie between you and the camper's family.

In order to comply with international best practices for administering host programs, we ask that all participating families obtain background checks for each adult in the household, submit personal references, and participate in a friendly interview with one of our host family program coordinators. The instructions for how to obtain a BCI in your state follow. Once obtained, please forward the copy to the coordinator for your area.

### **Rhode Island**

Information about how to obtain a State Background Check can be found here:

<http://www.riag.ri.gov/homeboxes/BackgroundChecks.php>

The cost for a RI state BCI is \$5. The process can be completed by mail. (or in person if you wish)

If you live in RI, please send your BCI report to

June Vinhateiro

[address information]

Kingston, RI 02881

XXX@gmail.com

### **Maine**

Information about how to obtain a State Background Check can be found here::

<https://www5.informe.org/online/pcr/>

Cost (payable by credit card): \$31

If you live in Maine, please send your BCI report to:

Gillian Bell

[address information]

South Portland, ME 04106

XXX@gmail.com

### **Massachusetts:**

If you live in Massachusetts, please send your BCI report to:

Jessica Gillis

[address information]

Arlington, MA 02474

XXX@gmail.com

You will arrange to meet your camper on arrival day at Boston Logan International Airport. Birch Point campers will arrive on Thursday, July 6th and the campers going to Freedom will arrive on Thursday, July 13th. Be sure that you get the flight details ahead of time and that you know the arrival time, terminal, airline, and flight number. It's generally a good idea to check with the airline before you leave for the airport to be sure the flight has not been delayed. If your camper is traveling as an "Unaccompanied Minor" you will need to have provided the family with your ID information prior to the camper's flight and you'll need to show that ID to airline staff when you pick up the camper.

For a few days the camper will be a guest in your home. You do not need to have a separate guest bedroom – if the camper is the same gender as your child they can share a room. If not, setting up a comfortable and quiet place to sleep on the couch is fine! All campers will come with sleeping bags.

While it is expected that you provide all meals for your camper while they are your guest, you don't need to spend a lot of money entertaining them. Simple summertime activities that your kids would be doing anyhow are wonderful. Time at the beach or a park, an ice cream cone from your family's favorite spot - those sorts of simple pleasures are ideal. Campers will have been instructed to arrive with about \$20 pocket money in case you want to go to the movies or something like that. Campers will also arrive with travel money to pay for the bus back to Logan on Departure Day. (Additionally they will bring pocket money for camp, which they will be asked to keep separate from the Host Family Program money.)

You will receive a copy of your camper's Medical Form, so that you have pertinent information in the unlikely event that you need to seek medical care for your camper.

The LPC Board will help connect you with any other host families in your area so that you can get together if you wish.

Departure Day for camp is: Sunday, 9 July for the Birch Point campers and Sunday, 16 July for the Freedom campers. Although you are welcome to, it's not required that you bring your camper back to Logan Airport on departure day. The LPC Board will organize someone to go with the kids on the bus, or will help with setting up carpools.

*Most of all, have fun! The host program is just a few days, but it can be the basis of an international relationship and what may become a lifelong friendship!*

If you have any questions, please contact one of the LPC host family program coordinators.

**Host Program Coordinators and Contact information:**

Rhode Island - June Vinhateiro (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)  
Massachusetts - Jessica Gillis (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)  
Southern Maine - Gillian Bell (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)

**Other contact information in case of an urgent need:**

LPC Freedom, NH camp house: (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)  
LPC Birch Point, ME: (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)  
Freedom Camp Director: (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)  
Birch Point Camp Director: (XXX) XXX-XXXX [XXX@gmail.com](mailto:XXX@gmail.com)

## **APPENDIX E: Pre-Departure Info for Camper Families**

### **LPC US Host Family Program 2017 Pre-Arrival Information**

#### *For Camper Families*

Dear Camper Families,

Now that your child's LPC Host Program experience is drawing near, we want to provide a few reminders and guidelines to help facilitate their host program experience. As we revamp and revive the Host Program, we appreciate (and thank you for!) your willingness to participate, your feedback, and your support.

Attached you will find our Safety Guidelines for visiting campers, as well as some program reminders/tips.

We hope this host program will serve as a meaningful cultural exchange for all parties involved. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for improvement please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

*LPC US Host Family Program Coordinators*

Gillian Bell, Jessica Gillis, and June Vinhateiro

---

#### General Program Reminders/Tips

##### **Host Program Arrival Day:**

Campers will be greeted by the program coordinator and their host family upon their arrival at Boston Logan Airport. We will plan to be at the arrival terminal with a sign that says "LPC" or your child's name. When your child arrives, we will send you an email confirming their arrival and their pick up by their host family. Your child may also call or email you when they arrive at their host family's home. If you have any concern about their arrival, please feel free to reach out to the host program coordinators listed below:

##### Designated Coordinator Per Arrival Day:

- July 6th:
  - Gillian Bell (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXXX@gmail.com

- July 13th:
  - June Vinhateiro (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXXX@gmail.com
  - Jessica Gillis (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXXX@gmail.com

### **Host Program Departure Day/Camp Arrival Day:**

As you know, your child's last day on the Host Family Program is also their first day at camp! We have arranged a unique departure plan for each visiting camper, based upon their host location and their camp director's Camp Arrival Day plans. Your child's departure plan is below. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns:

INSERT Departure Plan (Meeting Point, Means of Transportation, Director Contact Info ) FOR  
CAMPER HERE

### **Some Reminders:**

#### Getting Started:

Although your child will very likely be tired from their travels when they first arrive, it is unlikely that they will experience the full range of emotions that present themselves during what is often called Culture Shock, in such a brief period of time. Nevertheless, we have recommended that their host families take extra care to offer plenty of water, a quiet place to rest, and a means of checking in with your family back at home. Your child may experience some nervousness about their upcoming trip, but this is totally normal. Please assure them that their host families have been carefully vetted and are anxiously awaiting their arrival. They look forward to getting to know them during this time!

