

A Child's Way Home

### **International Adoption Service Contract**

AGREEMENT made on _	day of	, 20	_, by and between
Wasatch International A	Adoptions, herein after kno	own as WIA, a Utah noi	n-profit 501(c)3
corporation located at 1	1140 36 <sup>th</sup> Street #204, Og	den, Utah, 84403, USA	4
	AND		
			Adoptive Mother
			Adoptive Father
Whose address is			

WHEREAS, WIA is an international adoption agency, its' primary responsibility is to find families for children, not children for families. Thus, WIA will always represent the best interest of the child; and WHEREAS, WIA coordinates the adoption of children internationally and otherwise assists prospective adoptive parent(s) in identifying children for adoption and in completing the procedures necessary for the children to be adopted by them abroad and repatriated to the country of the adoptive parents; and

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises contained herein, and intending to be legally bound thereby, it is therefore agreed:

### 1. Home Study

- a. All obligations of WIA set forth herein are conditioned upon the adoptive parent(s) receipt of an approved home study report that is in compliance with all applicable foreign, federal and state statutes and rules, and the statues and rules of the country from which the adoptive parents seek to adopt.
- b. The adoptive parent(s) understand they must use WIA to perform the home study service if they reside in the state of Utah unless otherwise agreed upon and approved by the Executive Director.
  - 1. If the adoptive parent(s) do elect to use WIA for this purpose, the home study services will be governed by a separate agreement.
  - 2. If the adoptive parent(s) do not use WIA for this purpose, WIA must do the following:
    - Pre-approve the homestudy agency and enter into an agreement with the agency, whereby WIA will be the primary provider and the homestudy provider the supervised provider.
    - ii. Review and approve the homestudy prior to completion. Therefore, WIA will charge a Homestudy Review fee as set forth on Schedule A and on the Schedule of Costs attached hereto. This Homestudy Review fee covers time spent working in conjunction with your homestudy agency of choice to assure the homestudy agency follows the necessary guidelines and that your homestudy is in compliance with State, Federal and Foreign Guidelines.

- **2. WIA Duties**. WIA agrees to provide the services listed below to the adoptive parent(s). WIA's responsibilities are strictly limited to those set forth below, and the adoptive parent(s) agree and understand that if, at any time, they desire WIA to perform services in addition to those listed below, such needs should be raised with the Executive Director of WIA. WIA, at its sole discretion, shall determine whether to accommodate the adoptive parents' additional needs; provided, however, that any agreement by WIA to accept additional responsibility is binding and enforceable only upon express written agreement, signed by the Executive Director of WIA.
  - a. WIA shall work with the adoptive parent(s) to assist them in the completion, organization, finalization and submission of all documentation necessary to receive a referral of a child for adoption from a foreign country.
  - b. If WIA is not performing the home study services, WIA agrees to work cooperatively with the home study agency that the adoptive parent(s) select.
  - c. Upon providing the adoptive parent(s) with the referral of a child from a foreign country, and the adoptive parent(s) acceptance thereof, hereinafter referred to as the child(ren), WIA shall work on behalf of the adoptive parent(s) to assist them in the completion, organization, finalization and submission of all documentation necessary for the adoptive parent(s) to adopt the child(ren) from the placing country. WIA's foreign representatives shall provide adoption services and assistance to the adoptive parent(s) while in the foreign country
  - d. WIA shall provide the adoptive parent(s) with all information on the child(ren) in its physical possession, subject to the limitations contained in the Disclose of Risks section included below.
  - e. WIA or WIA's foreign representatives shall arrange for and schedule all administrative, judicial and/or other proceedings required by the placing country to effect the adoption of the child(ren) by the adoptive parent(s).
  - f. To the extent that the adoptive parent(s) are citizens of the United States, WIA's foreign representatives shall assist the adoptive parent(s) in completing all documentation necessary for the child(ren) to apply for and acquire an exit visa and gain admission to the United States of America, including arranging and scheduling consular visit(s) and physical examiniation(s) of the child(ren) for such purpose.
  - g. To the extent necessary, WIA will provide or arrange for translation services for all documents.
  - h. If an event should occur as defined in paragraph 5 that results in either significant delay (as in a moratorium) or a closing of that country to all adoptions, WIA will work with the adoptive parents to determine if another adoption program could meet the needs of the adoptive parent(s). In the event that the adoption is not completed for any reason beyond the control of WIA, the adoptive parent(s) understand the fees already paid to the foreign referral source or other officials/facilitators in the foreign country are recoverable or refundable only as set forth on Schedule A.
  - i. WIA will communicate on behalf of the adoptive parent(s) with the foreign country from which they seek to adopt.

- **3.** Adoptive Parent(s) duties during the adoption process. Any duties not expressly listed above as being provided by WIA shall be the responsibility of the adoptive parent(s). The adoptive parent(s) agree that they will undertake all steps necessary for the adoption of the child(ren), including, without limitation, the following duties:
  - a. The adoptive parent(s) shall complete a minimum of 10 hours of parent preparation education and counseling. Upon the successful completion of such counseling or study, WIA will issue an Adoptive Parent Certificate of Parent Preparation, to be signed by both a social worker and a WIA representative. The adoptive parent(s) will acknowledge and represent that they have been informed of, explored, and understand the issues involved in the developmental and social adjustment of foreign born, institutionalized, adopted children to their new homes in the adoptive parent(s) country of residence and/or citizenship. The adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to participate in and complete such a parenting preparation program.
  - b. The adoptive parent(s) agree to act in a manner that would not be construed as discourteous, immoral or insulting towards the U.S. or Foreign authorities or WIA staff, coordinators and consultants. Any such action shall be deemed to be a breach of this Agreement and shall constitute cause for termination thereof by WIA. In the sole professional discretion of WIA to serve the best interest of the prospective adoptive child, at any time during the processing of the adoption case, WIA may require additional adoptive parent(s) counseling, testing, education and approval(s) prior to the placement of a child with the adoptive parent(s).
  - c. The adoptive parent(s) understand and agree that all contacts with Foreign Adoption Authorities, in-country coordinators, facilitators, attorneys, and orphanages must be made through WIA. To protect the integrity and safety of your adoption process working with 3<sup>rd</sup> party entities is strictly prohibited. Any unauthorized contact with the above listed entities from the adoptive family or 3<sup>rd</sup> party entities is grounds for termination of this Agreement.
  - d. The adoptive parent(s) acknowledge that the requirements for specific documents with respect to the adoption process may vary from region to region and from time to time, and may change with or without notice. To the extent that WIA requests documentation, information and/or materials from the adoptive parent(s) for purposes of adoption, post placement, or post adoption, the adoptive parent(s) shall use their best efforts to submit to WIA such documents, information and materials in the requested form within 10 days thereof. All such documentation, information, and materials shall be accurate and not contain any material omissions.
  - e. The adoptive parent(s) agree to pay WIA all fees set forth in the Schedule and Confirmation of Costs attached hereto in the amounts, in the manner, and on the dates set forth therein.
  - f. Using instructions provided by WIA, the adoptive parent(s) shall obtain all materials and complete their dossier for submission to the foreign country.
  - g. The adoptive parent(s) agree to perform and complete all steps necessary to accomplish the immigration of the child(ren) to the adoptive parent(s) country, and to formalize citizenship for the child(ren) according to the laws and procedures of the adoptive parent(s) country.

