



***Fédération Européenne des Parents d'Enfants Déficients Auditifs
European Federation of Parents of Hearing Impaired
ChildrenEuropäischer Verband der Eltern Hörgeschädigter Kinder
Federación Europea de Padres de Niños con Discapacidad Auditiva***

Youth Exchange with ROTARY CLUB

For over 70 years, the Rotary has been offering young people the opportunity to immerse themselves in a new culture and learn new languages through an exchange year.

One of the main goals is to promote communication and understanding. This basic principle follows the logic that the students' experiences with different cultures and encounters with people from all over the world will lead to more tolerance and understanding for foreign people and countries in the future. Rotary Club is in about 166 countries.

Through the exchange of young people with hearing disabilities, we hope to create a more connected and open world for these people too.

FEPEDA discussed these opportunities in detail with the Rotary Club, also for hearing-impaired young people. And in doing so, opened open doors at the Rotary. Rotary youth exchange does not exclude anyone.

Participation in the Rotary Exchange Program is open to everyone. Membership is not a prerequisite and offers no advantages. Rotary has been organising youth exchanges since the 1950s. Every year, more than 9,000 exchange students travel the world with Rotary.

As Rotary does not pay the host families, it is ensured that the host families do not host the exchange student for commercial reasons. By agreeing to your Rotary exchange year, your family agrees to host Rotary exchange students from abroad in succession as a family member free of charge during your absence and to provide them with board and lodging.

Rotary covers a large part of the costs to make this exchange possible for all young people. The exact costs can be found on the respective Rotary country's homepage.

The procedure for such an exchange is as follows:

- In some countries, such as Switzerland or Germany, you can apply directly on the homepage «Rotary Youth exchange». Register via website and name 3 countries, prioritized by order of preference, where the young person could imagine staying.
- Rotary will send a detailed application form, which has to be filled and send back.
- The Rotary Club's Youth Exchange Leader will invite you for an interview and visit you at home.

Otherwise:

- Contact your local Rotary Club and ask about the programme for youth exchange. You can find local Rotary Clubs on the Internet.
 - Follow the procedure of the respective Rotary club/country
-
- In both cases, you should inform Rotary that FEPEDA offers the possibility of finding host families with experience with hearing-impaired children and specialised schools. Facilitate contact between FEPEDA and Rotary.

In any case, it is important to note that the choice of host families must be made via Rotary; FEPEDA can only make suggestions for host families but cannot provide any quality assurance.