



People UNITED in countries divided



CREATING FRIENDSHIPS FOR PEACE

Host Family Handbook


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info@friendships4peace.org
www.friendships4peace.org





“Today, take a look around and realize that you are all part of something much bigger – bound together by a shared commitment to our common humanity.”

- Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, 2012 CFP Graduation

About Creating Friendships for Peace (CFP)

Creating Friendships for Peace, Inc. is a volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in the United States. It began in 1981 as the Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland (CFPNI) and was active until 2007. CFPNI sponsored teens from more than 2,000 Northern Ireland families. When the project ended, volunteers from the program reorganized to host student programs in Cyprus and Middle East communities.

Its mission is to promote and strengthen friendships between teens from divided communities. Volunteers work with teens and their families to dispel stereotypes and rediscover their shared humanity. The program helps prepare communities for peace by encouraging mutual respect and trust.

CFP's approach provides teens from divided communities with a perspective on what living in a peaceful environment can look like. American families host two teens—one from each side of a conflict—in a safe, neutral environment where they can learn about each other through dialogue and shared experiences.

The teens' stay in the U.S. is the residential portion of the CFP program. During their stay, the teens also participate in skill building activities to build friendships and the next generation of leaders.



CFP Timeline Snapshot

Creating Friendships for Peace represents a grassroots volunteer people-to-people movement that began officially in 1981 as the Children's Committee Ten, Inc. Originally, intended to provide respite vacations for children from Northern Ireland during the "Troubles," it has developed into a peacebuilding organization of committed professionals with an established curriculum and program in the United States and in the divided communities in which we operate.

While details have changed since 1981, the CFP program has stayed true to its roots as it has evolved into a monthlong U.S. Residency program managed by the U.S. Team in combination with a robust teen program in the divided communities managed by those communities themselves. CFP begins with friendship to create an experience of tolerance, leadership development and discovery of self and community responsibility. The friendships have proven to be long-lasting in Northern Ireland and Cyprus and to extend from teens to their families. Working at the grass roots level through one-on-one relationships, CFP provides a neutral and safe environment that allows for mutual respect and understanding – key ingredients for peace.

2018 - Present

Creating Friendships for Peace, Inc.

2009 - 2018

Cyprus Friendship Program, Inc.

1987 - 2007

Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland, Inc.

1981 - 1987

Children's Committee Ten, Inc.

Preparing for Hosting

Before teens leave their home countries

Both families should connect and get to know each other by email, phone, text, social apps, and video conferencing. This interaction helps comfort the parents and provides an opportunity for the teens to ask questions.

Some teens have never traveled far from home, so this journey is a tremendous experience for them and their families. Also, it is a big step for parents to entrust their children with you. Participating in CFP can be an act of courage and trust for the teen's family. They may be taking a risk in their communities by participating, as extreme factions do not support peace-building programs.

Also, they may have the perception that the U.S. is a violent environment. You'll need to assure them that we take every precaution to provide for the safety and wellbeing of every teen in our program.

Next steps

- Contact your teen within ten days of receiving their contact information.
- It's important to connect with the parents and to contact them regularly to build trust.
- Contact your area coordinator if you have difficulty reaching your teen's family before their arrival. Dial 011 and the number on the number on the teen's application.
- While many teens speak English, be sensitive that their parents may not be comfortable speaking English.
- The teen's parents may have concerns about the safety of their children in the U.S. Assure them their children will be well supervised and in a supportive, neutral home.



If you have any questions or issues...

This experience may be as much of a cultural shock to you as it is to your teens. Area coordinators are available to help you through every step. If any problem arises, don't hesitate to contact your area coordinator.

Your hosting experience should be more than a summer holiday for the teens. During your time with them, encourage the teens to work together and think about activities they may pursue after graduation through the CFP alumni program. Help them realize that they can help change the attitude of their generation for future generations.

The Teens' Arrival

Consider the teens part of your family!

Typically, in early June CFP will send flight information for your teen's arrival. Be prepared to meet them when they arrive. Your area coordinator may be at the airport. If not, contact them as soon as the teen is in your custody. The area coordinator will inform the CFP executive director, who will communicate the information with the coordinators in the teens' home country.

