

Note: None of the children seen on this page are available for adoption.

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, Idaho, 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.

HAGUE ACCREDITED



CREDIBILITY • INTEGRITY • ACHIEVEMENT

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 Washington, Utah, Idaho, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. 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.



Jamaican Adoption Program

Children's House International is accredited by the Jamaican Central Authority as an adoption service provider. CHI works directly with the CDA (Child Development Agency) who is Jamaica's federal social services and also acts as their Central Authority. We have a long history of working in Latin America and our International Specialist has 20 years of experience working there. We feel privileged to help waiting Jamaican children find their forever families.

We are anxious to help answer any questions you may have about this program.

Why Children's House International?

There are a lot of good people working in adoption. What makes CHI different? We promise attention to detail – we'll be spending the hours and hours on the telephone and computer with Jamaica while you prepare your new child's room. We'll make sure your paperwork is in order so your approvals happen as smoothly as possible. We will be there to answer your questions and we will always try to get right back with you quickly. We will point you in the direction of useful resources to help in your planning – things like books and language resources, qualified specialists in International adoption to answer your medical and developmental questions, and more. And when it comes time to travel, we'll arm you with all the information you need to make your trip both successful and pleasurable. Lastly, we won't make you bring large sums of cash with you when you travel. All money for the adoption can be handled through CHI here in the US. Our goal is to make your adoption experience as smooth and enjoyable as possible. Children's House International is proud of its reputation. We would be happy to answer all your questions.

Parent Requirements: In addition to the USCIS eligibility requirements for prospective adoptive parent(s), Jamaica has the following adoption

For more detailed information on all of our programs, please visit our public document site at:



<http://chitr.xtranet-designs.com/public.php>

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.

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://childrenshouseinternational.com/>

Thank you from all of us at
Children's House International

eligibility requirements (there may be exceptions given for those with Jamaican citizenship)

- One Adoptive parent must be a US citizen.
- Heterosexual Couples above the age of 25, Jamaica doesn't have an upper age restriction.
- Adoptive parents must be at least 15 years older than the adoptive child. (In special circumstances, this may be waived if one parent falls within this range and the other does not.)
- Singles may also adopt.

Additional U.S requirements -

- Adoptive parents over the age of 55 will need an intake interview by CHI social services staff.
- If adoptive parents take prescription medicine or have a medical condition, please contact our adoption consultant to determine your eligibility. Adoptive parents must demonstrate that they are physically, psychologically, and mentally fit to parent a child by adoption. A letter from a licensed physician will be required of each applicant and included in the home study report.
- Adoptive parents must disclose any and all criminal and drug history. If there was a minor criminal occurrence that happened a number of years ago, it will be reviewed to determine eligibility.
- There is no minimum income required. However, adoptive parents must satisfy state and home study agency requirements, as well as meet the income requirements provided by USCIS <https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/form/i-864p.pdf>

Adoption and Time Spent in Jamaica:

There are two types of adoption in Jamaica – Adoption Licenses (Guardianship). and Adoption Orders (Final in Country). CHI can only assist families with the Adoption Order process.

An **Adoption Order** allows an orphan to be adopted in Jamaica. Prospective adoptive parents seeking this type of adoption must reside in Jamaica during the pre-adoption placement and until the case appears before a Jamaican court (at least four months). Their child is fully adopted in Jamaica and is a U.S. citizen upon arrival to the U.S.

Traveling and spending time with your new child in their birth country is truly *a life changing experience and one you can never duplicate.*

Children available for adoption:

Jamaica has specific requirements that a child must meet in order to be eligible for adoption. In addition to these requirements, a child must meet the orphan definition as defined by U.S. law for you to bring them back to the United States. You cannot adopt a child in Jamaica unless he or she meets the requirements of both governments.

To qualify for adoption, children must be between 2 months and 16 years old. However, adopting a young child in Jamaica is rare. Most will be older children. Sibling groups may be available. Children with special need are also in need of families. We pride ourselves on advocating for



those children that seem to have the smallest of voices- but need us most. We take this responsibility very seriously, which is why we've maintained a strong reputation for child advocacy for waiting children.

Time Frame: The wait for a referral depends on how old the child is and what special needs your open to. For a young, healthy child right now we're seeing 3+ years. Parents with Jamaican Heritage are given preferential treatment by the Jamaican government, so there's more options available to them. If you adopt a child off our waiting list this will eliminate this wait time.

Home Study: If you live in Washington, Utah, Idaho, Louisiana, Texas or Florida, a CHI social worker will complete your home study. If you live outside these states, we will help you find a local agency social worker to prepare your home study. A home study completed by an agency who is Hague accredited is required. Some states have more requirements than others. Post placement/adoption reports are required during the first 2 years. The intervals of these reports will be determined by the CDA during the adoption process.

Family support: The Jamaican authorities place a high value on children in the family supporting the adoption of a child from Jamaica.

Adoption Education and Required Educational Materials: Children's House is dedicated to providing both information and support to our prospective parents.

This educational requirement of at least 10 hours is mandatory. Your case manager and home study provider will help you select the courses most appropriate to your adoption. 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.

Steps to Begin an International Adoption:

1. Intake call with Case Manager and International Specialist. This is to answer any questions you might have before you begin the Application process.
2. Complete your CHI Application packet which is sent to you via DocuSign. These agreements may be reviewed on our website.
3. Start your Home Study; take Adoption Education Courses and read suggested educational materials.
4. File the I-600A with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) along with having your fingerprints taken and submitted. Obtain or renew your Passports.
5. 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 Jamaica. Please contact us if you are interested in our Jamaican Adoption Program. We are sure you will have numerous questions and are looking forward to hearing from you.

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