

DeColores Adoptions International

2615 Paul White Rd. , Lake Charles, LA 70611

Phone: 337-855-7398Rd. /fax: 337-217-1280

info@decoloresadoptions.com

www.decoloresadoptions.com

Non-Profit, State Licensed Agency #11817

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Dear family:

Thank you for writing to DeColores Adoptions International, a licensed and full Hague accredited non-profit adoption agency specialized in international adoptions. We have helped hundreds of children find loving homes with waiting families. But there are many waiting children, healthy babies and toddlers, who are in need of forever families.

DeColores Adoptions International would love to assist you with your adoption's journey. We are sending you our information packet. Please take a few minutes to review the information provided and email us or call our office if you have any questions.

Please find a sample of our Agreement for International Adoption services at the end of our Adoption Information Packet. We welcome your questions or concerns. We understand that your adoption process is an important event and we would like to assist you throughout this process.

The following information is available upon request:

The number of DeColores Adoptions International adoption placements per year for the prior three calendar years, and the number and percentage of those placements that remain intact, are disrupted, or have been dissolved.

The number of prospective adoption parents who apply to adopt on a yearly basis, based on data for the prior three calendar years; and

The number of children eligible for adoption and awaiting an adoptive placement referral.

The Supervised Providers (third parties) that might work in your case in the USA and in the Convention country.

Thank You,

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ADOPTION INFORMATION PACKET

GENERAL PURPOSE

DeColores Adoptions International is a nonprofit state licensed agency located in Lake Charles, Louisiana. **DeColores Adoptions International's** founders are no strangers to the international adoption world. Twin sisters, Sandy Arredondo and Debbie Campbell are adoptive parents themselves of children from Paraguay, Guatemala, and the United States. They began as a result of their love and commitment to the orphans, and to the parents who long to share their love and their lives with a child.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Our adoption services provide prospective adoptive families with assistance in collecting required documents and guidance with the INS process required for foreign adoption. **DeColores Adoptions International** then locates an appropriate child referral for the adoptive family and coordinates the process until the child can be immigrated to the United States.

DeColores Adoptions International believes that God calls us, as parents, to care for and nurture His children because they are His greatest creation, but sometimes they are born into unfortunate circumstances in which their country of origin faces poverty and famine, which in turn fills orphanages and foster homes with beautiful, parentless babies and toddlers. We are committed to providing assistance to these wonderful children. We work endlessly to find loving families who have always hoped and dreamed to share permanent and loving homes for these children of God, which ultimately makes this our highest calling.

DeColores Adoptions International is also committed to providing extensive support, security, and empathy to adoptive families on a personal level of compassion and understanding. We will continuously strive hard to provide each family who adopts through our agency; ongoing guidance and support to accomplish these goals, making the entire adoption experience a reward of love and happiness that last a lifetime!

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CHILDREN

Depending on the country program, **DeColores Adoptions International** refers children from infant on up for adoption. All of the children have either been relinquished for adoption or abandoned. Most of the children are generally healthy.

TIMING OF PLACEMENTS

Timing depends on each country and how “paper ready” the family is when they apply with **DeColores Adoptions International**. Please note that changes in the foreign adoption programs sometimes occur quickly. Information on timing, costs and other specifics that families receive when they are inquiring may change by the time home study documents and USCIS approval are completed.