The teens will be wearing a CFP t-shirt when they arrive. These shirts should be worn on their flights and at public events and should not be modified as they help with identification. Have your teens contact their parents immediately by phone, text, email, or WhatsApp (a free app which can be used for calling and texting) to let them know they have arrived safely.

Part of the success in building friendships is to immerse the teens in all aspects of American culture. This includes family activities, as well as chores. The area coordinator will discuss this with the teens during their welcome gathering the first week they are here.

You are the teens' guardian while they are visiting. Treat them as family—not tourists, as you would want your children treated in another country. Your residence is registered with the American embassy as their temporary address.

Documents

- The host family and area coordinator must keep originals and copies of the teen's passports, airline tickets, medical insurance forms, and parental permission forms for safekeeping.
- We require teens carry a copy of CFP-provided medical insurance information at all times in case of a medical emergency.
- We advise carrying copies of passports to ensure the originals are not lost.

House Rules

- When the teen arrives have a family meeting to discuss house rules and expectations.
- Review TV time, curfews, internet/computer usage, meals, and chores such as making the bed and laundry.
- Encourage open discussions. The teens should be treated equally in every aspect, and their views respected.

Homesickness

- They may experience homesickness the first week. Having contact prior to their arrival will help to prepare them.
- Plan light activities for the first 24 hours after arrival as the teen adjusts.
- Often, because of excitement, they may not have slept well before their trip, and they may have jet lag.

The teens will likely have strong opinions about what divides them. It is up to them to discuss it. Respect their exploration of what they have in common with their partner teen. All complicated and sensitive issues deserve respect, neutrality, empathy, and care.

Recommendations for Host Families

Make this a great experience for everyone.

What may seem like common sense to you may not be for your teens. Take time to explain where everything is in your home and how to use it—such as making the bed, laundry, and what can and can't go in the toilet. Take the teens with you when shopping and doing errands and other household activities. They may enjoy the contrast and similarities in grocery stores, malls, and other aspects of daily life.

Room arrangements

CFP requires that the teens share a room while staying with you. Ideally, they should have their own bed. Girls may be comfortable sharing a queen bed if necessary. This is where they talk and become friends.

Language & politics

Topics that seem innocent in the U.S. may not be neutral in the teens' home countries. They have been alerted to expect this and to disregard it as unintended. However, the more we educate ourselves on such language the better.

Also understand that divided communities have different views of history that have been passed down for generations and through their school systems. Through their program participation, the teens are encouraged to be open to learning other narratives.

Food

Like U.S. teens, your teens will have their likes and dislikes. They may be familiar with some American fast-food but exposing them to a variety of foods can enrich their experience.

Some teens may have dietary restrictions which will need to be considered for meal planning. Food concerns and requirements should be discussed at your first family meeting. Teen dietary needs and/or allergies to food or medication are communicated to host families in advance.

Dating

CFP does not permit teens to date. Your pair of teens should attend activities together and only group activities with adult supervision.

Environment

Mosquitoes, ticks and poison ivy may not be common in your teens' home countries. Ensure they have proper clothing and protection. Teach them what is necessary for prevention. Monitor and seek medical attention if necessary.

They may not have seen fireflies and other forms of wildlife native to your area, which they will enjoy discovering. They also may not have experience with thunderstorms and severe weather that we have in parts of the U.S. Provide information and insight when caution is in order. Read CFP's description of the environment in your area and discuss it with the teens and their families so they can pack appropriately.

Driving

Even if the teens have a driver's license, they are not allowed to drive in the U.S. during their stay, and they should not ride with drivers under 18 years of age unless an adult is present. They are also not allowed to drive or ride on the backs of motorcycles or other motorized, open vehicles such as ATVs, UTVs, or golf carts. Insist they use seatbelts.

Firearms

Teens should not come in contact with any type of firearm during their visit. If you have firearms, keep them unloaded and locked securely during your teens' stay or stored off site if possible.