- h. If required by the country that is placing the child(ren), the adoptive parent(s) agree to register the child(ren) with the appropriate officials prior to the family's departure from that country, or if approved by WIA, at the appropriate Consulate in the adoptive parent(s) country immediately upon return to that country. If registration does not occur while abroad, the adoptive parents agree to submit to WIA evidence and documentation of this registration within 30 days of their return to the adoptive parent(s) country.
- i. Upon return to the adoptive parent(s) country, the adoptive parents shall take any and all steps required to record, domesticate, or otherwise legitimize and formalize the child(ren)'s adoption by the adoptive parents as required by the adoptive parent(s) country. Such steps must be sufficient so that the child(ren) have at least the same rights the child(ren) would have had if such child(ren) had been born to the adoptive parent(s) in the adoptive parent(s) country, including, without limitation, support obligations and rights to inheritance. Adoptive parent(s) shall provide properly authenticated copies of all foreign adoption decrees and re-adoption decrees to WIA by the adoptive parent(s) within 15 days of issuance. All costs associated with the recording and domestication of the adoption of the child(ren) in the adoptive parent(s) country shall be the sole responsibility of the adoptive parent(s).
- j. Adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to provide copies of all foreign finalization documents to WIA within 15 days of their return home.
- k. Adoptive parent(s) agree to advise WIA if there is any change in circumstances from the time their home study report is completed through the finalization of the adoption, including, without limitation, (i) a move of their residence, (ii) pregnancy or the addition of another child or adult to their home, (iii) loss of income, (iv) serious illness of one or both adoptive parent(s), (v) either of the adoptive parents(s) arrest for criminal charges, (vi) psychiatric sickness of the adoptive parent(s), or other mental, physical or emotional instability, (vii) alcoholism, drug addiction or other substance abuse of either of the adoptive parent(s), (viii) child abuse complaint filed against one or both of the adoptive parent(s), and (ix) marital discord, including, without limitation, divorce or separation of the adoptive parent(s), (x) and any concurrent or pending adoptions both internationally and domestically.
- The adoptive parents grant to WIA permission to disclose to third parties such information as WIA deems necessary for the performance of the services described in this Agreement.

#### 4. Parental Discretion

- a. The adoptive parent(s) have the absolute discretion to request that the child(ren) presented to them for the opportunity of adoption is within certain parameters, subject to certain limitations.
  - i. Adoptive parent(s) may not specify skin tone of a prospective child.
  - ii. To the extent that adoptive parent(s) request that a child be "healthy", that this requirement be subject to their understanding of the risks set forth on Schedule C hereto. The adoptive parents specifically understand that WIA cannot guarantee the health of a child, that they understand that WIA cannot guarantee the accuracy of medical information provided about a child, and

that they understand that any child who has resided in an institution will experience certain heightened health risks and delays whose long term impact is difficult to predict with accuracy.

- iii. To the extent that the adoptive parent(s) request a child be within a certain age range, such age range will be linked to the time of assignment to the adoptive parent(s) and not linked to the age at the time of placement. The adoptive parent(s) specifically understand the risks described on Schedule C, including the fact that a case may take longer to process in a foreign court system than was predicted. Therefore, a child may at the time of placement be older than expected when the assignment was originally accepted.
- b. When a child is assigned to the adoptive parent(s) for consideration for adoption, the adoptive parent(s) retain the absolute discretion to accept the opportunity to adopt that child, or to decline such opportunity, subject to certain limitations. Specifically, any decision to decline must be based upon the adoptive parent(s) reasonable evaluation of the child(ren), and cannot be based on arbitrary factors. The adoptive parents are encouraged to seek outside medical evaluations from an international adoption medical specialist to interpret and evaluate medical and social information provided on a child. Bases that are considered unreasonable or arbitrary include, without limitation, skin/hair/eye color, ethnicity (or presumed ethnicity), attractiveness, size of the child(ren).
- c. If the child(ren) is declined for adoption as a result of the adoptive parent(s) reasonable evaluation of the child(ren), WIA will attempt to determine if there is another child or children who may meet the criteria of the adoptive parent(s) for an adoption. To the extent that these determinations are made while the adoptive parent(s) are in the foreign country of origin, WIA can not guarantee that an adoption will be completed at that time, and the adoptive parent(s) understand, acknowledge and assume the risk that their decision results in that country's officials' refusal to permit the adoptive parent(s) to adopt any other child from said country.
- d. If the adoptive parent(s) unreasonably withhold their acceptance of the child(ren) WIA shall have sole and complete discretion to terminate all further obligations to the adoptive parent(s) pursuant to the Agreement.

### 5. Adoption Contingencies/Allocation of Risk/Hold Harmless

- a. The adoptive parent(s) understand, acknowledge and agree that the process of international adoption contains a number of inherent risks that are outside the control of WIA, including, without limitation, the risks described on Schedule C hereto. The risks described on Schedule C are a non-exhaustive representation of the types of risks that may arise in the process.
- b. The risks described on Schedule C may impact the international adoption process in the form of delays, emotional frustration, additional expense and/or failure of the ability to complete the adoption process. Further, some of the risks can impact the long-term health and well being of the adopted child(ren) in the future.
- c. The adoptive parent(s) hereby expressly acknowledge that they have reviewed thoroughly Schedule C hereto, and that they understand these represent the types of risks that are inherent in the international adoption process and are outside of the

control of WIA (herein, the types of risks that are outside the control of WIA shall be outlined, but are not limited to, the information contained in the Medical Risks of Internationally Adopted Children, and Child Acceptance and Acknowledgement of Medical Risks contracts contained in this contract packet.

- d. The adoptive parent(s) understand that international adoption risks exist in the process and WIA cannot assure the adoptive parents that there will be a successful outcome. The adoptive parent(s) hereby agree that if an international adoption risk event occurs with respect to the adoptive parent(s) adoption case processing or with respect to the long term health of their adopted child(ren), the adoptive parents assume the risk and the consequences of that outcome. The adoptive parents agree to hold WIA harmless for any of the costs incurred during or after the adoption process as a result of the occurrence of an international adoption risk.
- e. The adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to waive liability against, and hold harmless, each of WIA and its successors, assigns, officers, directors, employees, owners, agents, volunteers, attorneys, representatives and corporate affiliates (collectively the "Released Parties"), and to fully and forever release the Released Parties from any and all claims, counterclaims, and demands whatsoever, whether arising in contract or in tort, including claims for negligence, and whether in law or in equity, which the adoptive parent(s) had, now have, or hereafter can, shall, or may have for, upon, or by reason of any matter, cause, or thing whatsoever arising out of or relating to an international adoption risk, and, including without limitation, (a) the political, governmental and administrative conditions in the foreign country, (b) any problems, delays, or failures relating to US-International relations, (c) the medical, mental, social, emotional, and developmental condition of the child(ren), (d) the family background, prior history and care and previous experiences of the child(ren), (e) any changes in the laws, regulations, policies, or administrative requirements of the international placing country, the United States, or the adoptive parent(s) country, (f) any failure of any governmental or administrative judge, agency, official, employee, or agency to approve or promptly process the adoption, (q) war, terrorism, crime, acts of God, natural disasters, or any other condition, matters, or causes beyond the control of WIA, and (h) any or all of the risks set forth on Schedule C hereto. The adoptive parent(s) further agree to indemnify each of the Released Parties for any claims, costs, damages, or expenses incurred relating to, or arising from, the occurrence of an international adoption risk, including without limitation, unknown medical conditions of the child(ren).
- f. To hold harmless and other provisions contained in this paragraph, elsewhere in the Agreement, and the Attachments thereto are each to be construed to have the broadest meaning permitted by law.

