



COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PROGRAM AT COA?

College of the Atlantic's Community Connections Program (CCP) pairs COA international students with local families to engage in shared activities on an informal basis. Community Connections is not a host-family program in the sense that students actually live with local families, but rather a friendship program that encourages the development of more global perspectives for both the students and families through cultural exchange.

It is our hope that the Community Connections Program participants will develop a mutually beneficial relationship. Students are given the opportunity to deepen their understanding of culture in the United States through participation in the everyday activities of a local volunteer family. Families are enriched by the opportunity to learn about the traditions, cultural practices and perspectives of the international student with whom they are connected. A desirable program outcome is to provide for the student a social connection and source of emotional support beyond what is already offered at COA.

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