Recommendations for Host Families



Child protection

Hosts should be careful to avoid situations and actions that would leave them open to accusations of inappropriate behavior or abuse. Similarly, hosts should ensure that CFP teens are not engaged in settings where they may be vulnerable to bad behavior by others, including U.S. teens. CFP's child protection and safety policy and procedures are attached to this handbook.

Religion

The teens may or may not practice their faith. A question on the parents' portion of the application asks if there is any objection to their child attending religious services of other religions. Most parents don't object. If they do, your area coordinator will inform you. Host families should respectfully honor this request.

Under no circumstances, should there be any effort to change or challenge the religious beliefs of either of the teens.

Health & emergencies

The teens have their own health insurance through CFP. Hosts should review their medical forms. Insurance instructions are provided in a separate document.

For any emergency, contact your area coordinator immediately. If you are unable to reach them, contact the CFP executive director. In the event of an illness, get medical care for the teen. If you need a form, or have questions about insurance, contact the CFP executive director and send a copy of the bill for reimbursement. CFP covers the deductible.

Travel

In case of an emergency, let your area coordinator know if you will be traveling with the teen for more than 24 hours, where you will be, and how you can be contacted. Don't allow the teens to stay overnight with someone else, unless that stay is specifically cleared with your area coordinator.

The teens are required to fully engage in their CFP program. Our summer residential schedule is fully immersive and activities outside the program guidelines will not be considered.

Focus on the experience and take a break from social!

Phone & zoom

Your area coordinator will provide you with a copy of CFP's cell phone policy. We encourage host families to send emails to the parents of the teens. They will appreciate the updates. Except for emergencies, approved calls include:

- Call to the teen's family on arrival

- One daily family call of no more than 30 minutes

- International calls should not be made or received from non-family members (except for emergencies)

Internet & social apps

Internet use is only allowed under your supervision and on topics you might discuss together. **CFP does not allow internet use involving any social media for teens during their stay in your home.** Teens may not post comments, photos, or status on Facebook, Snapchat, WhatsApp, Instagram, or other social media platforms. To provide a more life-changing experience, we ask for host family's full cooperation in enforcing this policy.

The relationship between each pair of teens is the primary focus of their stay. Social apps, emails, and text messaging with friends back home or other teens in the program can distract them.

Media contact

CFP encourages contact with the press and media. Your area coordinator can help coordinate with media. A question on the teen parents' portion of the application asks if they consent to interviews for their child. If they object, contact your area coordinator.

Movies & video

Hosts should exercise discretion about movies and/or videos the teens are allowed to view. Please consider the movie's rating as you would for your own children and be aware of the content before allowing teens to view it. Politically, racially and religiously sensitive films should be avoided. Keep the use of television, downloaded movies and videos in proper proportion to more active, relationship building or educational activities.

Money & spending

Supervise purchases as they adjust to a different currency. The teens likely worked hard to earn and save their spending money, and they may have received money from relatives for the trip. CFP instructs them to bring no more than \$500 USD to purchase souvenirs and gifts. Electronic payment sources, e.g., gift cards, credit cards, Apple/Google pay, are not allowed.

Host families are expected to cover their teens' living expenses and the cost of activities you coordinate. If the teens ask to attend an activity that you normally wouldn't attend, they should cover their expenses while you cover yours. It's ok to decline such a request, especially if it is an imposition on you. If this becomes an issue, contact your area coordinator.

Host families should not solicit or accept cash gifts or donations to support host families or their teens.

Optional social group activities will be organized by the CFP area coordinator which may involve costs such as transportation, tickets, food, etc. If your teens choose to participate, they can pay the costs.

The teens are here on a peace mission—not a vacation—and should not make their host families uncomfortable by asking for extra trips or experiences. Your area coordinator will set expectations with the teens at the welcome gathering.

If you buy something for one teen do the same for the other so there will be no inequities or misunderstanding.