#### 6. Adoptive Parent(s) duties following the adoption process

#### a. Post Placement/Post Adoption Obligations

i. Background – the adoptive parent(s) specifically understand that it is a difficult decision for any country to agree to allow its orphaned children to leave their homeland to be adopted internationally. These countries deserve not only our gratitude, but also our respect. Post Placement/Adoption reports and photos provide clear and irrefutable evidence that adoption is a positive solution for children who lack permanent families to find loving homes.

- ii. In order to keep the doors open for the next family who wishes to adopt internationally, it is critical that the adoptive parent(s) agree to provide post placement/adoption reports as applicable to the officials of the child(ren)'s country under the requirements that such country has given. Adoptive parent(s) failure to comply with their post placement/adoption obligations could jeopardize the ability of other children from the foreign country from which the adoptive parent(s) adopt to find homes with families abroad.
- iii. The adoptive parent(s) understand and agree to comply with any and all requests by either the foreign adoption officials, state and federal government, and WIA to provide required post placement reports or post adoption reports as applicable, to register the adoption with the foreign Embassy/Consulate in the U.S. Consulate in the adoptive parent(s) country or to perform other follow up requests.
- iv. The adoptive parent(s) acknowledge that post placement/adoption requirements may vary from country to country, and may change over time with or without notice. WIA hereby notifies the adoptive parent(s) that the post placement/adoption requirements of its programs as they exist at this time are set forth on Schedule B hereto. The adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to comply with the post placement/adoption obligations as they exist at this time, and as they may change over time.
  - (a) WIA will notify adoptive parent(s) about the post placement requirements that exist at the time of placement of the child with the adoptive parents, and will use its best efforts to notify adoptive parent(s) of changes as they occur in the future.
  - (b) Adoptive parent(s) will use their best efforts to monitor changes in the post placement/adoption requirements of the country from which they adopted the child(ren) as they evolve over time and to comply with the requirements to the best of their ability.
- v. With respect to post placement/adoption reports, the adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to provide post placement/adoption reports to WIA and/or to any and all state and federal licensing agencies that WIA directs at the intervals set forth on Schedule B hereto, and in the format required by the foreign country, as set forth on Schedule B hereto.
- vi. The adoptive parent(s) failure to comply with post placement requirements as outlined in the contract will result in immediate and irreparable harm and/or damage to WIA, and entitles WIA to an immediate ex parte injunction and/or specific performance ordering the adoptive parent(s) compliance with the request for documentation, with all legal fees and expenses resulting from such action to be the adoptive parent(s) responsibility.

#### b. Assistance with adjustment difficulties

It is the right of a child(ren) whose family is experiencing adjustment difficulties to receive full protection and service. Should the adoptive parent(s) experience difficulties in the adjustment period, the adoptive parent(s) agree to notify WIA as soon as possible. The adoptive parent(s) also agree to cooperate with and accept the assistance of WIA in managing the crisis. WIA will evaluate the crisis and

provide, recommend or require additional counseling as necessary in order to resolve the crisis. To the extent that family counseling, to handle the crisis, does not succeed, and dissolution is necessary, the adoptive parents agree to contact WIA to let them know of the decision to dissolve the adoption. The adoptive parent(s) specifically agree to cooperate with WIA and keep them informed during this dissolution process. The adoptive parent(s) further agree to allow WIA to assist with the re-placement process and specifically agree that WIA has standing to participate in any proceedings related to the re-placement of the child(ren).

#### 7. Travel

- a. Subject to 7(b) below, if requested by the adoptive parent(s), WIA shall coordinate all travel, lodging, and in-country transportation arrangements for the adoptive parent(s). In the event that the adoptive parent(s) choose to arrange their own flight or hotel accommodations when traveling, they agree to provide prior notice of the chosen hotel(s) and to obtain the approval of WIA. If the adoptive parent(s) choose to utilize the services of an outside travel agency other than those recommended by WIA, the adoptive parent(s) understand that all arrangements and changes to travel are the sole responsibility of the adoptive parent(s) and WIA will not be responsible for any rescheduling due to changes, errors, or omissions.
- b. Payments Irrespective of whether WIA makes reservations on behalf of the adoptive parent(s), the adoptive parent(s) hereby assume all obligations to pay any and all expenses related to travel, including but without limitation, airfare, lodging, transportation and meals, and further hereby agree to make such payments directly to travel agents, airlines, hotels, restaurants and other carriers unless otherwise instructed. To the extent that WIA has provided the adoptive parent(s) with an estimate of the travel expenses on the Schedule and Confirmation of Costs attached hereto, or in any other statement, invoice, or correspondence, this estimate is intended to be a guideline only for the convenience of the adoptive parent(s). The cost of airline tickets or other travel arrangements could change at any time, and WIA assumes no liability if the actual cost of any of the expenses estimated therein exceeds the estimated amount. Adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to hold WIA harmless and blameless in the event that the travel expenses exceed the estimate of expenses provided herein.
  - i. The adoptive parent(s) further agree to assume the financial risk, and therefore to pay any additional expenses relating to changes to their itinerary for any reason, as well as for lost tickets and other documentation required to travel. WIA hereby advises the adoptive parent(s) to consider and determine the need to purchase travel insurance for all or part of their travel related expenses.
  - ii. The adoptive parent(s) agree to hold WIA harmless for the cost of all travel expenses incurred for any reason whatsoever. WIA hereby disclaims liability to the adoptive parent(s) for any and all travel.
- **8. WIA Cooperative Agreements.** WIA may, in its sole discretion, engage and work cooperatively with one or more additional agency(ies) and or individuals to fulfill any of its obligations under this Agreement.
- **9.** Agreement to be Unconditionally Responsible for the Child(ren). At the completion/finalization of the adoption of the child(ren) the adoptive parent(s) are solely

responsible for the care and treatment of the child(ren), and under no condition can the child be returned to the foreign country. The adoptive parent(s) acknowledge that not every impairment or condition is or can be identifiable or observable at the time the child(ren) are identified for adoption. The adoptive parent(s) have reviewed the Disclosure of Risks set forth on Schedule C hereto and are aware of the risks inherent in the international adoption process. The information that WIA or those other organizations with whom WIA works have provided and adoptive parent(s) agree to, accept and assume the risk that there may be undiagnosed impairments, conditions or issues. The adoptive parents represent and warrant that they are of sound mental and physical health, and are not subject to any physical or mental condition or illness, and are not taking any medication or other substance that would in any way inhibit or impair their ability to parent or to make an informed, rational decision to adopt the child(ren) without undue influence from any other person or party. The adoptive parent(s) further acknowledge that WIA has no responsibility financial or otherwise toward the adoptive parents(s) or child(ren) in the event of any disability, impairment, condition, issue, and/or illness and agree to hold WIA harmless and blameless should any impairment, disability, condition, illness or issue be present currently or arise in the future.

- **10.** Legal Effect of Foreign Adoption. Upon the completion of court and/or administrative proceedings necessary for the adoption of the child in the placing country, the adoptive parent(s) shall assume all legal obligations and responsibilities toward the child(ren) as if the child(ren) had been born to them in the adoptive parent(s) country. The adoptive parent(s) agree to accept and execute any and all legal obligations including, but not limited to, providing appropriate housing, food, clothing, education and medical care to the child(ren). Under no circumstances shall the adoption of the child(ren) be set aside or challenged by the adoptive parent(s), and under no circumstances shall the child be returned to the foreign country.
- 11. Modification and Waiver. Neither this Agreement nor any provision hereof shall be amended or modified or deemed to be amended or modified, except by an agreement in writing duly subscribed and acknowledged with the same formality as this Agreement. Any waiver by any party of any provision of this Agreement or any right or obligation hereunder shall not be controlling, nor shall it prevent or stop such party from thereafter enforcing such provision, right or obligation. The failure of any party to insist in any one or more instances upon the strict performance of any of the terms or provisions of this Agreement by any other party shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment for the future of any such terms or provisions, but the same shall continue in full force and effect.

