



Are You Interested in Hosting an Israeli "Gap Year" Teen?

How long do the Shinshinim stay with the host families?

Each year, the Shinshinim have three host families, mid-August through mid-December, mid-December through mid-April and mid-April through mid-August.

What kind of house is ideal for the Shinshinim?

We are looking for families or houses who have people who are passionate about Israel and want to create a deeper connection to the Jewish State. The ideal situation is a house with a family who has middle school and/or high school students. This will give the Shinshinim the ability to make an impact on the parents, as well as the teens. We are also open to Empty Nesters, who may be looking to bring a young Israeli to their household. Since we need 30 host families for next year, we will be allowing Israeli American families to also become host families.

What are the requirements of the host family?

The main requirement that we have is that the Shinshinim have their own bedroom. We also ask families to provide food for the Shinshinim. Most days, the Shinshinim are out from around 9am-8pm, with their off days being most Fridays and Saturdays. The JCC fully takes care of the Shinshinim regarding cars, gas, insurance, etc. Host families do not need to spend any money on those essentials. Additionally, we want the host families to be around the entire time of their stay, meaning that they should not choose a tri-mester where they have a two week trip out of the county.

If I think I am interested, what is the next step?

Contact Rabbi Z at rabbiz@commsyn.org or Shari Isserles at shari@commsyn.org