Activity Suggestions

- Have the teens jointly prepare a presentation about their home country and CFP to present at civic groups and places of worship for potential CFP hosts
- Have them prepare a meal
- Perform music or dance from their home countries
- Visit local museums, parks, zoo, concerts and athletic events, and other cultural and historical places of interest
- Picnics, hiking & camping
- Host CFP teens in your area for a movie or game night in your home

Caution

The teens are not to go off alone, ride any mass transit alone, or have a sleepover at another host family home without the permission of the area coordinator. They are not American streetwise, and they will not have cell phones to call if they get lost.

- The teens are not allowed to drink any type of alcohol—even if they say they do so at home.
- They are not allowed to smoke cigarettes, cigars, vaping products, or marijuana—even if your state permits.
- Also, they are not allowed to buy cigarettes, cigars, vaping products, marijuana, or liquor to take home.

Building friendship, leadership, peace



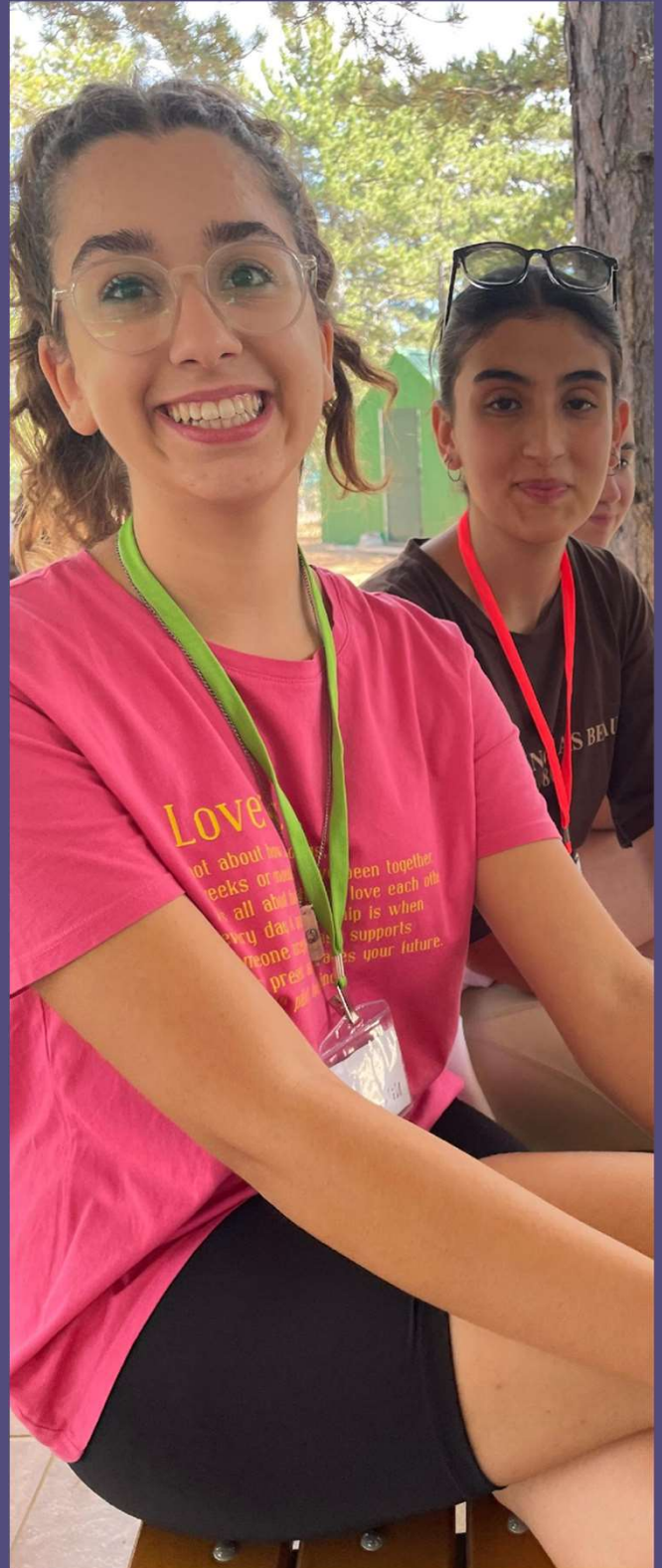
Bridging the Cultural Gap

You are making an important contribution to building peace, friendship and understanding.

