**What is CCIS?**

CCIS is a community organization, dedicated to helping Northwestern’s international students and post-docs feel welcome. We work in partnership with the International Office and close collaboration with the Graduate School to serve both the Evanston and Chicago campuses.

For more than forty-five years, our volunteers have welcomed NU scholars from around the world with a cultural exchange of ideas, information and friendship.

Since 1971, when fifty families volunteered to provide short term Home Stays for new students, we have added programs to keep pace with the needs of thousands of international students, post-docs, and their families.

You may find one or more CCIS programs of interest.

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**English Conversation**

*Partners for Students & Scholars*

A student or post-doc meets informally with a CCIS volunteer to practice and improve English communication skills by discussing topics of interest. They establish a schedule of meetings, usually weekly, at their mutual convenience. Some Partners eventually become Foster Relatives.

**Contact:** Doris Liberman, 847-676-2932, adlibs2@yahoo.com OR David Whiting, 847-432-2814, cotswold@gmail.com

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**Home Stay**

Before arriving, new students apply to stay in a local home for 2-5 days while looking for an apartment. This is a great opportunity to meet a local family, become involved in family activities & explore your new environment. Some of these relationships evolve into Foster Relative friendships.

**Contact:** Greta Sims, 847-328-7394,rgsims@att.net OR Betty Phillips, 847-256-0245, ebp2@comcast.net

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**English Conversation**

*Groups for Spouses*

Spouses meet weekly in small groups to discuss their experiences and improve English skills. Parents with children are welcome. For information about the location & times of these seminars, contact the coordinators.

**Contact:** Heather Hehman, 847-256-5116, heatherhehmanes1@gmail.com OR Mary Helen Albright, 847-868-4979, maryandlucas@comcast.net

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**International Women’s Group**

Women from various countries gather to make new friends and share customs. Social activities take place in local homes & places of interest throughout the Chicago & suburban area.

**Contact:** Anita Yamada, 847-869-3634, anitayamada@comcast.net OR Gisela Blumenau at 847-446-0262, blumeneau@sbcglobal.net