  Notwithstanding any rule of construction or statute to the contrary, this Agreement shall not be construed against the drafter.
- 12. Acknowledgement of Financial Risk/Best Efforts. The Parent(s) understand and acknowledge the possibility that the foreign country may not allow them to adopt a child or the particular type of child that they have requested. The Parent(s) acknowledge that there are significant risks inherent in the adoption process, and the Parent(s) could incur a financial loss. WIA does not guarantee the cooperation of any officials or office, either in the foreign country or the U.S., whose approval is necessary for this adoption to be completed. However, all parties agree to use their best efforts to perform their respective obligations under this Agreement. In the unlikely event that the child whom the Parent(s) planned to adopt suddenly becomes unavailable when the Parent(s) arrive in the foreign country, WIA will make its best efforts to find another suitable child for the Parent(s), if possible, and will continue to provide all remaining services under this Agreement.
- 13. Governing Law/Choice of Forum. All matters affecting the interpretation of this

Agreement and the rights of the parties hereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Utah and the laws of the United States of America, without respect to its or their conflicts of law principles regardless of the jurisdiction in which any action is initiated. All actions or proceedings with respect to any dispute arising under the terms of this Agreement shall be litigated, at the discretion and election of WIA, only in courts whose site is within Ogden, Utah, and in the Second District Court of Weber County, State of Utah, U.S.A. and the undersigned hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the Second District Court of Weber County, State of Utah, U.S.A. In addition, the parties agree to accept court service of process by registered or certified mail sent to the addresses provided above or to any permanent address that is current at the time the process is written. Such service will constitute personal service of such process. The Parent(s) waive any right to transfer or change the venue of any litigation brought against him/her/them by WIA or any of its agents related to this adoption. It is the intent of WIA to establish procedures to accomplish the informal and inexpensive resolution of a claim, demand, cause of action, or dispute asserted by any party to this Agreement arising out of or relating to (1) this Agreement or any modification. amendment, or supplement thereof, or (2) the relationship and/or agreement between the parties or among any of the parties and any third party relating to the adoption process. The parties hereto agree that this Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Utah.

- **14. Attorneys Fees.** In the event of a default by either party to this Agreement in any of its provisions, the non-defaulting party will be awarded any attorneys fees and costs it incurred in the course of its enforcement. The Parent(s) specifically agree(s) to pay all reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs in the event legal action is taken by WIA or its agents to collect sums owed to them associated with this adoption. Adoptive parent(s) further agree to pay an additional amount representing fifty percent (50%) of the balance due if the matter is referred to a collection agency or attorney for collection. This additional amount is in recognition of the additional costs to WIA associated with that collection action.
- **15. Termination.** WIA retains the right to terminate this Agreement effective immediately upon written notice if it learns that any of the information the adoptive parent(s) provided to WIA or the agency or social worker who approved the home study is false, materially misleading or changed substantially since the home study report was approved. WIA retains absolute discretion to terminate the Agreement upon learning of the false or misleading information provided by the adoptive parent(s). Changed circumstances that may constitute cause for termination include, without limitation, (i) loss of income such that adoptive parent(s) are unable to afford another dependent or the cost of adoption; (ii) health of one or both adoptive parent(s) would place the secure future of the child in jeopardy; (iji) arrest for criminal charges without proof of rehabilitation; (iv) change in home location or condition such that the housing becomes unsuitable for the safety and well being of the child(ren); (v) psychiatric sickness of the adoptive parent(s), or other mental, physical or emotional instability without proof of rehabilitation; (vi) alcoholism, drug addiction, or other substance abuse without proof of rehabilitation; (vii) child abuse complaint filed against one or both of the adoptive parent(s); (viii) lack of support for the adoption by the adoptive parent(s) extended family; or (ix) marital discord, including without limitation, divorce or separation of the adoptive parent(s). Contact with Foreign Adoption Authorities, in-country coordinators, facilitators, attorneys, and orphanages must be made through WIA. Any unauthorized contact with any of these entities from the adoptive parents is grounds for termination of this Agreement. To the extent WIA has reason to believe that the representation of the adoptive parent(s) does not serve the best interest of a child(ren), WIA retains the right to terminate this Agreement on its sole discretion.

- **16. Limitation of Liability.** The adoptive parent(s) agree that in the event of a claim or cause of action not precluded by this Agreement or the Attachments thereto is made, under no circumstances shall the liability of WIA exceed the total of payments made to WIA from the adoptive parent(s).
- **17. Full Disclosure.** All parties acknowledge that this is a fair agreement and that it is not the result of any fraud, duress or undue influence exercised by any party upon any other or by any other person or persons upon any party.
- **18. Severability.** In the event that any provision of this Agreement should be held to be contrary to, or invalid under, the law of any country, state or other jurisdiction, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect in any way any other provision hereof, all of which shall continue, nevertheless, in full force and effect in any country, state or jurisdiction in which such provision is legal and valid.
- **19. Independent Covenants.** Each of the respective rights and obligations of the parties hereunder shall be deemed independent and may be enforced independently, irrespective of any of the other rights and obligations set forth herein.
- **20. Headings.** Headings are inserted for the convenience of the parties only and shall not be attributed with any substantive meaning for purposes of interpreting this Agreement.
- **21. Entire Understanding.** This Agreement, together with all Attachments within the contract packet, contains the entire understanding of the parties, who hereby acknowledge that there have been and are no representations, warranties, covenants or understanding other than those expressly set forth herein and that the parties have not entered in to this Agreement in reliance upon any provision or understanding not expressly contained herein.
- **22. Independent Legal Advice.** WIA encourages the adoptive parent(s) to retain independent legal counsel both for the review of this Agreement and its Attachments and to advise the adoptive parent(s) on what, if any steps are required in their home state for recognition of the foreign adoption decree.

Adoptive Parent	Date	
Adoptive Parent	Date	
State of } §		
County of }		
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this	day of	, 20
Ву		
Notary Public		



