

## **Volunteer Housing Guidelines**

1. Host family will have separate and restricted sleeping areas for both genders of volunteers or restrict the facility to a single gender of volunteer.
2. Host should caution volunteers prior to their arrival regarding any pets that may cohabitate the home; avoiding allergy issues for sensitive volunteers.
3. Host family should not allow more than five youth per chaperone for each gender of volunteers.
4. Host should have adequate shower facilities for the number of accommodated volunteers; preferably separate facilities per gender.
5. Host should provide “house rules” regarding appropriate bedtime for the host’s comfort and guidelines regarding access to phone, kitchen facility, television, video games and stereo equipment.
6. Host facility should be in a secure area, free from high crime risk neighborhoods.
7. Host should have facility adequately cleaned prior to the volunteers’ arrival. It is totally appropriate for the host to anticipate that the volunteers will leave the facility in as good or better condition as when they arrived.
8. Host should be prepared to adequately familiarize the volunteers with local demographic information which may include location of restraints, routes to work site, and areas which volunteers should take care not to travel into for their safety.
9. Eating facilities should be adequately equipped and sufficient in size for accommodating the number of volunteers that will be housed.
10. Host should familiarize the volunteers with emergency contact information with respect to procedures within the home and community. Volunteers should be briefed on emergency escape routes and other safety procedures.
11. Host should caution volunteers about valuable perishable assets or pets that may be sensitive to the influx of strangers. The host should take care to clearly identify the “house rules” regarding pets, areas off-limits, etc.
12. Host facility should be a smoke and alcohol free environment.
13. If the host has children staying in the home, volunteers should be familiarized with what is accepted as appropriate interaction with the children.
14. If any issues should arise regarding the volunteers, the host should contact RBH leadership immediately.