About Our Agency:

Children's House International is a non-profit adoption agency, licensed and in good standing since 1975, our main office is located in Washington State, but we are also licensed in Utah, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. We began our first adoption program in India, and over the years have developed many programs throughout the world and have placed thousands of orphaned children in their forever families. We provide international adoption placement services to all U.S. citizens, regardless of the State they reside in.

Many of our staff members are also international adoptive parents. Because of this, they are well aware of the emotional feelings that go hand-in-hand with an adoption, and are very passionate about the children and countries they represent.

Children's House International's licensed social workers and registered counselors are experienced in educating and guiding families through the international adoption process. They are able to provide Home Study and Post Adoption or Post Placement Report services to families living in Utah, Florida and Washington State. In other states, we will assist families as they locate and secure the services of a licensed Hague Accredited home study agency in their area.

Choosing an adoption agency to work with is a very important decision in the adoption process. We encourage prospective adoptive parents to do their research, and make an informed choice.

Bulgaria Adoption Program

Thank you for your interest in Children’s House International’s Bulgaria Program. We will be happy to assist you on your adoption journey to Bulgaria. We have a site where you can have immediate access to all of our program documents, including Applications, Fees and other documents you will need to start your adoption from Bulgaria. Just click on the link to the left for our general Children’s House and Bulgaria documents. Then select Bulgaria as the country.

Children’s House International actually began 40 years ago, and has been placing children from all over the world in loving homes ever since. CHI’s Bulgaria program team is here to assist you.

Parent Requirements: Bulgaria places with married couples or singles that are over the age of 25. Bulgaria places with both single moms and dads. The upper age limit is 50 years between child and parent.

Children: Bulgarian children available for adoption are toddlers and older children. Most children are over the age of 18 months and have moderate special needs. The children have been living in orphanages and are referred from the Ministry of Justice once they are legally available for adoption. The children referred to families are a combination of European, Turkish and Roma decent.

Time Frame: A waiting list of available children is maintained by the Ministry of Justice. Children not matched with waiting dossiers are added every month. These children are generally sibling groups, older children or children with special needs. Families may select a child from the waiting child list or submit their dossier to wait for referral of a child. If a family submits their dossier for referral for a healthier child, they are able to continue to review children from the wait list, while waiting for a referral. Referral times can range from 24-48 months depending on the age of the child requested, the younger the child, the longer the wait. Video, Photos and medical information are provided and CHI strongly suggests families seek a doctor with international specialty in adoption to review the information. The complete process for a waiting child generally takes about 12-14 months.
Travel: Bulgaria requires two trips to complete your adoption. At least one parent must travel to Bulgaria for a period of 5 business days to meet the referred child or children. We do recommend that both parents travel for this trip. Parents then make a determination to proceed with adoption and our representatives handle the paperwork while you return home. It is also recommended both parents then return to Bulgaria for their 2nd trip to bring their child home but if one parent cannot go then we strongly suggest you find another traveling companion. The second trip takes approximately 10 days.

Home Study: We will help you find a local agency social worker to prepare your home study. It takes approximately two to four months to complete your home study, maybe a little longer. Some states have more requirements than others. Four post placement reports from your social worker are required after adoption. Your child will come home on an I-3H Visa which means they will be a US citizen upon arrival in the US. We still suggest that families re-adopt the child in their own state.

Adoption Education and Required Educational Materials: Children’s House is dedicated to providing both information and support to our prospective parents. Please visit Adoption Learning Partners at: www.adoptionlearningpartners.org to take the required adoption education courses. Our requirements, under Hague Regulations, are a minimum of ten (10) hours of pre-adoption education classes. Please take the courses together (husband and wife) so you only have to pay once. The following courses are required at this time: Conspicuous Families, Let’s Talk Adoption, With Eyes Wide Open, and The Journey of Attachment and one other course of your choice (Adopting the Older Child, Medical Issues or Child’s Best Advocate). There is also an Adoption Tax Credit course that you can take if you would like to, but this does not meet our educational requirements. This educational requirement is mandatory. Please print out the certificate of completion when you have finished and send it to Children’s House for your file. Completion of these courses must be documented in your home study.

Four steps to Begin an International Adoption:
1. Complete your DocuSign that is sent to you which includes the Application packet and fee, the Agency Retainer Agreement, Financial Disclosure Agreement, and all other contractual forms to begin the adoption process through CHI.
2. Start you Home Study; take Adoption Education Courses and read suggested educational materials.
3. File the I-800A with CIS along with having your fingerprints taken and submitted. Get your Passports and check to make sure your passports do not expire within 6 months of travel.
4. Gather Dossier documents and forward Dossier to CHI.

Your Children’s House Team will be in constant contact with you during this entire process. We are here to help you and are looking forward to seeing your child in your arms. You will be sent comprehensive travel information and support from Children’s House while you are in Bulgaria. Please contact us if you are interested in our Bulgarian Adoption Program. We are sure you will have numerous questions and are looking forward to hearing from you. Please call us at 360 383-0623 and ask for either Amanda or Calle. You can email amanda.m@chiadopt.org or calle.h@chiadopt.org.