#### Cultural Exploration:

It is always exciting to engage with someone new from a different culture. Cultural encyclopedias can be great resources for learning where to start. If you have time, we recommend perusing the resources below with your child, which do a great job of identifying general unifying customs, beliefs, and practices in different countries around the world. These can be great conversation starters, as cultures vary greatly not only in language, but also in concepts of family, time, privacy, money, and the list goes on! Often we aren't fully aware of our own feelings about these topics until we discuss them with someone who perceives them differently. It can be fun to read about your own culture as well, to get an idea of how accurate the resources may or may not be, in your personal experience.

- CultureGrams: <https://online.culturegrams.com/world/index.php>
- Country Insights from Global Affairs Canada: <http://bit.ly/2jeMmrl>
- Hofstede Center: <https://geert-hofstede.com/countries.html>

### Spending Money:

As a reminder, we ask that you give your child \$20 spending money, separate from the money you are sending that is intended to be saved and used at camp. The spending money they bring for the host program can be used to support fun activities like getting ice cream with their host family. Please also include \$40 travel money to cover transportation costs for their trip back to Logan Airport on Departure Day, if necessary. Any unused funds will be sent to camp with your child.

*The host program is just a few days, but it can be the basis of an international relationship and what may become a lifelong friendship!*

### Board Contact:

During the course of your child's stay, a representative of the LPC Board will always be available by phone (or email) to assist you. This may or may not be the host family program coordinator you have worked with prior to your child's arrival. Please see the Emergency Contact Person schedule and details below:

### Session One:

- July 6: Gillian Bell
  - Phone: XXX-XXX-XXXX
  - Email: XXX@gmail.com
- July 7-9 Hannah Tighe
  - Phone: XXX-XXX-XXXX
  - Email: XXX@sage.edu

### Session Two:

- July 13-16: June Vinhateiro
  - Phone: XXX-XXX-XXXX
  - Email: XXX@gmail.com

## APPENDIX F: Pre-Arrival Info for Hosts

### LPC US Host Family Program 2017 Pre-Arrival Information

Dear Host Families,

Now that your LPC Host Program experience is drawing near, we want to provide a few reminders and guidelines to help facilitate your hosting experience. As we revamp and revive the Host Program, we appreciate (and thank you for!) your willingness to participate, your feedback, and your support.

Attached you will find our Safety Guidelines for visiting campers, as well as some program reminders/tips. If you anticipate any challenges in working within these guidelines during your visiting camper's stay, please let us know and we would be happy to find a solution that will work for everyone.

We hope this host program will serve as a meaningful cultural exchange for all parties involved and be very beneficial to the visiting camper and to your family as well. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for improvement please do not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

*LPC US Host Family Program Coordinators*  
Gillian Bell, Jessica Gillis, and June Vinhateiro

---

#### General Program Reminders/Tips

##### **Arrival Day:**

We ask that you arrange to meet your camper on arrival day at Boston Logan International Airport. Not only will this ease the transition for visiting campers, who have traveled a long way, but it will also provide you with an additional opportunity to get to know each other.

- Birch Point campers will arrive on Thursday, July 6th
- Freedom campers will arrive on Thursday, July 13th

Your visiting camper's flight arrival information is below:

INSERT FLIGHT DETAILS FOR CAMPER HERE



It's generally a good idea to check with the airline before you leave for the airport to be sure the flight has not been delayed. If your camper is traveling as an "Unaccompanied Minor" you will need to have provided the family with your ID information prior to the camper's flight and you'll need to show that ID to airline staff when you pick up the camper.

An LPC Board representative will be at Boston Logan Airport on your camper's arrival day to greet them and connect you. Please keep the following information handy in case you are running late or can't find each other:

Designated Coordinator Per Arrival Day:

- July 6th:
  - Gillian Bell (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com
- July 13th:
  - June Vinhateiro (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com
  - Jessica Gillis (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

**Departure Day:**

We have arranged a unique departure plan for each visiting camper, based upon their host location and their camp director's Camp Arrival Day plans. Once they leave your care, they will begin their camp experience, so it's bound to be a day of both excitement and perhaps some nervousness. Your camper's departure plan is below. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns:

INSERT Departure Plan (Meeting Point, Means of Transportation, Director Contact Info ) FOR  
CAMPER HERE

**Some Reminders:**

Getting Started:

Although the visiting campers will very likely be tired from their travels when they first arrive, it is unlikely that they will experience the full range of emotions that present themselves during what is often called Culture Shock, in such a brief period of time. Nevertheless, we recommend that you take extra care to offer plenty of water, a quiet place to rest, and a means of checking in with their parents back at home. Encouraging a normal daily schedule will assist the campers in adjusting to our local time zone. It's possible, however, that they may wake up very early in the

mornings. It's a good idea to make suggestions of quiet things to do in the morning before the rest of the family wakes up, like reading or writing an email to their family back home.