Many CFP alumni have continued to be involved in peace efforts through their schools and universities, careers, and volunteering. The families often continue their relationships with the teens and their families.

Part of the CFP peacebuilding mission is to encourage teens to immerse themselves in the American culture. By contrasting American life to their home life, the teens will experience many similarities and differences.

- In some cultures, for example, children are not expected to participate in chores. When you communicate the rules of the house, explain the reasons underlying why American children have chores—they help us take responsibility in the family.
- The U.S. also has a greater commitment to volunteering than other countries. Discuss with them this important aspect of our culture and remind them there will be an area group activity to benefit the local community. Also explain the importance in the U.S. of supporting diversity of race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual preferences, economic, and other differences and how our laws offer equal protection.
- Also note that thanking others is not necessarily part of other cultures. If your teens do not thank you, you can explain how important the custom is and how and why it is expected. If you visit their home countries, their families will honor you and reciprocate gratefulness with dinners in their homes and may even invite you to stay with them.
- When you offer something to them (i.e., a drink, food, gift), they may refuse because they feel that it is impolite to accept straight away. If you would like to offer something to them, make it clear that you mean it and offer it more than once.



Preparing for Departure

Good-bye is always hard

The last week before the teens return home is hard for both the host family and the teens. Everyone is tired, and anticipating the end of the adventure is stressful. The area coordinator will plan a farewell gathering for all the host families and teens which will provide an opportunity to express feelings about the experience.

The teens have been instructed to bring one large suitcase with enough room to pack any items they might purchase and one piece suitable for carry-on. Items of unusual shape cannot be carried on the plane. Such items must be packed in the suitcase.

You might want to plan one special family activity for the end of the last week before the packing and the emotional farewell. Take time as a family to discuss the highlights of the experience and what you all have learned from it.

This isn't the end – It's just the beginning of a lifelong relationship.

“Developing new friendships brought new perspectives and a foundation to better understand and assert my belief in the importance of tolerance, respect, and cross -community engagement. I had an incredible experience that built my confidence and self-esteem—outdoor activities, new foods, my first visit to a synagogue. Importantly, my host father and my teen partner remain lifelong friends.” – Alumna Clare Talbot-Jones



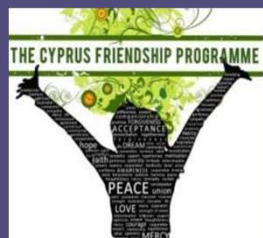
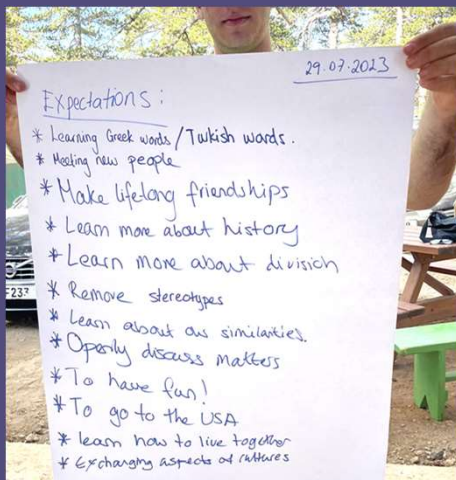
CFP Cyprus Program

Since 1974, the island of Cyprus has been divided between the larger Greek-speaking population in the southern part of Cyprus and the Turkish-speaking side in the north, separated by UN peacekeepers. The history leading to this division is long and complicated. Each community has its own version of history and is familiar with the suffering that it has experienced at the hands of the other.

The teens view themselves as Greek Cypriots or Greek-speaking Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots or Turkish-speaking Cypriots. Avoid the terms “Greek” or “Turk” in referring to them or their families.



Cyprus is located on the eastern side of the Mediterranean Sea, approximately 50 miles west of Syria, south of Turkey and east of Greece.



Two-year peacebuilding and leadership training program

In its early days, the Cyprus Friendship Program relied on volunteers from both the northern and southern sides of Cyprus – CFP Cypriot coordinators. To provide a more indepth experience the program was converted to two years.

