

CHI FAMILY SERVICE PLAN Portugal Program

Children's House International (CHI) is the Primary Provider for my/our adoption case.

Service	How & When	Responsible Party
1. Identifying a child for adoption and arranging adoption	The local welfare department where the child is living conducts child investigations and determines whether a child should be removed from the birth family due to abuse, neglect or abandonment. This is done long before a child is referred to a potential family. The child is placed on a list, and local relatives are contacted for possible adoption; if none are found or interested, the search goes to a national level and if none are interested, placed on the international list with the Central Authority. "Arranging" the adoption continues throughout the case.	- The Portuguese Central Authority for Intercountry Adoption - The Local Social Security Institute - CHI Foreign Supervised Provider
2. Securing consent to termination of parental rights and to adoption	The local social welfare secures the termination of parental rights in cases where the child can no longer safely stay in their birth family home. Case is brought to the local court over the region for decision. This step has been completed long before a child is referred to a potential family.	- The Portuguese Central Authority for Intercountry Adoption - The Local Social Security Institute - Local courts over the area where child resides
3. Performing a background study on a child or a home study on a prospective adoptive parent(s) and reporting on such studies	- The local child welfare department conducts a child background report and makes determinations based on such reports for removal and adoption. Conducted before a referral is given to a family. - Prospective adoptive parent(s) home study is performed by CHI or an exempted provider home study agency in the United States Necessary prerequisite to eligibility for receiving a child referral.	Performing and Reporting on a background study of child - The Portuguese Central Authority for Intercountry Adoption - Local Social Security Institute Performing and Reporting on Home study of prospective adoptive parents - CHI or Supervised Provider (if applicable)
4. Making non-judicial determinations of the best interests of a child and the appropriateness of an adoptive placement for the child	Determinations for the child's best interest, to be placed for adoption, is made by the local child welfare where the child lives. The file is forwarded to the Central Authority/MOJ, Bulgarian foundation and CHI once referral is received for a specific family. This happens once the legal determination is made to remove the child from the birth family home.	- The Portuguese Central Authority for Intercountry Adoption - The Portuguese National Council for Adoption - The Local Social Security Institute - CHI - Supervised Provider (if applicable)



5. Monitoring a case after placement until final adoption	The Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) visits the child for an adoption trip where the meeting is monitored by the local child welfare, and Central Authority for International Adoption and Adoption, Civil Guardianship and Parental Support Unit locally. If the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) and child welfare determines they want to move forward with the guardianship, the family signs the acceptance form and guardianship is finished without family present in court. Family receives documents to take the child home where the final adoption will take place.	- The Portuguese Central Authority for Intercountry Adoption - The Local Social Security Institute - CHI - Supervised Provider (if applicable)
6. Assume custody of child in case of disruption before final adoption	Disruption in the Foreign Country: - The Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) will inform CHI, CHI's foreign supervised provider, and the Central Authority of their decision to disrupt. With the direction and permission of the Central Authority, the regional social services of Portugal will resume custody of the child. Disruption in the U.S.: - The Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) will inform CHI of their decision to disrupt. CHI will inform the US Department of State and Central Authority of Portugal. CHI will seek approval from the appropriate Portuguese Authorities prior to alternative placement and, if needed, make arrangements for the return of the child to the social welfare authorities in Portugal, only with the consent of the Central Authorities of the U.S. and Portugal. If the child is to remain in the U.S., CHI will work with the Central Authority of Portugal, Department of State, and local resources to find alternative placement options. The family will retain physical and financial custody until an alternative acceptable placement is made.	If disrupted in the foreign country: - The Portuguese Central Authority for Intercountry Adoption - The Local Social Security Institute If disrupted in the U.S.: - CHI - Central Authority for International Adoption - Adoption, Civil Guardianship and Parental Support Unit - US Department of State, if return is requested

I/We have received a copy of the above Service Plan for my/our adoption.

Date Signed _____

Prospective Adoptive Parent

Prospective Adoptive Parent

Printed Full Name

Printed Full Name

CHI Representative