A Child's Way Home

### Schedule A Schedule of Fees, Expenses, Financial Obligations and **Refund Policy**

- 1. Financial Obligations and Expenses. The adoptive parent(s) understand and agree to pay the financial obligations (the "Fees and Expenses") set forth on Schedule B - Fees and Expenses, attached hereto.
- 2. Country Change Fee. In the event that the adoptive family's chosen country enters in to a suspension or closure to adoption, there is no charge to the adoptive parent(s) to change to another country adoption program. Should the adoptive family voluntarily decide at any time during the adoption process to change to a different WIA adoption program/country, there will be a \$200 change fee applicable, due at the time of program conversion.
- 3. **Refund Policy.** Adoptive parent(s) may decide to discontinue the adoption at any time during the process, but once fees have been paid to begin the next step of the process, they are not refundable except as otherwise outlined in the Refund Policy. Adoptive parent(s) are cautioned to consider carefully their decision to continue with the process when paying fees for each step of the adoption process.
- 4. Adoption Related Expenses. WIA will provide an estimate of the all adoption related expenses. This estimate is intended to be a guideline only for the convenience of the adoptive parent(s). The costs of many of these expenses are in the control of third parties over whom WIA has no control, and, therefore, the costs could change at any time. To the extent that WIA does provide an estimated range for travel or other expenses, WIA assumes no liability if the actual cost of any of the expenses estimated therein exceeds the estimated amount. Adoptive parent(s) hereby agree to hold WIA harmless in the even that the adoption related expenses exceed the estimate of expenses provided herein.
- 5. Foreign Fees. With respect to fees that are payable to WIA for Foreign Fees, WIA hereby agrees that it will not charge additional fees and expenses beyond those disclosed in this Agreement, except as otherwise set forth herein. In the event that unforeseen additional fees and expenses arise in the foreign country, WIA will incur or pay no additional expenses or fees on behalf of the adoptive parent(s) only under the conditions set forth below:
  - a. WIA will disclose the fees and expenses in writing to the adoptive parent(s).
  - b. To the extent such additional fees exceed \$1,000, WIA will not incur such additional fees without the adoptive parent(s) express permission. WIA will obtain the specific consent of the adoptive parent(s) prior to making such expenditure without advance permission.
  - c. WIA will provide written receipts to the adoptive parent(s) for fees and expenses paid directly by WIA or person in the foreign country and will retain copies of such receipts.

Accepted:	
Adoptive Parent	Date
Adoptive Parent	Date
State of §	
County of  Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of, 20
Ву	
Notary Public	



A Child's Way Home

### Schedule B Fees Schedule – Bulgaria Special Needs Child

#### **AGENCY FEES**

- 1. Application Fee. All adoptive families must submit an application to WIA in order to adopt a child. The Application Fee is \$1000 upon submission of the application. Please think carefully before submitting an application for adoption, as once the fee is paid and the application is submitted, this fee is non-refundable. This application fee is used to pay staff of WIA to review the application, and to cover the administrative costs to process the application.
- 2. Home Study Utah. Adoptive families residing in the state of Utah should utilize WIA to perform home study services. WIA's fee to complete a home study is \$1,500 plus mileage not to exceed a total of \$75.00. Or a \$25/hour travel surcharge may be added if social worker travels more than one hour. In addition to the home study, adoptive parent(s) may be required to pay for a criminal background check and child abuse clearances to the state of Utah in the amount of \$42.25 per person. The home study fee is due and payable to WIA before the home study process can begin. Once this fee has been paid and the home study process has begun, this fee is non-refundable.
- **3.** Home Study Review Out of State or Non-WIA Home Study. There is a \$250 home study review fee associated with all home studies completed by an agency other than WIA. This review fee is required by Utah state law and Federal Law. Review of the home study will be completed by WIA's Director of Social Work and adoptive parent(s) will be notified upon completion of the home study review process. This home study review fee is due and payable upon submission of the home study. **Once the fee is paid and the home study is submitted, the fee is non-refundable.**
- **4. Program Fee.** There is a specific fee associated with each country adoption program offered by WIA. The Program Fee for Bulgaria is **\$4,500**, and is due and payable upon submitting signed contracts to begin the adoption process. This fee is used to cover the cost of the staff, and administrative and overhead costs needed to maintain this adoption program. Before sending this program fee and the signed contracts to WIA, adoptive parent(s) should be sure they intend to continue with the adoption process. When the program fee and the signed contracts have been received, this fee is non-refundable.
- **5. Maintenance and Oversight Fee:** The Federal accrediting agency requires that all adoptive parents pay a **\$500 per child** maintenance and oversight fee. This fee is due with the signed contracts. If you decide to adopt more than one child after initial application, you will be billed at the time you accept a second referral. This fee is paid to the Federal accrediting entity and is non-refundable.
- **6. Agency Placement Fee.** There is a **\$2,500** agency placement fee and adoptive parents agree to pay this fee after the adoption is completed and before travel to Bulgaria to pick up the adopted child. This fee is used to maintain the adoption program in Bulgaria, and to cover fees for WIA's administrative and overhead costs. **Once this agency placement fee is paid, this fee is non-refundable.**
- **7. Post Adoption Report Fees.** Post-adoption evaluations are a required part of every foreign adoption. Parent(s) agree to arrange for and participate in post-adoption evaluations for the adopted child.
  - a) Parent(s) agree to post-adoption evaluations completed according to the following criteria and timetable associated with adoptions in Bulgaria and WIA:
    - i. One original, notarized post-adoption assessment by a certified, licensed social worker or agency  $\mathbf{six}$  (6)  $\mathbf{months}$  from the date the child arrives in the United States

- ii. One original, notarized post adoption assessment by a certified, licensed social worker or agency at twelve (12) months from the date the child arrives in the United States.
- iii. One original notarized post adoption assessment by a certified, licensed social worker or agency at eighteen (18) months from the date the child arrives in the United States.
- iv. one original notarized post adoption assessment by a certified, licensed social worker or agency at twenty-four (24) months from the date the child arrives in the
- b) Post-adoption reports must include three (3) photos that meet the following criteria: adopted child alone, adopted child with new family, photo of choice showing adopted child.
- c) A certified copy of the social worker's state license and the state license of the agency will be included with the social worker's evaluation.

Check the box that applies to your adopt	ion:
$\square$ Utah Resident Fee - \$1000	☐ Non-Utah Resident Fee - \$800

The parent(s) agree to pay the fee checked above for the post-adoption evaluations required by WIA and to have post-adoption evaluations completed according to the timetable and criteria described above. For Utah residents this fee includes WIA's social worker visits and reports. Both fees include the cost of translating and sending the documents to the appropriate officials in Bulgaria. Parent(s) are responsible for all fees charged by all non-WIA social workers and agencies. Parents agree to pay the Post-adoption evaluation fee before they will be permitted to travel to Bulgaria to accept custody of the adopted child. Once the adoption is completed and this fee is paid, this fee is not refundable.

### **Foreign Fees**

1. Dossier submission and Foreign Fee. The total foreign fees for Bulgaria are approximately \$6,500 (this will vary depending on the exchange rate). This foreign fee is broken down into 4 installments due at various times of the adoption process. Each portion of the foreign fee is used for a specific purposed outlined below. This fee also includes any banking and wiring fees associated with send the money to Bulgaria. When this fee is paid on behalf of a specific child and the adoption process begins, it is non-refundable.

The breakdown of the Bulgaria foreign fee is as follows:

- ≈ \$2000 due with the submission of the dossier to WIA. This fee covers the cost to send the dossier Bulgaria and all associated wiring fees.
- b)  $\approx$  \$1800 due at the time a referral is accepted.
- c)  $\approx$  \$2,500 due before the family makes their first trip to Bulgaria.
- d) **\$200** due before the family makes their second trip to Bulgaria.

Adoptive parents should understand that it is possible to adopt siblings or more than one child from Bulgaria. If adoptive parent(s) adopt more than one child, they acknowledge that there will be additional expenses associated with the second or third child adopted. These expenses will be detailed in the Multiple Child Fee Schedule that is required for adopting multiple children.

2. Travel and Accommodations 1st trip. The parent(s) will be responsible for all travel expenses to and from Bulgaria as well as travel within Bulgaria. Travel costs to Bulgaria from the U.S. can range from \$800 to \$1,400 per person. The parent(s) will arrange for their own international travel to and from Bulgaria but agree to have WIA's facilitators make all arrangements for travel and accommodations within Bulgaria, except by express agreement otherwise. In country accommodations are approximately \$100 - \$170 per day, per couple.