### Cultural Exploration:

It is always exciting to engage with someone new from a different culture. Cultural encyclopedias can be great resources for learning where to start. If you have time, we recommend perusing the resources below which do a great job of identifying general unifying customs, beliefs, and practices in different countries around the world. These can be great conversation starters, as cultures vary greatly not only in language, but also in concepts of family, time, privacy, money, and the list goes on! Often we aren't fully aware of our own feelings about these topics until we discuss them with someone who perceives them differently. As LPC is an international camp, this is a shared interest you can count on among our camper group!

- CultureGrams: <https://online.culturegrams.com/world/index.php>
- Country Insights from Global Affairs Canada: <http://bit.ly/2jeMmrl>
- Hofstede Center: <https://geert-hofstede.com/countries.html>

### What to do?

Your visiting camper is looking forward to experiencing typical American daily life. Of course it can feel tempting to want to bring them to do and see all the best things that New England has to offer, but we recommend sticking to a few key activities, and approaching your day as you typically would on a summer weekend with friends. If possible, it's always a fun experience to provide some time for your visiting camper to interact with other young people his/her own age. Sit back, relax, and enjoy your time together! Time at the beach or a park, an ice cream cone from your family's favorite spot - those sorts of simple pleasures are ideal. If you have any questions at all about activities to do with your visiting campers, please do not hesitate to ask.

### Spending Money:

The visiting campers will each come with \$20 spending money, provided by his/her family for this host experience. They will also have other money that is intended to be saved and used at camp. The spending money they bring for the host program can be used to support the activities mentioned above. Campers will also arrive with travel money to cover transportation costs for their trip back to Logan Airport on Departure Day.

*The host program is just a few days, but it can be the basis of an international relationship and what may become a lifelong friendship!*

### Board Contact:

During the course of your visiting camper's stay, a representative of the LPC Board will always be available by phone (or email) to assist you. This may or may not be the host family program

coordinator you have worked with prior to your visiting camper's arrival. Please see the Emergency Contact Person schedule and details below:

Session One:

July 6: Gillian Bell

- (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

July 7-9 Hannah Tighe

- (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

Session Two:

July 13-16: June Vinhateiro

- (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

## **APPENDIX G: Safety and Emergency Guidelines for Camper Families**

### **Safety and Emergency Guidelines for LPC US Host Family Program Participants 2017**

#### *For Camper Families*

Camper safety is of the utmost importance to the LPC US Host Family Program, administered by the LPC Board. To ensure the health and safety of your child, *we ask that all Host Families review and agree to these guidelines prior to their visiting campers' arrival.* If you have a question or concern about any of the guidelines listed below, please do not hesitate to discuss it with a program coordinator. *Please review these safety guidelines with your child prior to their arrival in the US.*

#### General Health and Safety Guidelines:

LPC camp rules must be followed by visiting campers at all times. These include:

- No drinking (alcohol)
- No cigarettes or drugs
- No sexual activity

We ask that our Host Families take necessary precautions to maintain your child's health and safety at all times.

- Each adult member of the host household must obtain a state background check prior to campers' arrival.
- Visiting LPC campers must be accompanied by a member of a participating host family at all times.
- Seatbelts must be worn by campers in all motor vehicles.
- Life vests must be worn by campers when boating/partaking in other similar seaside activities.
- Swimming may only take place in the presence of a certified lifeguard. If a lifeguard is not present, only wading up to the knees is allowed.
- Helmets must be worn by campers when biking.
- Host Families must ask for explicit parent/guardian permission before allowing their visiting camper to partake in sport activities that do not typically occur at LPC camp, such as horseback riding or rock climbing. These activities must be supervised at all times by a trained professional.
- Host Families must ensure that their home is a safe and secure environment:
  - Upon arrival, host families will inform their visiting camper of any specific precautions that should be taken on their property.
  - Host families will make sure campers are aware of the points of exit throughout their home, in case of fire.

- All medicines, prescription or otherwise, will be kept in a private space, inaccessible by visiting campers at all times.
- All firearms or other weapons will be locked and stored in a private space, inaccessible by visiting campers at all times.

**In case of medical emergency:**

- Prior to camper's stay:
  - Host families will identify the most convenient medical centers in their local area.
  - They will review campers' allergies/other pertinent medical history.
    - If the camper has medication they take on a daily or incremental basis, host families will make note and privately review this with them when they arrive, in case they require assistance/a reminder.
  - Host families will review campers' insurance information and keep a copy of their insurance information and health history with them, in a safe place, at all times. Upon campers' departure host families will destroy this sensitive information.
- If camper becomes ill or injured:
  - Host families will seek medical attention immediately.
  - They will provide the medical provider with a copy of the camper's medical insurance/medical history information.
  - They will contact parents/guardians with information listed on emergency contact sheet.
  - They will also contact LPC Board Emergency Contact Person.

**In case of non-medical emergency:**

- Host families will stay with camper at all times.
- They will alert police/rescue services as necessary.
- They will provide emergency response teams with campers' insurance and emergency contact information.
- They will contact parents/guardians and LPC Board Emergency Contact Person as soon as possible.

