Children’s House International – India Adoption Information

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About Our Agency:

Children’s House International is a non-profit international adoption agency, founded in 1975 to help abandoned children in India. Since that time, we have established programs worldwide. Children’s House is licensed in Ethiopia, China and India. All other programs are operated through each foreign government’s office. Children’s House has placed over 1,000 children. The agency became fully COA Hague accredited in 2009 and continues to serve children and their families worldwide. Children’s House is committed to supplying humanitarian aid wherever possible. This is in keeping with mission statement established by the Board of Directors.

- See more at: http://childrenshouseinternational.com

Many of our staff are 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’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.

India Adoption Program

Thank you for your interest in Children’s House International’s India Program. We are proud to say that in 2015, Children’s House celebrated our 40th anniversary, and it all began in 1975 with India! India was our first program and our International Specialist, Lisa Anderson, has adopted two children from India and has been our India specialist for 19 years. Lisa received a Congressional Angels in Adoption Award in October 2015!

There are two ways to receive a referral of a child from India!

CARA may offer you a referral. When your home study is uploaded to the CARINGS system, CARA may, at its discretion, send you the information on a child to review. These children are usually healthy or present with minor physical special needs.

India’s Waiting Children. At the same time you are waiting for CARA to refer a child, you may select a child from the Waiting Child program. There are over 400 children in India’s Waiting Child program. These children, both girls and boys, range in age from 6 months to 16 years old. They have special needs ranging from very minor and/or correctible to severe.
For more detailed information on all of our programs, please visit our public document site at:


In each of the country sections you will find our Agency Application, Agency Retainer Agreement, and a written description of expected total fees detailed in our Financial Agreement and Disclosure. You will also find information on:

1. The number of adoption placements CHI does per year and the percentage of those placements that remain intact, are disrupted, or have been dissolved.
2. The number of parents who apply to adopt on a yearly basis, based on the data for the prior three calendar years.
3. There is also a list of reference families you can contact to discuss their adoption experience with CHI is also available on our website:

CHILDRENSHOUESINTERNATIONAL.COM

Our mission at Children’s House International is to provide children worldwide with permanent loving homes, and to provide families with the support they need to adopt and parent their children. We provide ethical adoption services.

To begin your adoption journey, please contact our staff at Children’s House International at the numbers and email below. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions, or would like more detailed information regarding specific adoption programs. Additional information can be found on our web-site:

http://www.childrenshouseinternational.com

Who can Adopt
At least one spouse must be a US Citizen. Our US government does not allow permanent residents to adopt and then sponsor the immigrant child to enter the United States. As per the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2000 as amended from time to time, the court may allow a child to be given in adoption to either married or single persons.

Additional Eligibility Criteria:
- The prospective adoptive parents (PAPS) should be financially stable with the ability to comfortably support a child.
- Single women are eligible to adopt a child of any gender
- Single men shall not be eligible to adopt a girl child
- Couples must be married for a minimum of 2 years
- Couples with three children shall only be considered for special needs children
- The child you adopt from India must be the youngest child in your family
- The minimum age difference between the child and either of the PAPS should not be less than twenty-five years
- The age of prospective adoptive parents as on the date of registration shall be counted for deciding the eligibility and the eligibility of prospective adoptive parents to apply for children of different age groups shall be as under –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of the child</th>
<th>Maximum composite age of prospective adoptive parents</th>
<th>Maximum age of single prospective adoptive parent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 4 years</td>
<td>90 years</td>
<td>45 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 4 up to 8 years</td>
<td>100 years</td>
<td>50 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 8 up to 18 years</td>
<td>110 years</td>
<td>55 years;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children:
- There are over 400 children on India’s Waiting Child list. Many with minor and/or correctible special needs.
- The waiting children are between 6 months to 16 years old. There are 4 categories of health status of the children in India: normal health, physically challenged, mentally challenged and multiple disability. *families choosing normal health could receive referrals for children with minor correctable, medicals needs in addition to resolved medical needs.
- CHI requires that Prospective Adoptive parents be open to
considering a child with minor/correctible needs

- Children’s House does not accept applications from families wishing to adopt only healthy young babies.
- The child you adopt from India must be the youngest child in your family.

**Time Frame:** Children’s House estimates that it will be between 4 to 36 months after your home study is submitted for a referral, depending on your requirements and children in need. The court process is not standard in India and different states have varying time frames. The new CARA guidelines are specific about short time frames for court and other legal matters, but we have not seen them go into effect yet.

**Travel:** Most families make one trip of approximately 12 business days. We will guide you in making all travel arrangements. India now requires an exit permit for adoptive parents, which has increased the travel time from 10 to 12 business days.

**Home Study:** If you live in WA, UT, TX, LA, MA or FL, a CHI social worker will do your home study. If you live elsewhere, we will help you find a local Hague Accredited agency social worker to prepare your home study. It takes approximately three months to complete a home study, maybe a little longer, depending on your state’s requirements. Your Social Worker will be required to do six Post Adoption reports. These reports must be paid for in advance.

**Four steps to Begin an International Adoption:**
1. We use the DocuSign system to make your application process easier. If we have answered all of your questions and you are ready to begin your adoption process, then call us to request we send you the DocuSign documents.
2. Start your 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.
4. Gather Dossier documents and forward Dossier to CHI

Your Children’s House India 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 form Children’s House while you are in India. Please contact us if you are interested in our India Adoption Program. We are sure you will have numerous questions and are looking forward to hearing from you.

Children’s House International
5711 Barrett Road (physical address) PO Box 1829 (mailing address)
Ferndale, WA 98248
Phone: 360-383-0623  Fax: 360-383-0640

NOTE: DUE TO CHANGES IN ADOPTION REGULATIONS IN INDIA, THIS INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME AND WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
These photos represent CHI's India Program. The children shown are not available for adoption.