- **3. Travel and Accommodations 2<sup>nd</sup> trip.** The parent(s) will be responsible for all travel expenses to and from Bulgaria as well as travel within Bulgaria. Travel costs to Bulgaria from the U.S. can range from \$800 to \$1,400 per person. The parent(s) will arrange for their own international travel to and from Bulgaria but agree to have WIA's facilitators make all arrangements for travel and accommodations within Bulgaria, except by express agreement otherwise. In country accommodations are approximately \$100 \$170 per day, per couple.
- **4. Miscellaneous Costs.** The following costs are the separate responsibility of the parents and are in addition to the fees charged by WIA:
  - a) Obtaining certified documents which include, but are not limited to: medical, birth, marriage, divorce, and criminal records, death certificates, employment letters, accountants' letters financial statements, and all other documents required of the parents Approximately \$300.00
  - b) Bulgaria apostille of documents Approximately \$500
  - c) USCIS Fee to file the I-800A \$775.00
  - d) FBI fingerprinting fee \$85.00 per person
  - e) Re-adoption costs Approximately \$350.00
  - f) Photos, medical exam and other documentation required of the child in Bulgaria for the U.S. Visa. \$400.00 (Visa) \$75.00 (photos, exam, documentation)
  - g) Medical Exam \$100
  - h) All FedEx or other carrier's mailing costs for the movement of the parents' or child's documents around the U.S. or to Bulgaria and from Bulgaria Approximately \$500.00

### Other Fees Not Applicable to Bulgaria Adoptions

Care of Child Fees – Bulgaria does not charge for care of child fees.

**Contributions** – There are no mandatory contributions for Bulgaria program.

- **4. Refunds.** All fees paid to WIA or its facilitators have been earned at the time that they are paid and are not refundable, except by the agreement otherwise with WIA in writing.
- **5. Incorporation.** The parent(s) agree that the terms of this Fee Schedule and Agreement Bulgaria are incorporated into the Service Contract/Adoptive Agreement Bulgaria that they are executing simultaneously and are made a part thereof as though fully set forth in it. Together they comprise the entire agreement between the parties, unless agreed otherwise in a signed writing.

The parent(s) have read and understand each provision in this Fee Schedule and Agreement – Bulgaria and by signing the same, agree to accept and abide by all the terms and conditions set forth herein.

Adoptive Parent	Date	
Adoptive Parent  State of §  County of	Date	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of	, 20
Ву		
Notary Public		



A Child's Way Home

### Schedule C **Risks in International Adoption**

The international adoption process contains a number of inherent risks that are outside the control of WIA. WIA will do everything in its power to minimize these risks. However, the Prospective Adoptive Parent(s) must be aware of these possibilities before deciding whether an international adoption is the means they wish to pursue to grow their family.

Below is a description of the types of risks that are inherent in the international adoption process. Some of these risks impact the process itself, resulting in the possibility of delays, emotional frustration, and additional expense. Some of the risks, if realized, can impact the health and well being of your adopted child in the future.

Please take the time necessary to review this list, discuss the risks with your family, and should you wish to pursue the process, indicate your understanding of these risks by initialing on the bottom of each page.

### **Risks that Impact the Process**

- 1. Length of stay in the foreign country. It is anticipated that the complete length of stay for the adoptive parent(s) in the foreign country will likely range from a few days to several weeks. Some programs may require two trips to adopt the child. WIA will provide to you a best estimate of the length of stay you should expect while in the foreign country. However, WIA cannot guarantee that the estimated timetable can be met precisely. Travel time can be extended or delayed for a number of reasons such as strikes in the foreign offices, illnesses or vacations of foreign government authorities such as a judge and/or social workers, holidays in the foreign country, requirements imposed by the courts, etc. Each case is individual and cannot be compared to others. The length of stay may vary from the estimate given by WIA at the beginning of the process.
- 2. Political and Social Climate Internationally. Countries that permit international adoption programs as a means to find families for children often need to rely on this option due to volatile political and/or social conditions and lack of financial/economic resources. These same conditions may impact the international adoption process itself, causing delays or stoppages in the adoption process. The political and social climate abroad is volatile and may change at any time in ways that negatively impact upon the adoption of children by citizens of other countries, either directly or through a change in international relations. WIA will stay abreast of political developments and keep you advised to the best of its ability. However, WIA cannot guarantee that foreign countries will continue to permit the adoption of children by United States citizens or citizens of other countries.
- 3. Changes to Laws or Procedures. Adoption laws and procedures of the foreign country, the United States, or other applicable foreign or domestic law may change at any time in ways that may negatively impact the adoption of a child from abroad. WIA cannot control whether changes in laws and procedures may in the future prevent or delay the adoption of a child from any foreign country, or may require preparation, submission and approval of additional or modified documentation. WIA will make every effort to stay abreast of political

developments and to keep you informed of changes as they occur. However, WIA cannot guarantee that foreign countries will not change laws or procedures during the course of your adoption case, causing you delays or additional expense, or foreclosing your adoption from completing.

- 4. Approval of Adoptive Parent(s) by Governmental Officials. A successful adoption of any child from abroad is ultimately dependent upon the approval by the governmental and judicial officials of that country. The approval of your adoption lies solely within the discretion of the governmental and judicial officials of the foreign country. WIA will make diligent efforts to advise you about the government's goals for prospective adoptive parents who adopt children from their country, and to advocate appropriately for your candidacy. However, WIA cannot guarantee that the foreign officials will approve you to adopt a child.
- 5. Cultural Differences in Communication. The people involved in your adoption will likely have different languages, cultures, and customs. While WIA will make diligent efforts to minimize the risk of these issues impacting your adoption, the possibility exists for language misinterpretation, cultural or custom differences, and miscommunication.
- 6. Reemergence of Birth Families/Loss of Assigned Child. Adoption policy generally favors children remaining in their birth families as a top priority, and often favors retaining children in their country of origin as the second best option. Each of these policies is often considered preferable to placing children in foreign countries. The risks exists that birth family members may come forward at any time during the process of your case, and may complicate or prevent the adoption of the child whom the adoptive parent(s) wish to adopt. It is also possible that during the course of time while the adoptive parents are preparing to adopt a child, foreign officials may determine that siblings may be required to be adopted in order for the adoptive parent(s) to adopt the originally referred child. Further, adoptive families within the country of origin may also express their desire to adopt a child, even if this child has been referred to a family from abroad. In addition, a child may also be assigned to a family, and then a situation occurs or is learned that renders the child inadaptable, either under foreign law or U.S. immigration law. Any of these events may complicate the process, or prevent the adoption from being completed. Please understand that should this situation occur, WIA will make every attempt to locate another referral as quickly as possible to help minimize your loss. However, these events are possibilities and adoptive families should be prepared for the possibility of an emotional loss.
- 7. War/Acts of God/Man-Made or Natural Disasters or Health Emergencies. An adoption case can be impacted by events such as war, man-made disasters (such as terrorist activities), natural disasters (such as hurricanes/tsunami, etc), or health emergencies (such as the SARS outbreak in China). These events are outside the control of WIA, but could impact the length of time to complete an adoption case, or the ability to complete it at all.
- 8. Absence of Reliable Information about the Children. WIA will provide the adoptive parent(s) with all the information in our physical possession regarding the medical and developmental condition of the child referred for the purpose of adoption. However, WIA cannot guarantee the accuracy of such records. Examples are:

a. If a child is abandoned, it may be difficult to determine his/her birth date with complete accuracy. Accordingly, a birth date may later prove to be incorrect.

b. Further medical, social and background information provided to the adoptive parent(s) is often furnished and collected by independent and third parties, including foreign government officials, orphanage staff and mothers, who provide this information, according to local policy and procedure. Many tests administered in foreign countries are unreliable at best, or may not match western standards or methods. Further, the medical and/or development information provided may not provide a complete description of the mental, emotional, physical and/or developmental characteristics of the child. WIA encourages adoptive parent(s) to seek an independent medical evaluation of the child and will provide a list of physician's familiar with and specializing in reviewing social and medical reports for international adoptions. WIA is not able to guarantee the accuracy of child background records, and adoptive parents understand and accept the risk of those records containing errors or omissions.

