



Fully Hague Accredited
Through 2013



Adoption

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MINNESOTA

Intercountry

HOME STUDY
ADOPTION SERVICES

DECISIONS

There are many important decisions to make in Intercountry Adoption. From which country would you like to adopt? Which agency do you want to work with for the Intercountry Placement? Which agency should you use for your adoption home study? By law, your home study must be completed in your state of residence. Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSSMN) offers comprehensive home study and post placement services for families in Minnesota whether they plan to link to an accredited Placement Agency of their choice or use one of our intercountry adoption programs. Our experienced and supportive staff will ensure that your home study meets all state, federal, and country requirements and will work in tandem with you and your Intercountry Placement Agency. Additionally, we will assist your family through Hague-compliant pre-adoption education and individual meetings to ensure that you are as prepared as possible to meet the unique challenges that may come with cross-cultural parenting. We have assisted many families in completing adoptions throughout the world and can easily link you to the accredited Placement Agency of your choice.

WHY LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE?

LSSMN is the oldest and among the most well-known and respected adoption agencies in Minnesota. Our knowledge and experience spans more than 140 years of service to adoptive families, adoptees, and birth families. We were the first agency in Minnesota to perform intercountry adoptions. We meet the highest standards for adoption – LSSMN is fully licensed and insured, as well as fully Hague/COA Accredited through 2013. We have the resources to assist you throughout your adoption experience as well as to support your family through the lifelong journey of adoption.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SERVICES

LSSMN offers comprehensive services to prepare, facilitate, and support families in all aspects of intercountry adoption. The goal in our Information Meetings is to provide prospective adoptive parents with information about intercountry home study services – as well as all of our adoption programs – and to answer any and all questions you may have regarding adoption, the process, costs, anticipated timelines and more.

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.



PROGRAM AT-A-GLANCE

EXPERIENCE: LSSMN has over 140 years of experience in helping families grow through adoption. Our licensed and supportive staff has the knowledge, experience, and resources to assist your family throughout your entire adoption process including after placement.

HAGUE/COA ACCREDITED: LSSMN is able to offer comprehensive home study and post placement services that meet the highest industry and governmental standards. You can have confidence that your home study will fulfill the requirements for all Hague and non-Hague countries.

OFFICES STATEWIDE: Once you have attended our valuable pre-adoption education seminar in the Twin Cities, the adoption process can take place in a series of meetings in your home and our local offices.

TIMELINE: Home Studies (including Hague-compliant training) are generally completed within 2 months. Timelines can vary depending on each family's needs and timeliness in completing paperwork.

10.01.2009

FEES PAID TO LSSMN	DESCRIPTION	FEE	PAYMENT TIMELINE
Home Study Includes adoption education, home study preparation and approval. <i>* This fee covers the annual maintenance required by the State of Minnesota to keep an adoption study current and is required ONLY if an adoption is not completed within one year of home study approval.</i>	Registration	\$50	Due with completed registration
	Application	\$500	Due with completed application
	Pre-Adoption Education	\$250/person	Due prior to training
	Adoption Study	\$2,000	Due upon start of adoption study
	Adoption Study Annual Update*	\$500*	Due upon start of annual update
Adoption Program Expenses in the United States 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.	Linking Program Fee	\$1,000	Due upon completion of adoption study
Post-placement / Post-adoption Expenses Includes preparation of any agency-generated post-placement or post-adoption reports required to comply with MN state regulations and the laws of the country from which you choose to adopt.	Post-placement / Post-adoption Supervision and Reports	\$1,500	Due upon physical placement of child
Total Fees Paid to LSSMN.....			\$5,550

FEES PAID TO INTERCOUNTRY PLACEMENT AGENCY	DESCRIPTION	FEE	PAYMENT TIMELINE
These fees may include but are not limited to registration, application and program fees for the international placement agency as well as international country fees, program administration, and orphanage contributions. You must check with your Intercountry Placement Agency for a complete list of required services and fees.			Check with your Child Placement Agency for specific fees and payment schedule
Foreign Country Program Expenses		\$ _____	
Care of the Child		\$ _____	
Documents & Translation Services		\$ _____	
Humanitarian Program Support		\$ _____	
Total Fees Paid to Intercountry Placement Agency			\$ _____

FEES PAID TO THIRD PARTIES	DESCRIPTION	FEE	PAYMENT TIMELINE
Estimated Third Party Fees These fees may include but are not limited to USCIS fees, documentation fees, child's medical exam in country, child's passport and expediting fees, child's U.S. visa, child's naturalization/citizenship paperwork, airfare, in-country travel, lodging, and food. You must check with your Intercountry Placement Agency for a complete list of required services and fees.	MN Criminal Background Check	\$70/person	All Third Party fees paid directly to provider at time of service
	USCIS-I-800A	\$670	
	USCIS Biometrics (fingerprinting)	\$80/person	
	Additional Translation	\$10/page	
	Child's U.S. Visa	\$400	
	Naturalization/Citizenship	varies	
	_____	\$ _____	
_____	\$ _____		
Total Estimated Third Party Expenses			\$ _____

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST FOR INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION PROGRAM OF YOUR CHOICE \$ _____

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.