



Fully Hague Accredited  
Through 2013



# Adoption

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MINNESOTA

# Colombia

## ADOPTION PROGRAM

### GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

The children in need of adoption from Colombia are generally healthy infants, toddlers, and children up to age 16. Many older children, sibling groups and special needs children are also available. Children may have been relinquished at birth in the hospital, abandoned, or taken into protection. Most children are waiting in one of several orphanages in Colombia, though some children are placed in foster care. The length of time you will wait for a child's referral, following LSSMN approval, will depend upon the age of the child requested. You may expect to travel to Colombia approximately three weeks after receiving and accepting your referral. Families choosing the Instituto Colombiano De Bienestar Familiar Program (ICBF) may wait 12-36+ months for a referral – typically the younger the child, the longer the wait for a referral.

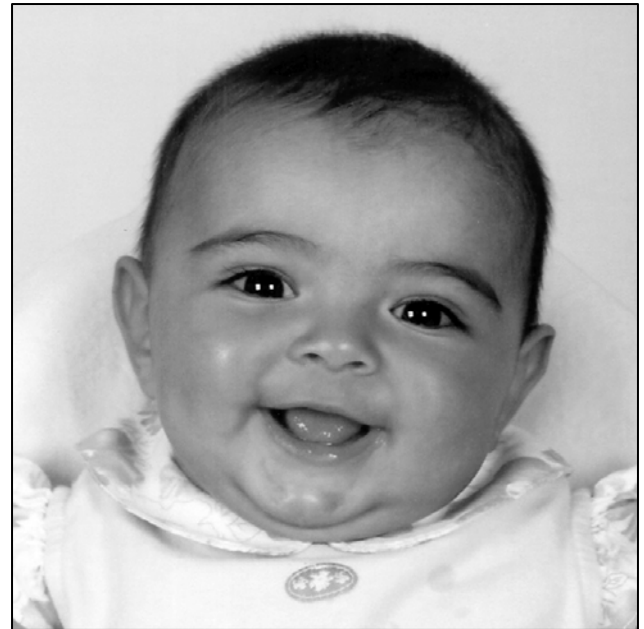
LSSMN also provides humanitarian aid to Colombia to help care for the children who will not be able to find homes through adoption. Our goal is to help establish effective community outreach programs to help those families who are unable to provide adequate food and shelter for themselves.

If you feel that you could provide a loving home for these orphaned children, please contact us.

### LUTHERAN ADOPTION NETWORK

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSSMN) works in partnership with more than 29 Lutheran service agencies in 26 states and the Virgin Islands to provide adoption opportunities for children and families. This partnership, called the Lutheran Adoption Network (LAN), aims to provide permanent adoptive homes for children from all countries in the world.

**Adoptive families working with a LAN member agency have complete access to the adoption programs of LSS of Minnesota. Please call us at 612.879.5230 or toll-free at 1.888.205.3769 for the schedule and location of an Information Meeting near you, or visit us online at [www.minnesotaadoption.org](http://www.minnesotaadoption.org).**



### PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

**CHILDREN AVAILABLE:** Boys and girls, accepting MN applications for infants, toddlers, older children, sibling groups and children with medical special needs; families with Colombian heritage accepted for all ages

**PARENT AGES:** Must be open to children of either gender within the following age ranges (or older)  
25-38 years of age for children 0-35 months;  
39-41 years of age for children 36-59 months;  
42-44 years of age for children 60-83 months  
45+ years of age for children 84 months and older

**LENGTH OF MARRIAGE:** 1 year minimum

**CHILDREN IN FAMILY:** prefer families with no more than 1 child already in home (some flexibility)

**SINGLE APPLICANT:** Single women accepted for children age 7 and older or children with special needs

**TRAVEL:** One trip, approximately 4-7 weeks; both parents expected to travel; one parent may depart after 2 weeks, if necessary

**TIMELINE:** Varies; dossier to referral 12-36+ months; travel generally 2-3 weeks after accepting referral

10.01.2009

<b>FEES PAID TO LSSMN</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FEE</b>	<b>PAYMENT TIMELINE</b>
<b>Adoption Program Expenses in the United States</b> Includes personnel costs, administrative overhead, operational costs, training and education, communications and publication costs, assistance with USCIS process and country specific application and dossier, and any other costs related to providing adoption services in the United States.	Registration (Non-MN Families)	\$250	Due with completed registration
	Intercountry Program Fee	\$5,000	Due upon completion of adoption study
<b>Total Fees Paid to LSSMN.....</b>			<b>\$5,250</b>

<b>FEES PAID TO LSSMN &amp; PASSED THROUGH TO COUNTRY</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FEE</b>	<b>PAYMENT TIMELINE</b>
<b>Foreign Country Program Expenses</b> Includes personnel and operational costs, administrative overhead, communication, translation and documentation expenses, and any other costs related to providing adoption services in Colombia. The administrative adoption process in Colombia before ICBF is free of charge.	This fee is determined by current conditions in Colombia and is subject to change. You will be billed for the fee current when you submit your dossier.	\$3,000	Due with submission of dossier
	<b>Humanitarian Program Support</b> Supports humanitarian programs funded by LSSMN in Colombia	\$1,000	Due with acceptance of referral
<b>Total Foreign Country Program Expenses Paid to LSSMN and Passed Through to Country.....</b>			<b>\$4,000</b>

<b>FEES PAID TO THIRD PARTIES</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FEE</b>	<b>PAYMENT TIMELINE</b>
<b>Estimated Third Party Fees</b> Includes fees to Third Party Providers for services required in order to complete the adoption process.	USCIS-I-800A	\$670	All Third Party fees are paid directly to provider at time of service
	USCIS Biometrics (fingerprinting)	\$80/person	
	Misc. Documentation Fees	\$400	
	Legal Services	\$1500	
	Additional Translation	\$10/page	
	Child's Medical Exam	\$70	
	Child's Passport	\$100	
	Child's U.S. Visa	\$400	
<b>Estimated Travel Expenses</b> Round trip airfare to Colombia for two adults and flight to U.S. for child under two years. Actual fares vary depending on travel season and departure city. In-country travel includes local transportation and miscellaneous expenses. Food and lodging estimate is calculated based upon a 6 week stay at \$150 per day per family.	Naturalization/Citizenship	varies	
	Airfare	\$2,400	All Third Party fees are paid directly to provider at time of service
	In-country Travel	\$600	
Food and Lodging	\$6,300		
<b>Total Estimated Third Party Expenses .....</b>			<b>\$12,600</b>

**TOTAL ESTIMATED COST FOR COLOMBIA GOVERNMENT ADOPTION PROGRAM..... \$21,850**

This is a good faith estimate of charges deemed reliable as of **OCTOBER 1, 2009**. Fees are charged for services provided, not for children. The payment of fees for services rendered does not guarantee the placement of a child. All fees, timelines and program requirements are subject to change. Fees are non-refundable once the service has been provided. LSSMN fees will be honored at the rate that is current when the service contract is received by LSSMN. Clients are responsible for non-LSSMN fees billed at the rate current when the service is provided. The Agency may reduce, waive or refund fees when 1) deemed by the Agency to be in the best interests of the child; 2) requested by clients due to hardship; or 3) when paid for services which were not completed.