#### Risks that May Impact the Adoptive Child's Health and Well Being in the Future

### Potential Adverse Prior Conditions/Increased Risk of Medical, Social, and Emotional Disabilities and Deficits.

Countries that permit international adoption programs as a means of finding families for children often need to rely on this option due to lack of financial/economic resources. This same lack of financial resources may impact the social and medical care that prospective adoptive children have received in the past and the availability of medical background on the child and his/her birth family. For instance, many children identified for possible adoption are cared for in institutions or hospitals. These facilities are operated below the standards of care typically provided in western countries. The absence of equipment, supplies, nutritional food, toys and age appropriate developmental stimulus and the shortage of adequate or properly trained medical personnel and child care providers in these institutions and hospitals can result in any child's being at higher risk of illness, delayed physical, psychological and mental growth, and impairment. Prospective adoptive parents should know that the international adoption process carries an inherently increased risk of medical, social, and emotional disabilities and deficits. Some examples of these risks include the following:

- \*Abuse, physical, psychological, emotional and sexual
- \*Adjustment disorders
- \*Salmonella
- \*Scabies/Lice
- \*Hepatitis A, B, or C
- \*Autism
- \*Tuberculosis
- \*Chronic infections
- \*Undiagnosed Genetic problems
- \*Complications of prematurity
- \*Delayed psychological development
- \*Vision and hearing problems

- \*Exposure to Nuclear contamination
- \*Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- \*Respiratory Problems
- \*Anemia
- \*Attachment Disorders
- \*Sensory Integration Problems
- \*HIV/AIDS
- \*Infectious Diseases
- \*Intestinal parasites
- \*Delayed physical development
- \*Delayed emotional development
- \*Lactose Intolerance
- \*Dental problems and tooth decay

- \*Learning Disabilities
- \*Malnutrition
- \*Eating disorders
- \*Effects of institutionalization and Under-stimulation

- \*Depression
- \*Drug Exposure
- \*Mental insufficiency
- \*Permanent disabilities
- \*Vitamin deficiencies

WIA will provide you with all information it has on the social and medical background of a child referred for adoption to your family. Further, WIA encourages you to take that information provided to an international adoption medical specialist for review and consultation. However, the decision to adopt a particular child is yours, and WIA cannot quarantee the absence of any medical or social problem.

By signing this Schedule C, Disclosure of Risks in the International Adoption Process, adoptive parent(s) acknowledge that they understand these risks as outlined and desire to proceed with an international adoption of a child from a foreign country.

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Adoptive Parent	Date		
Adoptive Parent	Date		
State of §			
County of			
Subscribed and sworn to be this	day of		, 20
By			
Notary Public			



A Child's Way Home

## Schedule D Refund Policy

The adoption process is completed by following a logical step by step procedure. Fees for services provided in each phase of the adoption are billed when adoptive parent(s) reach that specific stage of the adoption process. Adoptive parents are encouraged to carefully consider their commitment to the adoption before going forward with each phase of the adoption process. When adoptive parent(s) are billed for services to be performed, and the payment for the service is received, it is implied that the adoptive parents have made the commitment to proceed with the adoption and at that point work on their behalf by WIA begins. When fees for any phase of the adoption process are paid, those fees are not refundable except for circumstances outlined below. This refund policy is strictly adhered to at all times. Following is a list of each of the phases of the adoption process and the refund policy associated with these specific fees.

- **1. Application Fee.** When the application is submitted to WIA and the fee associated with the submission of the application is received, **this fee is non-refundable.** No application will be processed without payment of the application fee. The fees paid for application submission cover the cost of processing the application, staff review of the application and printing and mailing costs associated with the acceptance of the application and the materials sent to move to the next phase of the adoption process.
- 2. Program Fee. When the application has been approved and contracts signed for a specific adoption program, adoptive parents are cautioned to consider carefully their decision to go forward with the adoption before sending in the program fee. Once the program fee is received it is an implied commitment from the adoptive parents that they desire to go forward to the next phase of the adoption. When this fee and the signed contracts are received by WIA, this fee is non-refundable. The fees paid to enter a specific adoption program cover the cost of instruction manuals and any printed materials, parent education regarding international adoption, staff assistance throughout the adoption process and overhead and administrative costs.
- **3. Home Study Fee.** When a home study application and fee is submitted to WIA, it is an implied commitment from the adoptive parents that they desire this service be performed. **Once the home study process begins and a home visit is made, this fee is non-refundable.** If the adoptive parents contact WIA before the social worker makes the first home visit, there is a \$200 charge to the adoptive parents for processing work done on their behalf. The remaining fees paid for the home study will be refunded within 30 days of the request for the refund. The fees paid for home study service pay the salary of the social worker completing the home study and the administrative work done by office staff to open and maintain a file for the adoptive parent information and agency overhead.
- **4. Home Study Review Fee.** An agency review of any non-Utah home study submitted to WIA is required. When the completed home study and the home study review fee have been submitted to WIA, it is an implied commitment that the adoptive parents want to continue with the adoption process. The Home Study Review process begins the day the home study is received and the review is completed within 5 working days of receipt of the study. The fees charged for a home study review pay the salary of the social worker completing the review. **Once the home study is received and the process begins, this fee is non-refundable.** In the case that WIA is contacted before the home study and fee

is received by WIA, and the adoptive parent(s) ask to have this returned to them without the review being performed, the adoptive parents will receive a refund within 30 days of their request for a refund.

- **5. Dossier Submission Fee.** When a completed dossier and the fee associated with the dossier submission is sent to WIA, it is an implied commitment from the adoptive parents that they intend to continue with the process. **Once the dossier and the associated fee are mailed to the foreign country, this fee is non-refundable.**
- 6. Document Handling Fee. When the adoptive parents submit the completed dossier and the associated fee, it is an implied commitment from the adoptive parents that they intend to continue with the adoption process. Once this fee is paid, this fee is non-refundable. The only exception to this policy is if WIA is contacted by the adoptive parent(s) before WIA receives the completed dossier and the associated fee and the adoptive parents ask to have the dossier and the fee returned. If adoptive parents make this request both the fee and their dossier will be returned to them within 30 days of their request.
- 7. Foreign Fee. When the dossier is submitted to the foreign country, there is a specific fee that is associated with the adoption in order for the adoption to be completed. When the adoptive parents send the foreign fee and their completed dossier to WIA, it is an implied commitment from the adoptive parents that they intend to continue with the adoption process. Once the completed dossier and fee has been mailed to the country the process begins and funds are immediately disbursed. Once this money is disbursed, however, partial refunds are available to adoptive parents depending on how close to completion of the adoption they are. If the adoptive parents contact WIA before the dossier has been sent and before funds have been wired to the foreign country ask to have the dossier returned, the completed dossier and the money will be returned to the adoptive parent(s) within 30 days of their request. This policy and procedure applies to all payments of all foreign fees during all phases of the foreign process. Refunds for foreign fees are at the discretion of the Orphanage Director.
- 8. Placement Fee. When this fee is paid and the adoptive family accepts a referral for a child, WIA has fulfilled the commitment to the adoptive parents to find a suitable child to adopt. The placement fee is for the work done by WIA on behalf of the adoptive parents to obtain this child referral. When the referral acceptance form has been signed and the fee has been paid, this part of the adoption services provided by WIA has been completed and this fee is non-refundable.

