



Hello BLS Families!

My name is Amanda, and I work with Youth for Understanding, one of the world's oldest and most respected international exchange student programs. I am a graduate of BLS and Alter, and my son is a Kindergartener at Leibold.

Each year, Youth for Understanding (a nonprofit) brings over 1,200 students from up to 70 different countries to live for a school year as a member of an American family. These amazing Student Ambassadors come to the US to improve their English, learn a love of our country and to live as a typical American High School student. They will remain a member of your family forever.

Host families provide a bed in a bedroom and provide all meals, but most importantly, they provide the love and support of a family. Students come with their own health insurance and spending money, so you don't have to worry about cell phones, clothes or sports fees. They attend the local high school, and some students are even open to paying for private schools! Each family is also provided with a trained volunteer to make sure that everything is going well.

I'd love to answer any questions you may have! Please feel free to email me at [amascarenhas@yfu.org](mailto:amascarenhas@yfu.org). You can also find a lot of answers and meet over 500 students on our website at [YFUUSA.org](http://YFUUSA.org)! I'd love to help you find your new family member!

Amanda Mascarenhas