STEPS TO GET PAPER READY

1. Receive information about **DeColores Adoptions International** adoption programs and have an interview by phone or in person. We will answer all your questions about the adoption process and will provide you with any information you might need to make a decision about your adoption journey (*no charge*).
2. Once you have decided to start your adoption journey, register with us by completing and sending the family information sheet to **DeColores Adoptions International** 2615 Paul White Road, Lake Charles, LA 70611.
3. Arrange for a home study: If you are a resident of Louisiana or Mississippi **DeColores Adoptions International** can provide contact with a licensed social worker. If you are not a resident of this area your home study may be done by any agency or social worker that is licensed in the state in which you live. This should be someone that is familiar with an international home study.
4. File your I-600A form with your local USCIS.
5. Begin gathering, notarizing, certifying, and authenticating the documents required for your dossier, which are needed by the foreign country you have chosen to adopt from. **You can and should begin gathering these documents immediately.**
6. Once your dossier is completed the agency will forward it to the foreign country you chose to adopt from.
7. **REFERRAL OF YOUR CHILD!!!** When you receive your referral, and depending on the country’s regulations, you will receive e-mailed photos of a child. You will also receive a medical statement and blood test results as well as birth certificate. You have 2 weeks for consideration of referral (unless extenuating circumstances involving the child’s best interests require a more expedited decision). A referral of a child is considered from the time information about the child has been given to you.

8. **DeColores Adoptions International** coordinates your case, keeping you informed of all progress and updates as we receive them.
9. **DeColores Adoptions International** will provide you with travel information as well as family references.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

The costs incurred by the adoptive family fall into the following categories:

A. The cost of a home study. The fee can vary depending on the social worker handling your case. The local social workers we work with charge \$800 to \$1,500 depending upon if they have to travel (this is subject to change without notice).

B. **US Program Service Fee (agency fee)** for placement and coordination services pertaining referral of one child depends on the country you chose to adopt from.

C. The cost for authenticating documents (birth certificates, reference letters, etc.) with local, state, and embassy levels for use in the foreign country. The cost may vary depending on the country you chose to adopt from. It is best to call to check the cost before mailing.

D. **The Foreign Country Program Service fee** . The fee varies depending on the country you chose to adopt from. The foreign country fee generally includes foster care and/or orphanage donations, professional legal services, foreign coordinator fees, routine medical care and exams, and legal expenses in the foreign country. Please refer to information for each individual foreign country program.

E. Out of pocket expenses, such as travel and lodging, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, passport, visa, and translation fees.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DeColores Adoptions International will provide families with travel information and will assist you in making travel arrangements, hotel reservations and shuttle rides to the hotel. Depending on the foreign country program, we will arrange for the child to be united with you by our staff and translator, and make sure you never feel alone.

For more information call: Phone: 337-855-7398 Fax: 337-217-1280

Visit our Web Site at: www.decoloresadoptions.com

AVAILABLE PROGRAMS

NEPAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

COUNTRY PROFILE

Situated in the lap of the Himalayas, Nepal is located between the latitude 26*22' to 30*27' North and longitude 80*4' E to 88*12' East, and elevation ranges from 90 to 8848 meters. The average length being 885 km east to west and the average breadth is 193 km from north to south. The country is bordering between the two most populous countries in the world, India in the East, South, and West, and China in the North. Nepal is a land locked country and home place of natural beauty with traces of artifacts. The Northern range (Himalayas) is covered with snow over the year where the highest peak of the world, the Mount Everest, stands. The middle range (Hill) is captured by gorgeous mountains, high peaks, hills, valleys and lakes. Southern range (Terai) is the gangaitic plain of alluvial soil and consist of dense forest area, national parks, wildlife reserves and conservation areas. The temperature and rainfall differ from place to place. In the geographic diversity and varied climatic conditions 23.2 million people of more than 60 caste/ethnic groups are accommodated in the country. Nepal presents an example of being united in diversity over the history and has maintained it's pride as being an independent sovereign state. There is constitutional monarchy where people exercise right of adult franchise. The executive, legislative and judiciary bodies function and exercise their rights independently. There is two tier system of legislation, the upper house, called the Rastriya Sabha, consists of 60 members and the Lower House, called the Pratinidhi Sabha is the house of Representatives for which members are elected from 205 electoral constituency distributed in 75 districts of the country. The elected Prime Minister heads the government.

