



JUNE UPDATE

COUNTRY UPDATES

Nicaragua

The referral times for children in Nicaragua appear to be speeding up. We have received a referral as soon as four months from the date of dossier submission. We hope that this trend will continue in Nicaragua and look forward to bringing more children home. If you are interested in adopting a child from Nicaragua, please contact Lydia@mljadoptions.com.

Honduras

We are thrilled to announce that our first Honduran child came home! Welcome Home!

Married couples and single women may adopt from Honduras. Adopting parent(s) must be between 25 and 51 years of age, couples must have been married for three years. Children available for adoption range in age from infancy to pre-teens. Both male and female children are available. Children are either of Caucasian or Hispanic ancestry. Contact Lydia@mljadoptions.com, if you are interested in adopting a child from Honduras.

Congo

The U.S. Embassy in Congo is currently scheduling orphan visa appointments four to six weeks after an appointment is requested. This delay is due to the understaffing in the Embassy. The typical wait time for an orphan visa appointment is one to two weeks.

Congolese passport employees are currently on strike causing some minor delays. This strike is anticipated to cease by the end of this month.

Our Congo program continues to grow and has become one of our more popular programs due to the fact that infants are available, referral times are quick and no travel is required. Contact Sonja@mljadoptions.com, if you are interested in adopting from Congo.

Bulgaria

The Bulgaria program is open to married couples, as well as single men and women. There is no length of marriage requirement. We anticipate that Bulgaria will quickly become one of our more popular programs, as young children are available and little travel is required.

If you are interested in adopting a child from Bulgaria, please contact Lydia@mljadoptions.com.

Haiti

We have officially opened our newest Country program in Haiti! This past week MLJ Adoptions, Inc. held an Open House for Haitian Adoption where prospective adoptive parents learned about the adoption process, viewed pictures and heard stories about the team's recent trip to Haiti.

Children of all ages are available for adoption from Haiti. A referral of a newborn is possible; however, the child will be 12-18 months old by the time he or she arrives home.

One parent must be at least 35 years old to adopt from Haiti. Couples married seven years or longer are eligible to adopt from Haiti. Single women 35 and older are able to adopt from Haiti. Haiti also requires a statement of Christian faith and a letter of reference from a pastor before you will be approved to adopt from Haiti.

The length of the process from completion of the dossier is 12-18 months. The length of travel will be 3-5 days unless an unusual circumstance arises. It may be possible to use an escort instead of traveling.

Before the recent disaster, Haiti was already a very poor country with very little resources. The medical facilities prior to the earthquake were not adequate.

Prior to your adoption, a physician approved by the United States government will examine your child and you will receive the results from this examination. If there are any medical issues, you have the option to adopt a different child

Once your dossier is submitted to Haiti, families will receive a referral for a child in their desired age range typically after 30 days. Once a family accepts a referral, they will receive monthly updates and photos

on their child until the completion of the adoption. Families are allowed to arrange a visit in the interim wait, if desired. If you are interested in adopting a child from Haiti, please contact Lydia@mljadoptions.com.

Other Countries

If you or someone you know is interested in adopting a child from a country where we do not have a current program, let us know, as there are several services that we can provide.

ADOPTION PREPARATION

Home Studies

We offer home study services for both domestic and international adoption. If you are an Indiana resident and would like to start the home study process please contact Sonja Brown at Sonja@mljadoptions.com.

Education

Pursuant to Hague Requirements, adoptive parents are required to complete at least ten hours of adoption education. Our upcoming classes are as follows:

July 21 from 6-8 pm, The Adopted Child

August 19 from 6-8 pm, Parenting the Adopted Child

Please contact Sonja@mljadoptions.com, or visit www.mljadoptions.com to RSVP.

READoption

Due to the recently implemented Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption, all adoptions completed in foreign countries must be domesticated through the legal process of readoption. This process should be started as soon as your child comes home.

Please contact Sonja@mljadoptions.com, for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Initial Adoption Seminar

MLJ is offering a Free Initial Adoption Seminar for those considering either international or domestic adoption on **July 14th from 6-8 p.m.** at the MLJ Adoptions, Inc. offices.

Please RSVP by visiting <http://mljadoptions.com/SeminarInfo.aspx>.

Affording Adoption

MLJ Adoptions, Inc. will be offering free seminars addressing the cost of adoption and the opportunities for adoption funding, including grants, loans, tax credits, HR benefits, fund-raising, and more. Led by our Financial Resource Coordinator, who raised more than \$50,000 for her own adoptions. Seminars will be provided on the following dates and times:

August 28, 2010 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at MLJ Adoptions, Inc.

September 18, 2010 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Twin City Bible Baptist located at 7252 S. Meridian Marion, Indiana 46953.

Please RSVP by visiting <http://mljadoptions.com/SeminarInfo.aspx>.

TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Mark A. Reder, Latin American Program Director



Mark A. Reder is a graduate of the University of Texas where he graduated with a degree in Economics and Spanish. He received his Juris Doctor from Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis in 2007. While in law school, Mark clerked for attorney Michele L. Jackson, a renowned expert in the field of international law. While clerking for Ms. Jackson, Mark handled numerous international and domestic adoptions. In the community, Mark volunteers for the American Heart Association as well as the Fatherless Foundation.

Also fluent in Spanish, Mark is the Latin American Program Director for MLJ Adoptions, Inc.

Stay connected! Follow MLJ on Twitter and become a fan on Facebook. We look forward staying connected on-line!

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