**LPC Board Emergency Contact Person**

During the course of your visiting camper's stay, a representative of the LPC Board will always be available by phone (or email) to assist you. This may or may not be the host family program coordinator you have worked with prior to your child's arrival. Please see the Emergency Contact Person schedule and details below:

Session One:

- July 6: Gillian Bell
  - (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com
- July 7-9 Hannah Tighe
  - (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

Session Two:

- July 13-16: June Vinhateiro
  - (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

*Please feel free to ask your local host program coordinator any questions you may have about these guidelines at any time. We thank you for your support and cooperation!*

## **APPENDIX H: Safety and Emergency Guidelines for Hosts**

### **Safety and Emergency Guidelines for LPC US Host Family Program Participants 2017**

Camper safety is of the utmost importance to the LPC US Host Family Program, administered by the LPC Board. To ensure the health and safety of our visiting LPC campers, *we ask that all Host Families review and agree to these guidelines prior to their visiting campers' arrival.* If you have a question or concern about any of the guidelines listed below, please do not hesitate to discuss it with a program coordinator. *Once you feel comfortable, please date and sign your acknowledgement that you have reviewed these terms on the final page.*

#### General Health and Safety Guidelines:

LPC camp rules must be followed by visiting campers at all times. These include:

- No drinking (alcohol)
- No cigarettes or drugs
- No sexual activity

We ask that you take necessary precautions to maintain your visiting campers' health and safety at all times.

- Each adult member of the host household must obtain a state background check prior to campers' arrival.
- Visiting LPC campers must be accompanied by a member of a participating host family at all times.
- Seatbelts must be worn by campers in all motor vehicles.
- Life vests must be worn by campers when boating/partaking in other similar seaside activities.
- Swimming may only take place in the presence of a certified lifeguard. If a lifeguard is not present, only wading up to the knees is allowed.
- Helmets must be worn by campers when biking.
- Please ask for explicit parent/guardian permission before allowing your visiting camper to partake in sport activities that do not typically occur at LPC camp, such as horseback riding or rock climbing. These activities should be supervised at all times by a trained professional.
- Please ensure your home is a safe and secure environment:
  - Upon arrival, inform your visiting camper of any specific precautions that should be taken on your property.
  - Make sure they are aware of the points of exit throughout your home, in case of fire.

- All medicines, prescription or otherwise, should be kept in a private space, inaccessible by visiting campers at all times.
- All firearms or other weapons should be locked and stored in a private space, inaccessible by visiting campers at all times.

**In case of medical emergency:**

- Prior to camper's stay:
  - Identify the most convenient medical centers in your area.
  - Review campers' allergies/other pertinent medical history.
    - If the camper has medication they take on a daily or incremental basis, please make note and privately review this with them when they arrive, in case they require assistance/a reminder.
  - Review campers' insurance information and keep a copy of their insurance information and health history with you, in a safe place, at all times. Upon their departure please destroy this sensitive information.
- If camper becomes ill or injured:
  - Seek medical attention immediately.
  - Provide the medical provider with a copy of the camper's medical insurance/medical history information.
  - Contact parents/guardians with information listed on emergency contact sheet.
  - Contact LPC Board Emergency Contact Person.

**In case of non-medical emergency:**

- Stay with camper at all times.
- Alert police/rescue services as necessary.
- Provide emergency response teams with campers' insurance and emergency contact information.
- Contact parents/guardians and LPC Board Emergency Contact Person as soon as possible.

**LPC Board Emergency Contact Person**

During the course of your visiting camper's stay, a representative of the LPC Board will always be available by phone (or email) to assist you. This may or may not be the host family program coordinator you have worked with prior to your visiting camper's arrival. Please see the Emergency Contact Person schedule and details below:

Session One:

- July 6: Gillian Bell



- (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com
- July 7-9 Hannah Tighe
  - (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

Session Two:

- July 13-16: June Vinhateiro
  - (XXX) XXX-XXXX XXXX@gmail.com

*Please feel free to ask your local host program coordinator any questions you may have. When you are comfortable with the terms above, please sign below:*

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understood the safety guidelines, above, put forward by the LPC US Host Program, and agree to take every effort possible to ensure my visiting campers' health and safety while they are in my care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(host parent signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(host parent signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

## APPENDIX I: Health and Safety Camper Forms

# LUETHI-PETERSON CAMPS INTERNATIONAL

## Camper forms

This document includes the following forms:

- Travel information form
- Emergency contact form
- Medical information form
- Personal health insurance form

### Instructions for parent or guardian:

1. Completely fill out all forms.
2. Send the completed forms to the director by email as soon as possible, but no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Additionally, you must print the Health insurance form (final page of this document), sign it, and return the completed form with your *original signature* to the director by mail before June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

Campers should arrive at \_\_\_\_\_, no later than  
\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and leave from at \_\_\_\_\_, after  
\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

Camper's name: \_\_\_\_\_

### ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

Traveling from:

\_\_\_\_\_

Via:

\_\_\_\_\_

Flight no:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of airport:

\_\_\_\_\_

Arrival time:

\_\_\_\_\_

Traveling alone or with:

\_\_\_\_\_

Traveling as Unaccompanied Minor (UM):

\_\_\_\_\_

Brought to the camp house by parents:

\_\_\_\_\_

Special remarks:

\_\_\_\_\_

# LUETHI-PETERSON CAMPS INTERNATIONAL

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

*To be completed by the parent(s) or guardian of the camper.*

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Camper's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Mobile Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent address during camp if different from above:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Mobile Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

From: (date) \_\_\_\_\_ To: (date) \_\_\_\_\_

### **If not available in emergency, please contact:**

Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Mobile Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to camper \_\_\_\_\_

# LUETHI-PETERSON CAMPS INTERNATIONAL

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

To be completed by the parent(s) or guardian of the camper and sent to Camp director(s) by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### HEALTH HISTORY

Parents: Please complete this sheet, giving approximate dates where applicable and attaching detailed notes as necessary. Accurate information will make it possible for us to be prepared and provide the best experience for your child.