The stay in the U.S. is just part of the program. In 2019 CFP implemented a second-year capstone program. Year 1 being a weeklong camp in Cyprus and year 2, a monthlong U.S. residential experience.

Teens interview with the in-country coordinators and are selected for the year 2 program in March. The coordinators organize social and leadership training events for the teens. By early spring, year 2 participants choose their pair, and soon after, their families begin to meet with each other. For some it is the first time they have crossed the border.

By the time the teens reach the U.S., they have been participating in the program for several months and are prepared to deepen the friendships during their U.S. homestay.

Before the trip to the U.S., the CFP executive director or another U.S. CFP officer attends and participates in a briefing to the teens and their parents. An overview of American life is presented, the program mission is reinforced, expectations of conduct are reviewed, and any last-minute questions are answered.

During their U.S. home stay the partner teens will participate in activities organized by the Area Coordinator that complement their Cyprus year 1 camp curriculum – community/environmental projects, conflict resolution workshop, public presentations and informal group outings.

When the teens return to Cyprus, they begin planning their graduation ceremony – historically held in October. Host families are invited to this rare gathering of over 400 people from both sides of Cyprus, celebrating their accomplishments.

CFP in the Middle East



Building relationships to build peace

The year-long program in Israel and Palestine culminates with the U.S. residential home stay with American families. Teens are interviewed and selected for the program early in the calendar year. Leading up to the summer residential stay, the in-country coordinators provide opportunities for the teens to participate in workshops and activities on leadership, dialogue, and conflict transformation. At these events the teens engage with peers from the other community. By mid-spring, a select number of the teens are selected to attend the U.S. residential program and are paired. These pairs attend workshops to further prepare them for the U.S. program.

Before the trip to the U.S., the CFP ME program coordinator arrives in Israel and delivers a briefing to the teens and parents. An overview of American life is presented, the program mission is reinforced, rules of conduct are reviewed, and any last-minute questions are answered.

During their U.S. home stay the partner teens will participate in activities organized by the area coordinator that complement programming they experienced in country – community/ environmental projects, conflict resolution workshop, and informal group outings.

When they return to Israel and Palestine, they attend additional follow-up events and plan their graduation ceremony that is held in October. Host families are invited to this special gathering of people from both communities in one place, celebrating their accomplishments.



The CFP Child Protection and Safety Policy

CFP is dedicated to the health and wellbeing of all the youth participating in the program. CFP has officially adopted the following child abuse guidelines and procedures. Child abuse refers to any act committed by a parent, caregiver or person in a position of trust (even though he/she may not care for the child on a daily basis) to a person who is less than eighteen years of age, which is not accidental and which harms or threatens to harm a child's physical or mental health or welfare.

Types of Abuse

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse includes physical injury, threat of injury or creation of a real and significant danger of substantial risk of death, disfigurement or of bodily functions. Such injury or threat of injury, regardless of intent, is inflicted or allowed to be inflicted by non-accidental means. Examples include but are not limited to asphyxiation, bone fracture, brain damage, skull fracture, subdural hematoma, burns and scald injury, cuts, bruises, internal injuries, poisoning, sprains, gunshot and stabbing wounds.

Physical Neglect

Physical neglect includes the failure to provide food, clothing, shelter, or supervision for a child if the child's health or safety is endangered. Types of neglect include but are not limited to abandonment, inadequate clothing, inadequate shelter, starvation and malnutrition.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse includes any act that is committed, or allowed to be committed, upon a child by a parent or other persons responsible for the child's care. Examples include but are not limited to sexual exploitation, sexual molestation, intercourse/sodomy and other sexual abuse.

Medical Neglect

Refusal or failure by the caretaker to obtain and/or follow through with a complete regimen of medical, mental or dental care for a condition, which if untreated, could result in illness or developmental delays.

Mental Abuse

A pattern of acts or omissions by the caretaker that result in harm to a child's psychological or emotional health.

Bizarre Discipline

Such behavior includes any action in which the caretaker uses eccentric, irrational or grossly inappropriate procedures or devices to modify the child's behavior.

