Buddy Programme
Fact sheet for volunteers welcoming newcomers

change perspective

Radboud University
Radboudumc
university medical center
Buddy Programme

The idea
Internationalisation is a core value of Radboud University and Radboudumc. The buddy programme is a fun and informal addition to existing onboarding and introduction programmes. It includes all faculties and departments of Radboud University as well as Radboudumc. The programme is casual and has minimal guidelines: buddy couples are encouraged to meet on their own initiative and spend their time together freely. In short, the buddy programme is an excellent opportunity to meet new people, practice your languages, broaden your horizon and experience new cultures!

Who can become a buddy?
All staff at Radboud University and Radboudumc can sign up to become a buddy to newcomers. This includes all (PhD/postdoc) researchers, academic and non-academic staff, Dutch and international staff and employees across all departments, ages and positions.

What will I do as a buddy?
• Meet regularly: You are expected to take initiative in reaching out the newcomer preferably before arrival and suggest a first meeting. A voucher for a free meal on campus will be provided. It is up to you to decide how often you meet and what you do in those times. For some it can be as simple as having a coffee or taking a walk, others like to showcase Dutch culture and take their buddy on day trips, cook a Dutch meal or rent a bike. There are no rules!
• Social events: Regular social cultural events (approximately every 6 weeks) will be organized. Attendance is not mandatory but an excellent opportunity to meet other buddy couples.

How much time am I expected to invest?
As much as you like! You commit to being a buddy for a period of three months. It is recommended to meet your buddy at least every 2-3 weeks, but this may vary based on needs and availability. After the period of three months you are welcome to sign up again and receive a new buddy.

Practical details
The deadline for the September matching is August 15th, but the sooner you register the better! A festive kick off event will be organised early September. It is possible to sign up as a buddy every month.

To register please visit www.buddyprogramme.nl.

Questions? Send an e-mail to Buddyprogramme@dpo.ru.nl.