



the More Than Gold Athlete Family Homestay programme



Welcoming strangers is a mark of Christian service and a key activity in the context of *More Than Gold*.

This is why *More Than Gold* has always worked to provide a welcome to the relatives of those taking part in the Olympic and Paralympic Games through our Athlete Family Homestay Programme.

For London 2012, this programme has been granted the prestigious Inspire mark by the London 2012 Inspire programme. This recognises innovative and exceptional projects directly inspired by the 2012 Games.

Why do those supporting athletes need hospitality?

During the 2012 Games, the cost of hotel accommodation will soar. As a result, the 'support family' for many

athletes – their family members, team officials, personal coach, friends critical to their support – would not be able to afford to be there for them.

At the same time, many visitors from overseas would struggle to make the most of the experience without the practical help and care of a hospitable host.

That's where *More Than Gold* hosts can play their part – by providing hospitality in their own homes. And this will be done without discrimination of any kind.

Where are hosts needed?

The majority of hosts are needed in London and the closer to event venues the better.

However, hosts will also be needed in Benfleet, Birmingham, Broxbourne, Cardiff, Dorney Lake, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle, Weymouth and Portland Harbour.

inspired by
London
2012





► **What are the responsibilities of a host?**

Volunteer hosts will be interviewed and, if accepted, their accommodation will be inspected. This is to make sure guests have the very best experience possible and that the programme is of the highest quality.

The role of a host in the *More Than Gold* Athlete Family Homestay programme is to –

- Pick up by car and welcome the relatives from a Reception Centre
- Provide bed and breakfast for up to eight days for one or more relatives of an athlete
- Act as caring and helpful hosts to their foreign guests
- Help guests access the nearest public transport to the Games venue where the athlete relative will compete

Wherever possible, hosts will be grouped into teams of 10 – 20 host families, coordinated by a Team Leader

who will be responsible for briefing and supporting the hosting team.

When are hosts needed?

The periods needing to be covered are –

- **Olympic Games:** Eight days, or more, between 25 July and 13 August
- **Paralympic Games:** Eight days, or more, between 27 August and 10 September

How can churches and their members apply to be hosts?

It is hoped that churches will make this a project for their members and work together to deliver a programme of hospitality of the highest quality.

Nevertheless, recruitment of hosts is on an individual basis. To apply, or for more information go to morethangold.org.uk/homestay



The More Than Gold Athlete Family Homestay Programme is supported by –