Camper's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

### Allergies

Penicillin Allergy \_\_\_\_\_ Other medication allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Bee stings \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

### Has your child ever had or does your child presently have any of the following health concerns?

Frequent ear infections \_\_\_\_\_ Asthma \_\_\_\_\_

Heart defect/disease \_\_\_\_\_ Eczema \_\_\_\_\_

Diabetes \_\_\_\_\_ Convulsions/Epilepsy \_\_\_\_\_

Bleeding Disorders \_\_\_\_\_ Eating disorders \_\_\_\_\_

Asperger's Syndrome \_\_\_\_\_ Depression \_\_\_\_\_

Bed wetting \_\_\_\_\_ Sleep walking \_\_\_\_\_

Measles, Mumps, Chicken Pox \_\_\_\_\_ Frequent colds \_\_\_\_\_

Frequent Headaches \_\_\_\_\_ Sinus infections \_\_\_\_\_

Constipation \_\_\_\_\_ Head lice \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete's Foot \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child take medication regularly? Yes  No

If yes, please list medication and dosage. We will collect and dispense any medication that the child will bring to camp.

---

---

Is your child bringing any other medication and/or supplements (including non-prescription, vitamins, dietary supplements, homeopathic etc.) to camp? Yes  No

If yes, please list the medication/supplements with dosage. Clearly state what it is for and when it can be given to your child:

---

---

When possible, please bring the medication/supplements in original packaging to camp.

If possible/necessary, please provide an English translation of your child's medication and dosage:

---

---

# LUETHI-PETERSON CAMPS INTERNATIONAL

Does your child have an asthma inhaler? Yes  No

If yes, how is it prescribed?

---

---

Does your child have an EPIPEN (epinephrine injector)? Yes  No  If yes, how is it prescribed?

---

---

Other illness (please attach separate details if necessary)

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Operations and injuries (dates and details)

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Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# PERSONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

CAMPER Family name and first name: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN Family name and first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## HEALTH INSURANCE

Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACCIDENT INSURANCE (if different from the health insurance, as in some countries):

Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizens of the EU or Switzerland should bring their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to camp.

I hereby confirm that \_\_\_\_\_ is covered by the above-mentioned Insurance Company/-ies for sickness and/or accident. The insurance is guaranteed to cover the camper completely for the duration of camp from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (country in which the camp is to be held).

Parents are responsible for all health care costs of their children. I acknowledge that the responsibility for informing the insurance company lies with the parents.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (Parent/Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_

**(LPC will store all insurance forms for a period of 5 years, and longer if there is an incident)**

**DECLARATION (Must be signed for attendance at camp):** I understand that it is my responsibility to insure my child fully for accident and illness, including repatriation in the event of a serious injury etc. I hereby give permission to the doctor selected by the camp director to order X-rays, routine tests and treatment for the health of my child. In the event that I cannot be reached in an emergency I hereby give permission to the doctor to hospitalise, secure proper treatment for and to order injection and/or anaesthesia and/or surgery for my child as named above. I also confirm that the health history which will follow is correct to the best of my knowledge and that my child has permission to participate fully in all camp activities except as noted by me or by the medical practitioner.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (Parent/Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX J: Budget Sheet

<b>LPC US Host Family Program Budget, FY 2018</b>			
<i>Operated by LPC, Inc.</i>			
Based upon estimate of: 3 program coordinators, 12 hosts, 12 campers			
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Price/Unit</b>	<b>Unit #</b>	<b>Total</b>
Campers incidentals contribution (max price)	\$20	12	\$240
Camper travel expense contributions (max price)	\$40	12	\$480
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$720</b>
<b>Total In-kind (coordinators/hosts)</b>			<b>\$28,530</b>
<b>Total Program Revenue</b>			<b>\$29,250</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Price/Unit</b>	<b>Unit #</b>	<b>Total</b>
Camper incidentals (max price)	\$20	12	\$240
Camper travel expenses (max price)	\$40	12	\$480
Marketing materials (inclusion in existing newsletter and digital media)	\$0	0	\$0
Background checks for coordinators (average cost per state)	\$15	3	\$45
Airport Parking for coordinators (max price)	\$35	3	\$105
LPC tshirts for coordinators	\$22	3	\$66
Recognition gifts for hosts (thank you cards, postage, LPC totes)	\$16	12	\$192
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$1,128</b>
<b><i>In-kind</i></b>			
Coordinator salaries (\$22/hr equivalent, 10 hrs per week over 40 weeks)	\$8,800	3	\$26,400
Coordinator office equipment (10% cost of personal computer/phone/internet)	\$400	3	\$1,200
Host airport parking (max price)	\$35	12	\$420
Host background checks (average cost per state)	\$15	12	\$180
Travel to airport for coordinators (max price)	\$30	3	\$90
Travel to airport for hosts (max price)	\$20	12	\$240
<b>Total In-kind</b>			<b>\$28,530</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$29,658</b>
<b>Program cost of operation, FY 2018</b>			<b>\$408</b>



## **APPENDIX K: Informed Consent Forms**

### **Adult Informed Consent Form Example (1/3)**

Title of Study: **LPC US Host Family Program Evaluation**

Researcher: Gillian Bell (US Host Family Program Coordinator)

My name is Gillian Bell, I am one of three Coordinators of the LPC US Host Family Program, and I am a student at SIT Graduate Institute, completing a Master's degree in International Education.