Geographically, the country is divided in three regions; Mountain, Hill and Terai accommodating 7.44 and 49 % of the population respectively. Based on area of districts these regions constitute 35, 42 and 23% of the total land area. There are 5 development regions and 75 administrative districts. Districts are further divided into smaller units, called Village Development committee (VDC) and Municipality.

Currently, there are 3914 VDCs and 58 Municipalities in the country. Each VDC is composed of 9 wards, Municipality ward ranges from 9 to 35. Kathmandu is the capital city. There are number of peaks, rivers and lakes in the country.

Nepal is the member of the United Nations and has established diplomatic relation with 113 (Jun 2001) countries of the world. Major export commodities are paste, Pulses, oil Cake, Catechu, Jute good Sacking, Twins, Carpets (Hand knitted wollen), Readymade garments, handicrafts, ginger.

Economic growth of the country has not improved markedly over time to over take population growth. As the country estimated population growth is 2.3 per annum, the gain achieved by developmental activities has been concealed by growing population. Little over half (57%) of the population of working age

reported economically active in 1991 and among them 81% were engaged in agricultural activities. Contribution of non-agricultural activities are gradually increasing in the GDP. Per capita GDP is estimated in the order of US \$ 240 (preliminary estimate) for 2000/01. The currency is Nepalese Rupee.

NEPAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS (subject to change without notice)

- Families must be at least 30 years older than the child being adopted but no older than 45 years difference between parent and child.
- Couples must be married a minimum of 4 years.
- Single women applicants must be 35 year of age or older.
- Families who have one child in the home may only adopt a child of the other gender. The child that is adopted must be younger than other children in the home. If there are no children in the home, it is possible to adopt a boy and a girl at the same time with two separate files in the country. Families who have children of both genders are ineligible to adopt from Nepal at this time.
- Children can be as young as 3 months old at time of referral, but are typically 6 months or older.
- Children are matched by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare.
- Referrals usually come about 2-3 months after submitting the dossier.
- Sibling groups are sometimes available.
- Adoptive parents only travel one time to Nepal.
- Immunizations are not required for Nepali travel, but please check with your personal physician.
- Nepal has a detailed list of document requirements and specific home study requirements.
- Re-adoption after arriving in the U.S. is strongly encouraged or may be required according to the visa that the U.S. Embassy in Nepal grants the adopted children.
- Post adoptive reports will be done by a social worker at 6 months, and 1 year. After the first two are completed you will be required to submit personal reports to Decolores Adoptions International every 6 months until the child is 16. These reports will then be sent to the Nepali ministry as required by Nepali law.

DOSSIER PREPARATION

LIST OF DOCUMENTS:

1. **Adoptive Home Study:** This is prepared by an adoption agency and/or licensed social worker as a result of one or several in-home visits and interviews. One or more group teaching/discussion sessions with other adoptive couples may also be required as part of the home-study process. For singles adopting, please make sure that you have the following statements included in your home study: ~~ The home study must state who you will appoint as legal guardian should something happen to you. Statement of Guardianship in the event of your untimely death, and also list a female/male role model for the prospective child.
2. **Medical/Physical Report:** Each adoptive parent must include a medical or physical report. Some agencies give you a standardized form to be completed by your physician as part of your home study, but you should also have, for the dossier, a simple letter from your family doctor on his/her letterhead stating that you have been examined by him/her, the findings, and that you are in adequate physical and mental condition to raise a child and that you have “free of communicable diseases”. You should also have similar letters for all of your children currently residing in your household and they must include the statement “free of communicable diseases.”
3. **Most Recent IRS Filing:** Send copies of only the first few pages of your last tax return—those that contain the financial summaries and your signatures (usually the first two pages of the Form 1040). You do not need to send the itemized-deductions page or other schedules, W-2’s, 1099’s, or other supporting documentation.
4. **Letter of Employment:** Each adoptive parent must supply a letter stating the position title, grade or rank, salary, and length of employment. This should be written on company letterhead by your supervisor or a representative from the human resources department. If you are self-employed, have your accountant or tax preparer issue a letter confirming the nature of your business and verifying your income as reported on your tax return.
5. **Police Clearance:** Each adoptive parent must provide a police clearance issued by the local police agency, demonstrating that you have no criminal history. This is not the same as the state police clearance that may be required for your home study. It is issued by the police department of the township or municipality in which you reside.
6. **Guardianship letters:** Both the adoptive parent and the person/persons accepting legal guardianship must right a letter. Refer to the model.

