HOST FAMILY REFERENCE

Dear

The _____________________________________ family of _________________________________________ has applied to participate in a Connecticut International 4-H Youth Exchange Program as a host family. You have been listed on their application as reference. Host families are very important to the success of the delegate’s stay and to that of the program. They are volunteering to share their daily life, activities, and household with someone from a different culture. Each member of the host family becomes a representative of the program and of U.S. culture and hospitality. Host stays can be any time frame from a weekend to a month or more. Thank you for answering each question as completely as possible and for providing examples where appropriate.

How long and in what capacity have you known this family?________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

How often do you interact with family members? In what capacity?________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

How does this family interact with each other?__________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

How does the family adjust to unexpected situations? How flexible are they? ________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

How welcoming would the family be to someone of a different culture, religion, with different food preferences, habits, with limited English skills? ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Would this family be equally suitable as host for either a teen or an adult or more suitable for one rather than the other? EXPLAIN________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

What do you consider to be the strengths of this family?__________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
What do you consider to be the weaknesses of this family? 

What special interests does the family unit have? Each member? 

Are you aware of any record or issue of drug, alcohol, child abuse, or other such negative behavior on the part of any family member? IF YES EXPLAIN 

In your opinion, would an international visitor find this family, including children, supportive and understanding of his/her difficulties in adjusting to a new language, strange customs, different foods, a lifestyle where family relationships may be different from their own home? Please give an overall assessment of the family’s ability to provide a positive experience for the delegate. 

Would you be comfortable having your family member-teen and/or adult-live for a month with this family? 

Please use the following space to provide more information or expanded responses.
Circle appropriate response
I WOULD RECOMMEND THE PARTICIPATION OF THE

_________________________________________________________FAMILY

VERY STRONGLY, STRONGLY, MODERATELY, WITH SOME HESITATION, NOT AT ALL

AS A HOST FAMILY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL 4-H EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

Further explanation to support response_______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for your considered evaluation. All information provided is confidential.

PRINTED NAME: __________________________________________________________

HOME ADDRESS: _____________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

HOME PHONE: _____________________________ CELL/WORK PHONE: _______________________

SIGNATURE: ______________________________ DATE: _______________________

RETURN TO:

ENVELOPE ENCLOSED