

About Our Agency:

Children's House International is a non-profit adoption agency, licensed and in good standing since 1975. Our main office is in Washington State; however, 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 several programs across the world, placing thousands of orphaned children with their forever families. We provide international adoption placement services to all U.S. citizens, regardless of the State they reside.



Many of our staff members are also international adoptive parents. Due to this, we at CHI are very passionate about the children and countries they represent and are extremely well versed in the emotional aspects that go along with an adoption journey.

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 equipped in providing Home Studies and Post Adoption and/or Post Placement Report services to families in our licensed states. Outside these states, we assist families as they secure the services of a licensed Hague Accredited home study agency in their area.

In each of the country sections on our website, 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.

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.



Ecuador Program

Children waiting in Ecuador for forever families are 8 years of age or older, sibling groups, and children that have special needs.

Ecuadorian children come from a variety of ethnic groups that make up Ecuador's rich cultural heritage. These groups are Latino-Ecuadorian, African-Ecuadorian, and European-Ecuadorian. CHI is happy to help Ecuadorian waiting children find their forever homes.

Why Children's House International?

"There are a lot of great adoption agencies! What makes CHI different?"

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.

At CHI, we promise *attention to detail*. Our Ecuador team spends countless hours behind the scenes ensuring your paperwork is in order, so your adoption process is as smoothly as possible.

We will be here to answer your questions with quick, to the point responses, pointing you in the direction of useful resources to assist in your planning. When it comes time to travel, we will arm you with all the information necessary in making your trip both successful and pleasurable. Our Team in Ecuador will take great care of you and everything related to the process while you are there.

Note: None of the children pictured are available for adoption.

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 website:

www.childrenshouseinternational.org.



Children available for adoption:

The children available for adoption in Ecuador are 8 years of age and older, sibling groups, and children under 8 that have "special characteristics" (special needs) ranging from minor to severe. These may include:

- 3 or more siblings (ages vary)
- 2 siblings, 1 which is more than 8 years old
- a child older than 8 years
- any age child with a physical or mental special need, correctable or non-correctable.
- Many children have correctable special needs, such as cleft lip and palate, heart conditions, and clubbed hands or feet, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, and developmental delays.
- A number of these children already had their conditions surgically corrected, but because they had the condition previously, they are considered "special needs".
- Children have a full medical screening and detailed social information is provided.

Our goal is to make your adoption experience as smooth and enjoyable as possible. Children's House International is proud of its reputation and work hard in maintaining it.

Parent Requirements:

- Applicants should be 25 – 55+ years old.
- Both applicants must be 14 years older than the child and not more than 45 years older than the child.
- Some exceptions may be allowed on a case by case basis.
- Single women and men are allowed to adopt.
- Psychological Evaluation Required
- Adoptive parents must have clean criminal history records to adopt from Ecuador. (Some minor infractions occurring many years ago may be considered).



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 have maintained a strong reputation for child advocacy for waiting children.

Time Frame:

The entire process generally takes between **18 to 48** months. For those adopting older or waiting children, the time can be decreased. The average time between referral and picking up the child is about 4-6 months.

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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. Because Ecuador is a member of The Hague Convention on International Adoptions, a home study will be completed by an agency who is Hague accredited is required. Some states have more requirements than others. **Five (5)** post adoption reports from your social worker are required after your adoption. Your child will come home on an IH3 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.

Family support:

The Ecuadorian authorities place a high value on children in the family supporting the adoption of a child from Ecuador.

Adoption Education and Required Educational Materials:

Children's House provides both information and support to our prospective parents. This educational requirement of at least 10 hours is mandatory and another 30 hours is required by Ecuador. Your case manager and home study provider will help you select the courses most appropriate to your adoption.

Travel:

The country requires that both parents travel to Ecuador to bring their child home. Adopting from Ecuador is a one-trip process about 9-12 weeks long. Traveling and spending time with your new child in their birth country is truly a life changing experience and one you can never duplicate.

Our Team in Ecuador are professional and well-versed in adoption procedure and will make sure that all necessary steps are completed smoothly. Our Team will assist you during your entire stay in Ecuador.

Steps to Begin an International Adoption:

1. Intake call with a 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 at the CHI website.
3. Begin your Home Study; take Adoption Education Courses and read suggested educational materials.
4. File the I-800A with US Citizenship 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 CHI 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 Ecuador. Please contact us if you are interested in our Ecuador Adoption Program. We are sure you will have numerous questions and are looking forward to hearing from you.

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