7. **FBI Fingerprint Card:** Each parent must complete and file for fingerprinting through the FBI. Refer to the model.
8. **Family Description:** issue by the licensed social worker/or licensed home study agency (please see attached sample)
9. **Certificate of Asset** (List of properties)
10. **Bank statement** (present financial position)
11. **Photocopy of passport** (each adoptive parent)
12. **Commitment of the applicant** to send post placement reports every year until child reaches adult age.
13. **Child's Rights Statement and Guarantee Letter** (please see attached sample): this letter should be signed by the American Embassy in Nepal at referral.
14. ***Certified Birth Certificate:** Each adoptive parent must provide a certified birth certificate, issued by the Office of Vital Records in the state in which he/she was born.
15. ***Certified Marriage Certificate** (if applicable): An adoptive couple must provide a certified copy of their marriage certificate, issued by the Office of Vital Records in the state in which they were married.
16. ***Certified Divorce or Death Decree** (if applicable): If you are now married and were previously divorced or widowed, you do not need to include this. If you are single and were divorced or widowed, you will need to supply a certified copy of your divorce decree or your spouse's death certificate. Again, this is issued by the Office of Vital Records in the state in which the event occurred.
17. ***Certified Birth Certificate of children** living at home including description and status of children.
18. **Form 171H**
19. **10 copies of passport size photos** of each adoptive parent.

* These documents should all be of recent issue. You can order these documents directly through your state's Office of Vital Records or through the VitalChek Network service (<http://www.vitalcheknetwork.com>).

1. All documents (numbers 1-17) must be authenticated by the Nepalese Consulate that has responsibility for the state in which they originated, not necessarily the state in which you reside. If your documents are from multiple states, they may have to be certified and authenticated by different Secretary of State and Consular offices. For example, if you were born in Louisiana, but married in New York, your birth certificate must be authenticated by the Nepalese Consulate in Houston, and your marriage certificate by the one in New York City. The authentication process is the last step prior to your dossier being sent to Nepal.
2. Documents from 1–13 must be notarized by a licensed notary public. Make sure the notary's term does not expire prior to the date

you anticipate completing the adoption. These documents must then be certified by the individual (the Secretary of State) who oversees the notary public(s) who notarized your documents. Some states require a county seal first. The appropriate Nepalese Consulate (step 1 above) must then authenticate them.

3. Documents from 14-17 are all state-issued documents and carry the seal of the office from which they are issued. They are already certified. These documents need only be authenticated by the appropriate Nepalese Consulate.

NEPAL INFORMATION RESOURCES

Embassy of Nepal in Washington DC, USA

Address: 2131 Leroy Place, NW, Washington DC, 20008 USA.

Phones: 001-202-667-4550 / 001-202-667-4551

Fax: 001-202-667-5534

Email: info@nepalembassyusa.org

Website: <http://www.nepalembassyusa.org/> [Report Dead Link]

Honorary Consulate of Nepal in Boston, MA. USA

Address: 790 Boylston St, Suite 25-I, Boston, MA 02199

Phones: (617) 353-1994

Fax: (617) 437-9638

Email: sobin@aol.com

Honorary Consulate of Nepal in Chicago, Illinois. USA

Address: 100 West Monroe Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60603

