## **Checklist for Holiday Hosting**

- Pray for the students you will be hosting (We suggest hosting two or more)
- Make initial contact by email. Cover the following:
  - Date & Time of the event
  - Transportation: If they are driving, provide directions to your home. If you will pick them up, give the time you will be there. They may ask if they can bring a friend ... that's up to you.
  - Ask if they have any food restrictions. This may be for health or religious reasons.
  - Ask if they need to be back to campus by a certain time. Let the students know a tentative schedule for the day.
  - o If you have a pet, ask if the student has any allergies to pets?
- Try to learn the students' names before they arrive. (Ask IFI if necessary)
- Determine your menu. Is there anything you would like the students to help with, like setting the table, etc.?
- Name tags? If multiple guests.
- Table place cards.
- Games for before dinner and afterwards.
- Camera. Consider sharing 1 or 2 photos with IFI.
- o Leftovers. Have some disposable containers you can send home with them.
- When the students arrive, give them a tour of your home. Point out the bathroom.

## THE MEAL:

- Pray as you usually do.
- o Explain the mechanics of the meal (passing food, "help yourself", etc.)
- Think about things to talk about at the table. Make sure you ask them open-ended questions that can't be answered by "Yes" or "No". The background of the current holiday would be appropriate.
- If you are going to a relative's home for dinner, clear your guests with them. Conversely, if the relatives/friends are coming to your home, let them know in advance that you will be hosting some international students.

## **FUTURE CONTACT:**

- Post-holiday follow-up contact. Let them know you enjoyed their visit. Share photos or videos.
- Although not obligated. Consider if you want to continue the relationship(s)