

### Creating American International Relationships

## WHAT IS THE CAIR PROGRAM?



The CAIR Program aims to foster partnerships between Americans and international students at Oakland University. Our international students appreciate the support and friendship of an American partner as it helps them integrate into this culture and feel welcome. This program is also valuable and rewarding as it offers participant the chance to experience diversity and learn about another culture first-hand without a passport.

# Support international students in the USA

#### MEETING YOUR HOST

- The host will reach out to you through an email or a text message
- When you arranged to meet: Be on time, let the host know if you are running late, confirm location and time before you meet,
- Do not expect your partner to pay for activities or meals for you. Always offer to pay for yourself.
- Make the host aware if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies
- Be respectful of your partner and their family

#### HOSTING A STUDENT

- Conduct research on the student's country and learn about the student's dietary restrictions
- When you arrange to meet, be specific about time and location and what the activity is
- Find out the best way to communicate: phone, email, Facebook, or other messaging applications
- Support the students in their needs, such as language, adjusting to food, setting up their bank account, tipping at restaurants, and most importantly make them feel at home

#### ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Enjoy family meals, celebrate birthdays and holidays, and enjoy each other's company at special events organized by International Oasis or the CAIR Program
- Go to a movie, bowling, ice skating, or shopping together
- Visit museums, historical sites, the zoo, cider mill's, or a water park
- Enjoy local restaurants for coffee, lunch or dinner
- Take a trip to the Eastern Market, Belle Isle, Corktown,
   Detroit Institute of Arts, or Campus Martius in Detroit

#### TIPS

- Be respectful towards each other
- Ask lots of questions about each other's cultures, the differences and similarities, in a polite way
- Talk about transportation needs of the student and the transportation availability of the host
- Most importantly, HAVE FUN!

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Please contact the ISSO or Maxime Colen if:

- You feel uncomfortable moving forward with the CAIR partner/student that has been assigned to you
- When the student graduates and would like to be matched with another student
- If the student if not responding when you reach out

#### HOW TO JOIN

- www.oakland.edu/isso
- Go to the "Get Involved" tab
- Click on "CAIR Program"
- Fill out and submit the "Preference Form and Waiver"