Phones: (312) 263 1250

Fax: (312) 263 3480

Email: mablawl@ais.net

Honorary Consulate of Nepal in Idaho, USA

P.O. BOX: 1688, Sun Valley, Idaho 83353

Phones: (208) 726-4733

Fax: (208) 726 1092

Email: wcassell@sunvalley.net

Honorary Consulate of Nepal in Marina Del Rey, CA. USA

Address: 4640 Admiralty Way, 5th Floor, Marina Del Rey CA 90292

Phones: (310) 305 4024

Fax: (310) 305 3804

Email: sunterragolf@earthlink.net

Honorary Consulate of Nepal in San Francisco, CA. USA

Address: 909, Montgomery St, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94133

Phones: (415) 434-1111

Fax: (415) 434-3130

Email: skelly@blumcapital.com

Nepalese Consulate General in New York, USA.

Address: 820 Second Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10017

Phones: 00212-370-3988, 3989

Fax: 00212-953-2038

Email: nepal@un.int

HELPFUL LINKS

- **CIA World Factbook - Nepal :**

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/np.html>

- **USCIS (for Adoption Petition Forms):**

<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis>

- **I-600A Form on USCIS:**

<http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/i-600a.pdf>

- **US State Department -Nepal Intercountry Adoption:**

<http://adoption.state.gov/>

- **Nepal Embassy in USA:**

<http://www.nepalembassyusa.org/index.php>

- **USA Embassy in Nepal:**

<http://nepal.usembassy.gov/>

APPLICATION AND FAMILY INFORMATION SHEET

FAMILY NAME _____ APPLICATION DATE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE FATHER

NAME (First, middle, last) _____

Divorced: YES/ NO

BIRTH DATE _____ AGE _____ BIRTH PLACE _____

EMPLOYER _____

Occupation _____

WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER _____ CELL _____

CITIZENSHIP _____ PASSPORT NUMBER _____

LENGTH OF MARRIAGE _____

PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE MOTHER

NAME (First, middle, last) _____

Divorced: YES/ NO

BIRTH DATE _____ AGE _____ BIRTH PLACE _____

EMPLOYER _____

Occupation _____

WORK TELEPHONE _____ CELL _____

CITIZENSHIP _____ PASSPORT NUMBER _____

MAIDEN NAME _____

CHILDREN

LIST ALL CHILDREN BY PRESENT AND FORMER MARRIAGES:

NAME	BIRTHDATE	GENDER	PRESENT/FORMER MARRIAGE	ADOPTED/ BIOLOGICAL	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

CHILD TO BE ADOPTED

Program interested in:

Guatemala _____ **Nepal** _____ **Haiti** _____

Check one

MALE _____ FEMALE _____ EITHER _____

Would you accept siblings? YES _____ NO _____

AGE PREFERRED _____

Would you accept a known minor correctable handicap? YES _____ NO _____

A correctable Physical Handicap (birthmark, cleft palate, etc.) _____

A severe physical Handicap (hearing, blind, etc) _____

Would you consider adopting a newborn along with an older sibling if both are available for adoption at the same time? _____

ARE YOU CURRENTLY SEEKING A CHILD FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE? IF SO, EXPLAIN. _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide us with the following information on the agency/social worker who has or is preparing your home study:

SOCIAL WORKER _____ Started Home study? YES _____ NO _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

ADDRESS _____

Home Study and State Requirements:

Social worker _____ phone _____

Do you have a home study in progress or completed? _____ date _____

If not completed, at what stage is it? _____

INS I600A

Have you filed your I600A with the US INS as of this date? _____

Have you been finger printed with INS? _____ Date of finger prints _____

Do you have INS form 171H approval? _____ Expiration date _____

What is your adoption timeline? _____

Are you ready to adopt now? _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Please list the name, address, and phone number of a person we can contact while you are out of the country.

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

ADDRESS _____

-

I/we understand that DeColores Adoptions International cannot guarantee placement of a child or time by which a child will be placed. I/we have reviewed this family information sheet and all of the information is true and correct.

PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE FATHER'S SIGNATURE **DATE**

PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE MOTHER'S SIGNATURE **DATE**