

## **Models and Contacts for International (Student) Houses in the USA**

What follows is a partial list of "I-Houses" established in recent years and run by evangelical Christians. We only know a few of all that exist. The ones we know most about are quite old and well established, so we have tried to give here a brief summary of some important facts about them in case this is useful information to those wishing to contact them for ideas or for new I-Houses being planned for the future. For a more detailed description of each house listed and how to contact those in charge, see the ACMI website: <http://www.acmi-network.org>

Houses for international students (west to east):

[ISI House \(Seattle, WA\)](#)

[International Friendship House \(Seattle, WA\)](#)

[International Friendship Garden House \(Bellingham, WA\)](#)

[WorldView Center \(Portland, OR\)](#)

[Horizons International Student Center \(Boulder, CO\)](#)

[International Ministry Center \(Columbus, OH\)](#)

[Millersville International House \(Millersville, PA\)](#)

[Philadelphia House: \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#)

[Charis House \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#)

[Chinese hospitality house \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

[international house \(Newark, DE\)](#)

[International Fellowship House \(Boston, MA\)](#)

[The Van Baay Carriage House \(Cambridge, MA\)](#)

Others locations with I-Houses we have only heard briefly about, including a few new ones in the planning stages of development:

**Corvallis, OR**

**Missoula, MT**

**Omaha, NE**

**Eau Claire, WI**

**Madison, WI**

**Sycamore, IL**

**Chicago, IL (Bible studies in secular I-house)**

**Bloomington, IL (University-run int'l. dorms)**

**Columbus, OH**

**Chattanooga, TN**

**Norfolk, VA**

**Cambridge, UK (United Kingdom – one of many there)**

Some observations

Most of the above listed international houses are founded and run by evangelical Christians and there are very likely many more than we have listed here. Some are examples of Christians living near a campus

who have renovated large old houses in order to provide housing and some form of ministry for a small number of international students.

There are 148 college and university campuses in the USA now with over 1,000 international students in each, some of which have as many as 10-15% of the total student population being international students (eg: 4,000+/- out of 40,000+/- at the Univ. of Wisconsin)! In addition, there are many non-student (post-doctoral) scholars in most of the larger "research institutions." In light of this, recently one state campus in Ohio converted an entire dormitory into an "international house" (including changes in its food services to please international tastes, etc). The above mentioned "dorms" in Bloomington, IL are similar examples.

In conclusion, we would have to say that along with the resurgence of Evangelicalism in the past 50 years there has also come a resurgence of missions and an awareness of the "mission on our doorstep," with **international students**, as part of that mission. This has led to a variety of ministries to international students including the development of housing for internationals. It is likely to increase in the future since the church has growing awareness of world events and how the students of today will affect the nations of tomorrow.

For a poignant example of this see a new and astonishing story recently released in Christianity Today magazine online at:  
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/tc/2000/006/3.29.html>

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