I would like to invite you to participate in a program evaluation I am conducting for partial fulfillment of my MA in International. Your participation is voluntary. Please read the information below, and ask questions about anything you do not understand, before deciding whether or not you would like to participate. If you decide to participate, you will be asked to sign this form and you will be given a copy as well.

#### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program so that we can continue to grow and improve the program in the future.

#### **STUDY PROCEDURES**

Participation in this study will require 15-30 minutes of your time, during which you will be asked to answer a 12-question survey using Google Forms.

#### **POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS**

There are no foreseeable risks to participating in this study and no penalties should you choose not to participate; participation is voluntary. During the survey, you may choose not to answer any questions you do not wish to, and you may discontinue participation at any time.

#### **POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS AND/OR TO SOCIETY**

There is no compensation or benefit for participating, but we greatly appreciate your honest answers and thoughts about the program. Your answers will help us improve the program for future participants.

#### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

The results of this research will be presented as part of a capstone project requirement and archived in the SIT library's digital collections. The study is completely anonymous. Your responses will be identified in the research records by a code or number only. The researcher retains the right to use and publish non-identifiable data. When the results of this research are published or discussed in conferences, no information will be included that would reveal your or your child's identity. All data will be stored in a secure location accessible only to the researcher. Upon completion of the study, all information that matches up individual respondents with their answers will be destroyed.

There is one exception to confidentiality we need to make you aware of. In certain research studies, it is our ethical responsibility to report situations of child abuse, child neglect, or any life-threatening situation to appropriate authorities. However, we are not seeking this type of information in our study nor will you be asked questions about these issues.

## PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Your participation is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may withdraw your consent at any time and discontinue participation without penalty. You are not waiving any legal claims, rights or remedies because of your participation in this research study.

**I have read the above, I understand its contents, and I agree to participate in the study. I acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older.**

**Participant's signature**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Researcher's signature Date**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions or want to get more information about this study, please contact me at Gillian.bell@mail.sit.edu or my advisor at David.Shallenberger@sit.edu.

## RIGHTS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANT – IRB CONTACT INFORMATION

In an endeavor to uphold the ethical standards of all SIT proposals, this study has been reviewed and approved by an SIT Study Abroad Local Review Board or SIT Institutional Review Board. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints about your rights as a research participant or the research in general and are unable to contact the researcher please contact the Institutional Review Board at:

School for International Training Institutional Review Board  
1 Kipling Road, PO Box 676 Brattleboro, VT 05302-0676 USA irb@sit.edu  
802-258-3132

## **Parent/Guardian Informed Consent Form Example (2/3)**

**Title of Study: LPC US Host Family Program Evaluation**

**Researcher: Gillian Bell (US Host Family Program Coordinator)**

My name is Gillian Bell, I am one of three Coordinators of the LPC US Host Family Program, and I am a student at SIT Graduate Institute, completing a Master's degree in International Education.

I would like to invite your child **{Insert Name}** to participate in a program evaluation I am conducting for partial fulfillment of my MA in International Education. Your child's participation is voluntary. Please read the information below, and ask questions about anything you do not understand, before deciding whether or not you would like your child to participate. If you decide for your child to participate, you will be asked to sign this form and you will be given a copy as well.

### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the 2017 LPC US Host Family Program so that we can continue to grow and improve the program in the future.

### **STUDY PROCEDURES**

Participation in this study will require 20-30 minutes of your child's time, during which your child will be asked to answer an 18-question survey using Google Forms.

### **POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS**

There are no foreseeable risks to participating in this study and no penalties should you choose not to participate; participation is voluntary. During the survey, your child may choose not to answer any questions they do not wish to, and they may discontinue participation at any time.

### **POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS AND/OR TO SOCIETY**

There is no compensation or benefit for participating, but we greatly appreciate your honest answers and thoughts about the program. Your answers will help us improve the program for future participants.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

The results of this research will be presented as part of a capstone project requirement and archived in the SIT library's digital collections. The study is completely anonymous. Your child's responses will be identified in the research records by a code or number only. The researcher retains the right to use and publish non-identifiable data. When the results of this research are published or discussed in conferences, no information will be included that would reveal your or your child's identity. All data will be stored in a secure location accessible only to the researcher. Upon completion of the study, all information that matches up individual respondents with their answers will be destroyed.

There is one exception to confidentiality we need to make you aware of. In certain research studies, it is our ethical responsibility to report situations of child abuse, child neglect, or any life-threatening situation to appropriate authorities. However, we are not seeking this type of information in our study nor will you be asked questions about these issues.

## PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Your child's participation is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may withdraw your consent at any time and discontinue participation without penalty. You are not waiving any legal claims, rights or remedies because of your participation in this research study.

**I have read the above, I understand its contents, and I agree to allow my child \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the study. I acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older.**

**Parent/Guardian's signature**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Researcher's signature Date**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions or want to get more information about this study, please contact me at Gillian.bell@mail.sit.edu or my advisor at David.Shallenberger@sit.edu.

## RIGHTS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANT – IRB CONTACT INFORMATION

In an endeavor to uphold the ethical standards of all SIT proposals, this study has been reviewed and approved by an SIT Study Abroad Local Review Board or SIT Institutional Review Board. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints about your rights as a research participant or the research in general and are unable to contact the researcher please contact the Institutional Review Board at:

School for International Training Institutional Review Board  
1 Kipling Road, PO Box 676 Brattleboro, VT 05302-0676 USA irb@sit.edu  
802-258-3132

### Minor Informed Consent Form Example (3/3)

#### Project Title: LPC US Host Family Program Evaluation

Investigator: Gillian Bell (US Host Family Program Coordinator)

We are doing a research study about the **LPC US Host Family Program**. A research study is a way to learn more about people. If you decide that you want to be part of this study, you will be asked to fill out a brief questionnaire about your experiences as a program participant.

There are some things about this study you should know. If you prefer to take the questionnaire in your own language, we can provide you with a translated copy. You may complete your questionnaire responses in your own language, as well. All of your answers will be anonymous, meaning we will not record your name or personal information with your questionnaire responses.

There is no compensation or benefit for participating, but we greatly appreciate your honest answers and thoughts about the program. Your answers will help us improve the program for future participants.

When we are finished with this study we will write a report about what was learned. This report will not include your name or that you were in the study.

You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to be. If you decide to stop after we begin, that's okay too. Your parents know about the study too, and have agreed to let you share your responses. If you decide you want to be in this study, please sign your name.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, want to be in this research study.

\_\_\_\_\_

(Sign your name here)

\_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

If you have any questions or want to get more information about this study, please contact me at Gillian.bell@mail.sit.edu or my advisor at David.Shallenberger@sit.edu.

## APPENDIX L: Evaluation Research Questions by Participant Group

### Campers (with parent permission)

- About you:
  - Experience with LPC
    - (New LPC camper/Experienced LPC camper)
  - Experience with host programs (check all that apply)
    - I have never been hosted before
    - I have been hosted before this summer
    - My family has hosted international students/campers before
  - Host session attended
    - (1st session July 6-9, 2nd session July 13-16)
  - Initial reasons for participation or expectations (open ended)
- About the hosts:
  - My hosts were friendly and caring (scale 1-5)
  - My hosts were genuinely interested in me and my culture (scale 1-5)
  - I would like to stay in touch with my host family in the future (scale 1-5)
  - I would recommend my host family to other campers in the future (scale 1-5)
- About host experience:
  - My initial expectations (listed above) were met (scale 1-5)
  - The host program complemented or added value to my LPC experience (scale 1-5)
  - Positive parts of the experience included: (check all that apply, other. Option to write in comments)
    - Communication with organizers before program
    - Communication with hosts before program
    - Travel from Boston to host family/to camp
    - People in host family
    - Host community/neighborhood
    - Bed/sleeping space
    - Food/meals
    - Sight-seeing / tourist activities
    - Family / community activities
    - Cross-cultural experience
    - Speaking English
    - Sharing my own language
    - Adjusting to time difference
    - Meeting other people my age
    - Time to sleep/rest
    - Safety while on program
    - Other
  - Negative parts of the experience (check all that apply, other. Option to write in comments)
    - Communication with organizers before program
    - Communication with hosts before program

- Travel from Boston to host family/to camp
  - People in host family
  - Host community/neighborhood
  - Bed/sleeping space
  - Food/meals
  - Sight-seeing / tourist activities
  - Family / community activities
  - Cross-cultural experience
  - Speaking English
  - Sharing my own language
  - Adjusting to time difference
  - Meeting other people my age
  - Time to sleep/rest
  - Safety while on program
  - Other
- The host program added to my understanding of US culture (scale 1-5)
  - The host program added to my understanding of my own culture (scale 1-5)
  - I would recommend the host program to a friend (scale 1-5)
  - I would participate in a US LPC host program again (scale 1-5)
  - I would like my own family to host an LPC camper in the future
  - Suggestions to organizers (open ended)

### **Camper Parents**

- About your family/child:
  - Experience with LPC
    - (My child is a...New LPC camper/Experienced LPC camper)
  - Experience with host programs (Check all that apply)
    - I have been hosted before
    - My child has been hosted before
    - Our family has hosted an international student/camper in our home
  - Host session my child attended
    - (1st session July 6-9, 2nd session July 13-16)
  - Initial reasons for participation or expectations (open ended)
- Please share your own experience. If a question addresses your child's experience, please share what you know about their experience from your conversations with your child:
  - My initial expectations (listed above) were met (scale 1-5)
  - The host program complemented or added value to my child's LPC experience (scale 1-5)
  - Positive parts of the experience included: (check all that apply, other. Option to write in comments)
    - Communication with organizers before program
    - Communication with hosts before program
    - My child's travel from Boston to host family/to camp
    - People in the host family

