4th Month (Learning Focus Area #2)

- Over the past few months, families may have noticed behaviors by their students they are not familiar with. However, even though these unfamiliar activities, routines, etc. don’t always lead to conflicts, they may be bothersome and families just ‘shrug them off’. However, there could be meaning behind different behaviors that cannot simply be attributed to a typical teenager’s conduct.

- Support the family’s abilities to interpret different behaviors by discussing various communication styles, including non-verbal communication (see What Every AFSer Should Know About Intercultural Learning 2.0 in the ICL Digital Library at iclibrary.afs.org for more information). Have a discussion about different perspectives on behavior using the following questions:
  - How did you manage to translate confusing behavior? Was it a change of perspective? Was it new information you didn’t have access to before? Was it something else?
  - How could you help your host student to translate some of your own behavior that might seem confusing to them?
  - Do you know if your host student is confused by some of your behaviors or traits?

HOST STUDENT AND FAMILY ACTIVITY

Give both the student and host family Handout 4 ‘Nonverbal Communication’ with instructions to do an activity together.