VIT Personal and Community mentoring checklist.

Personal Basic Needs *

- Housing
    - Select a neighborhood (professional, not student)
    - Furniture – good source of mattresses, hold on to good used furniture all spring and summer
    - Electricity
    - Appliances
    - Television (with captions, promotes language development)
    - Gas
    - Water
    - Telephone / cable / internet / cell phone
    - Personal computer
    - Post office routines
- Car
    - Driver's license
    - Insurance – no previous records in the country (Farm Bureau)
    - Reasonable amount to spend on a used car ($3000 and up?)
    - Tags and registration
- Loans – establishing credit history from scratch, credit score "0"
    - Local credit union, local bank
- Deposits – for everything!!!
- Doctor – who?
- Taxes – non-resident status
    - Social Security Number – apply after have been in the U.S. for 10 days.
        - Inform VIT/KSDE coordinators as to what number is assigned

Community/Cultural

- Map or sketch of town
- Best places to eat
- Local organizations / Churches
- Sights in the area
- Regional and state history
- What do people do on weekends?
- Birthdays
- School vacations
- Major holidays
- Local festivals
- Affordable travel destinations

Recommendation: Have a family 'adopt' the teacher, especially for first few weeks, weekends in August, September, and major holidays. Avoid placing teacher in a hotel while organizing housing arrangements.

* Have a community 'shower' of new and used items to set up housekeeping or set up a 'bridal registry' at a few stores.