- Host community/neighborhood
  - My child's bed/sleeping space
  - Food/meals
  - Sight-seeing / tourist activities
  - Family / community activities
  - Cross-cultural experience
  - Speaking English
  - Sharing his/her own language
  - Adjusting to time difference
  - Meeting other people his/her age
  - Time to sleep/rest
  - My child's safety while on program
  - Financial commitment (not including camp fees)
  - Program materials presented in English
  - Effort taken to allow my child access to the program (medical/disability accommodation)
  - Other
- Negative parts of the experience (check all that apply, other. Option to write in comments)
    - Communication with organizers before program
    - Communication with hosts before program
    - My child's travel from Boston to host family/to camp
    - People in the host family
    - Host community/neighborhood
    - My child's bed/sleeping space
    - Food/meals
    - Sight-seeing / tourist activities
    - Family / community activities
    - Cross-cultural experience
    - Speaking English
    - Sharing his/her own language
    - Adjusting to time difference
    - Meeting other people his/her age
    - Time to sleep/rest
    - My child's safety while on program
    - Financial commitment (not including camp fees)
    - Program materials presented in English
    - Effort taken to allow my child access to the program (medical/disability accommodation)
    - Other
- The host program added to my/my child's understanding of US culture (scale 1-5)
  - The host program added to my/my child's understanding of our own culture (scale 1-5)
  - I would recommend the program to a friend (scale 1-5)



- I would encourage my child to participate in a US LPC host program again (scale 1-5)
- I would like to host an LPC camper in the future (scale 1-5)
- In a perfect world, I wish the host program...: (check all that apply)
  - Was longer
  - Was shorter
  - Happened on different dates (when?)
  - Started on a different day of the week (when?)
  - Ended on a different day of the week (when?)
  - Involved less travel
  - Involved more training/orientation
  - Involved less training/orientation
  - Involved more interaction with host family
  - Involved more interaction with program coordinators
  - Involved more interaction with other host families
  - Involved more interaction with camp
  - Included more diversity among host families/communities
  - Provided program information in my own language
- Other general suggestions to organizers (open ended)

### **Host Families**

- About your family:
  - How did you learn about LPC? (open ended)
  - Experience with LPC (check all that apply):
    - I have attended one or more LPC camps (camper, counselor, or director)
    - My child/children has/have attended one or more LPC camps (camper, counselor, or director)
    - Other friends/relatives have attended one or more LPC camps (camper, counselor, or director)
    - I am a parent/guardian of a prospective LPC camper
    - I am on the LPC Board (US-based LPC support group)
    - I have friends on the LPC Board (US-based LPC support group)
    - I have no prior experience with LPC
    - I attended or have family/friends who attended LPC's sister organization, the Ecole d'Humanité, in Switzerland.
    - Other
  - Experience with host programs (Check all that apply)
    - I have been hosted abroad
    - This was my first time hosting an international camper/student in my home
    - I have hosted an international camper/student in my home before
    - My child/children has/have been hosted abroad before
  - Host session (1st session July 6-9, 2nd session July 13-16)
  - Initial reasons for participation or expectations (open ended)
- About experience:
  - My initial expectations (listed above) were met (scale 1-5)

- Positive parts of the experience included: (check all that apply, other. Option to write in comments)
  - Communication with organizers before program
  - Communication with camper and his/her family before program
  - Travel from Boston to host family/to meeting point with camp staff
  - Interactions with camper throughout program
  - Sight-seeing / tourist activities
  - Family / community activities
  - Cross-cultural experience
  - Speaking English with camper
  - Sharing a second language with camper
  - Exposure to LPC, camp culture, camp history, etc.
  - Financial commitment
  - Other
- Negative parts of the experience (check all that apply, other. Option to write in comments)
  - Communication with organizers before program
  - Communication with camper and his/her family before program
  - Travel from Boston to host family/to meeting point with camp staff
  - Interactions with camper throughout program
  - Sight-seeing / tourist activities
  - Family / community activities
  - Cross-cultural experience
  - Speaking English with camper
  - Sharing a second language with camper
  - Exposure to LPC, camp culture, camp history, etc.
  - Financial commitment
  - Other
- My communications with organizers prepared me for my participation as a host (scale 1-5)
- The host program added to my understanding of LPC (scale 1-5)
- The host program added to my understanding of my visiting camper's home culture (scale 1-5)
- The host program added to my understanding of my own culture (scale 1-5)
- Throughout the program, I felt confident I knew what to do if an accident/emergency were to occur that involved my visiting camper during their visit (scale 1-5)
- I would recommend the LPC Host Family Program to a friend (scale 1-5)
- I would recommend LPC camps to a friend (scale 1-5)
- I would like to host an LPC camper in the future (scale 1-5)
- In a perfect world, I wish the host program...: (check all that apply)
  - Was longer
  - Was shorter
  - Happened on different dates (when?)
  - Started on a different day of the week (when?)

- Ended on a different day of the week (when?)
  - Involved less travel
  - Involved more training/orientation
  - Involved less training/orientation
  - Involved more interaction with camper family
  - Involved more interaction with program coordinators
  - Involved more interaction with other host families
  - Involved more interaction with camp
  - Offered other opportunities to contribute without hosting
  - Included more diversity among host families/communities
- Other general suggestions to organizers (open ended)