To create the safest possible environment, abuse prevention measures include:

Host Family Screening

A full application completed by new host family adults includes a space where each adult will agree or not agree to a criminal and sexual offenders background check.

Applications where any host family adult refuses to have a police check will be automatically eliminated. Each host family will write a letter of introduction to be reviewed by the director and CFP coordinators. Each new host family will have three letters of reference and each new host family will be visited by an area coordinator.

Criminal & Sexual Offenders Background Check

Each CFP officer and coordinator in the U.S. and in CFP program countries and each adult member of a new host family household will submit to a criminal and sexual offenders background check.

Background checks will be reviewed by a CFP officer and any potential problems discussed with the director. Any applicant with a record of physical, sexual or mental abuse, or violent criminal behavior will be eliminated from consideration.

Reporting Abuse

Teens should report any allegation of abuse to one of the CFP officers designated by CFP while in the U.S. In their home countries, they should report any allegation of abuse by CFP coordinators to the U.S. coordinators. The officers and the director will follow CFP's follow-up procedures to respond to any allegation(s).

Teens in the U.S.

Each Cypriot youth will be given phone numbers for the youth to call with concerns and problems. The male CFP officer contact: William "Bo" Dean, New Hampshire Area Coordinator, 603-582-5449
The female CFP officer contact: Betsy Small, Executive Director, 603.769.9383

Dietary Guidelines for Kosher and Halal Cooking

Acceptable Foods	Prohibited Foods
Meat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle • Sheep • Goats • Deer 	Meat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pork • Horse • Camel • Rabbit
Birds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicken • Duck • Turkey • Goose • Pigeon 	
Fish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anchovies • Bluefish • Flounder • Fluke • Haddock • Halibut • Herring • Mackerel • Red Snapper • Salmon • Sardines • Sea Bass • Sole • Trout • Tuna • Whitefish 	Fish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shellfish • Eels • Shark • Monkfish • Huss • Catfish
Eggs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All eggs with no blood spots 	
Milk and Cheese <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All U.S. milk, yoghurt and cream • Cheeses include mozzarella, feta, goat cheese and all rennet free cheeses (Cabot's Cheddar Cheese is one) (Look for kosher label or rennet free.) 	Cheese <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any cheese containing rennet (an animal enzyme product)
Fruits and Vegetables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All are acceptable but must be cleaned to remove any insects 	
Grains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All grains are acceptable, except during Passover 	
Cooking Oils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cooking oils extracted from fruits, seeds, grains and nuts with a kosher label 	
Processed Foods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All processed foods, including bread, baked goods, cereal and pasta, with kosher label 	

Kosher Only Food Preparation Rules

- All vegetarian, egg, fish, dairy dishes are fine and can be served as usual on normal plates and cutlery.
- All eggs and fish can be served anytime and in conjunction with meat.
- **When serving meat, no dairy products can be used** i.e.: cheese, butter, ice cream or dairy for dessert etc. **at that meal.**
- When kosher meat is served, it must be handled elsewhere than in your kitchen where you have been serving the other food types. One way to deal with this is by having the meat sealed in the fridge and putting it directly on the grill. You can kosher your grill by burning it with nothing on it at high for 20 min. and cleaning your grill top in the dishwasher. Any dishes that come into contact with the meat must be cleaned outside your kitchen and reserved for use with meat while the kids are living with you.
- When serving meat, you must use paper plates, plastic cutlery and dispose of them immediately in the garbage after eating.



CFP's History

Children's Committee Ten, Inc.

1981 - 1987

- **Noteworthy transitional personnel**
 - Vincent Lavery, left Northern Ireland as a child and grew up in Fresno, California.
 - Father Wallace, in Northern Ireland
 - Rev. Jimmy Arbuthnot, in Northern Ireland.
 - Peggy Barrett, left Northern Ireland as a child and grew up in Pennsylvania.
- **U.S. Program**
 - 7-week homestay program with American families.
 - Included children aged 11 through 18.
 - One Catholic and one Protestant child shared a room.
- **Northern Ireland Program**
 - NI Coordinators promoted the program and selected the children.
 - Children were paired by NI Coordinators by geographic proximity so that friendships developed in the U.S. could continue in NI.
 - CC10 hosted a Christmas Party in Belfast each year for all the children and their families and called them reunions.
- In 1986, Lavery expanded the program to include 16 Lebanese children.
- In 1987, Barrett and some NI Coordinators separated to focus solely on NI teenagers.

Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland, Inc.

1987 - 2007

- **Noteworthy transitional personnel**
 - Peggy Barrett, became CFPNI President.
 - Lilah Graham, became lead Coordinator in NI.
- **U.S. Program**
 - 6-week homestay program with American families. In 2002, the stay was reduced to 4 weeks. (confirm this.)
 - Included children aged 15 to 18.
 - One Catholic and one Protestant child shared a room.
 - In 200?, leadership development and conflict management programming was included in some of the hosting areas. (Was this only in Virginia?)
- **Northern Ireland Program**
 - NI Coordinators promoted the program and selected teenagers based on personal references and written essays.
 - The teens and their families agreed to participate in pre- and post-cross-cultural activities.
 - Children were paired by NI Coordinators by geographic proximity so that friendships developed in the U.S. could continue in NI.
 - CFPNI hosted annual reunions for all the teens and their families where the teens actively participated in the evening's entertainment.
- In 2007, the Board of Directors determined that the purpose of the program had been achieved and closed the organization.
- **Impact Statistics**
 - Over 2,000 alumni from all six counties of Northern Ireland participated.

- **Noteworthy transitional personnel**
 - Warren Muir, former CFPNI President and Board member
 - John McKinney, former CFPNI Board member and Mayor of Omagh at the time of the bombing
 - Tamera Drozd, former CFPNI Metro DC Area Coordinator
 - Nevzer Stacey, President of HASNA
- **U.S. Program**
 - 4-week homestay program with American families
 - Included teens aged 15 to 18.
 - One Greek-speaking Cypriot and one Turkish-speaking Cypriot teen shared a room.
- **Cyprus Program**
 - CY Coordinators promote the program and select the teens.
 - Teens pair themselves during a series of organized meetings.
 - The teens and their families agreed to participate in pre- and post-cross-cultural activities.
 - CY Coordinators provide an annual graduation for all the teens and their families where the teens actively participate in the evening's entertainment.
- From 2008 – 2010, a 2-year pilot program was conducted through a partnership with HASNA to begin the program in Cyprus
- In 2011, CFP obtained 501(c)3 status as an independent organization.
- In 2012, the Friends and Family of CFP was created to provide bicommunal social opportunities for the families and continues today as the legally recognized Cyprus Friendship Program Parents and Friends Association, which houses the Alumni Association.
- In 2013, the CY Coordinators began a camp program in the Troodos mountains to include more teens in the program.
- In 2018, the decision was made to expand into Israel/Palestine and the organization's name was changed to Creating Friendships for Peace, Inc.



- **Noteworthy transitional personnel**
 - Linda Ziglar, CFP Board Chair
 - Tamra Haas, CFP Executive Director
 - Rebecca Stirn, CFP San Francisco Area Coordinator
- **U.S. Program**
 - 4-week homestay program with American families
 - Included teens aged 15 to 17.
 - One Greek-speaking Cypriot and one Turkish-speaking Cypriot teen shared a room.
 - Two Middle East teens paired by differences in religion or ethnicity share a room.
- **Cyprus Program**
 - Continues as described before.
 - In 2020, the CY Program became a 2-year program, with Year 1 being the Cypriot Camp and Year 2 being the U.S. Residency. A new camp has been created to include those Year 2 teens unable to travel to the U.S.
- **Middle East Program**
 - ME Coordinators promote the program and select the teens.
 - During a series of events and workshops, the ME Coordinators identify pairing of the teens
 - The teens and their families agree to participate in pre- and post-cross-cultural activities.
 - ME Coordinators provide an annual graduation for all the teens and their families where the teens actively participate in the entertainment.
- From 2018 -2019, a 2-year pilot program was conducted through a partnership with Jerusalem Peacebuilders to begin the program in Israel/Palestine.