Rarely, but from time to time, a referral may be withdrawn by the foreign country for a variety of reasons. These reasons may include, but are not limited to such things as illness of the child, the untimely death of the child, or the return of birth parents. Also, the adoptive parent(s) may accept the referral of a child and later find the child has medical problems that make it necessary to request a new referral. If this unforeseen event happens, WIA will do all possible to obtain a new referral of a suitable child for the adoptive parent(s) and the placement fee will be transferred to the new child referral.

**9. Post Adoption Fees.** Each placing country requires post adoption reports from the adoptive parents and adoptive parent(s) sign a contract agreeing to provide these reports as required by the placing country. When this fee is paid by the adoptive parents at the time they sign the child referral acceptance form, it is an implied commitment from the adoptive parents that they intend to continue the adoption process. This fee is used to

track and schedule the post adoption visits, to translate the post placement reports, and to mail them to the placing country. In the case of Utah adoptive clients, this fee also covers the cost of the social worker visit to the home and the completed post adoption report. The fees paid to WIA do not cover any visits by social workers for clients living outside of the state of Utah. These families agree to pay, the agency performing the post adoption report, any fees associated with the social worker visits. **This fee is only refundable if the adoption is not completed by the adoptive parent(s).** 

- **10. Refund of Fees paid to Foreign Supervised Providers:** Funds can be refunded for services that are not provided. WIA bills adoptive parents for all foreign fees which are due at various times during the adoption process, and this money is forwarded to the Foreign Supervised Provider to pay for the costs of adoption services as required by the foreign country. The Foreign Supervised Provider will provide an itemized statement for all fees and expenses paid. When services are not provided for the fees paid by the adoptive parents, WIA will refund any fees not expended on behalf of the adoption of the child in the foreign country and will refund these fees within 30 days of the completion of the request for a refund.
- **11. Refund of Agency Fees:** Fees paid for services that are not provided can be refunded. When services are not provided on behalf of the adoptive parents once fees have been paid, a refund must be requested by the adoptive parents. This refund must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director by the adoptive parents. When the refund request has been approved, WIA will refund these fees within 30 days of the request for the refund

Adoptive Parent		Date	
Adoptive Parent	/	Date	
State of §			
County of			
Subscribed and sworn to be this	day of		, 20
Ву			
Notary Public	•		



# Wasatch International Adoptions A Child's Way Home

## Schedule E Grievance Policy

Wasatch International Adoptions (WIA) permits any birth parent, prospective adoptive parent, adoptive parent, or adoptee, to lodge a complaint or an appeal about any services or activities of WIA that such person believes are inconsistent with the Hague Convention, Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000, or the Hague Regulations.

WIA will take no action to discourage a complaint or to retaliate against any person making a complaint, requesting a grievance, questioning the conduct of, or expressing an opinion about the performance of WIA and its services and staff.

Any complaints should be made by submitting a written description of the basis for the complaint to the Executive Director. WIA will immediately begin to investigate the facts of the complaint and will respond to all complaints in writing within 30 days of receipt of a complaint. The exception to this policy is if the person complaining requests expedited consideration and demonstrates that matters are time sensitive or the complaint involves allegations of fraud. To the extent that WIA receives a complaint, WIA will maintain a written record of each complaint received, and will document the steps taken to investigate and respond to each complaint received. The complaint, as well as all documented steps taken to remedy and/or address the allegations in the complaint will be available to the entity assigned to accredit WIA. To the extent that WIA agrees with the complainant to resolve the complaint by taking certain action, WIA must take such action within 30 days of agreeing thereto, or risk the failure to take such action as the basis of a complaint to the Hague Complaint Registry.

WIA has a quality improvement program through which it makes systematic efforts to improve its adoption services as needed. WIA uses quality improvement methods such as reviewing complaint data, using client satisfaction surveys or comparing the agency's practices and performance against the data contained in the Secretary's annual reports to Congress on inter-country adoptions.

To the extent that the complainant is dissatisfied with the response to the complaint from the Executive Director, the complainant may request reconsideration by writing to the President of the Board of Directors. If the Board of Directors does not respond within 15 days, the complainant may submit their complaint in writing to the Utah State Human Services, Licensing Division at the following address:

Department of Human Services – Office of Licensing 195 North 1950 West #1075 Salt Lake City, UT 84116

If you wish to submit a complaint against WIA with the accrediting entity, visit <a href="https://www.iaame.net/report-a-concern/">https://www.iaame.net/report-a-concern/</a>, or you may file a complaint directly with the U.S. Department of State by visiting the Intercountry Adoption Complaint Registry, which may be found at <a href="mailto:adoptionusca.gov/HCRWeb/Welcome">adoptionusca.gov/HCRWeb/Welcome</a>.

WIA will make its complaint record available to the accrediting entity on a semi-annual basis, or upon request.

#### **CLIENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

If a complaint is received, the complaint will be immediately given to the Executive Director. The Executive Director will to the following:

- Respond to writing to the complainant within 30 days of receiving the complaint.
- Contact the complainant in order to schedule a meeting or telephone conference to try to resolve the problems being experienced.
- Do all possible to resolve the issues surrounding the complaint.
- Document in writing the outcome of the meeting. The written documentation should include a summary of the compliant and details of the resolutions or non-resolution to the complaint. Both the Executive Director and the complainant will sign the summary and resolution document. This document will then be retained in the complainant's file.

If the Executive Director is unable to resolve the complaint, the complainant will be given access to the Board President. The Board President will meet with both the complainants and the Executive Director to try to resolve the complaint. The following procedures will take place:

- The Board President will be given access to the written complaint and will be provided with a copy of what has been done to resolve the complaint up to the current timeframe.
- A written summary of the outcome of the meeting will be drafted and will be signed by the Board President, the Executive Director and the Complainant. This information will be entered into the Complaint database.
- The Board President will give direction to the Executive Director on what should be done to assure the issues of the complaint will be corrected.

I have read and understand the above complaint process.

Adoptive Father	Dat	te	
Adoptive Mother  State of	Dat	te	
County of			
Subscribed and sworn to be this	day of		, 20
Ву			
Notary Public			



A Child's Way Home

# Schedule F Parent(s) Post – Adoption Agreement - Bulgaria

WIA strictly enforces all post-adoption policies set forth by the State of Utah, United States Citizenship and Immigration Service, and the government of Bulgaria. Parent(s) may be required to meet re-adoption and/or additional post-adoption requirements outlined by Parent(s)' home state if Parent(s) are not a Utah resident.

1. <u>RE-ADOPTION</u>. Check the box that applies to your adoption and fill in the abbreviation for your home state:

#### ☐ THE ADOPTION IS FINALIZED IN THE FOREIGN CONTRY

The child may have to be re-adopted in the Parent(s)' home state. It is Parent(s)' responsibility to learn of Parent(s)' state requirements for re-adoption. Parent(s) agree to comply with these laws, if such exist, and to re-adopt the child upon returning to the United States if re-adoption is required. Parent(s) agree to supply Wasatch International Adoptions with court documents confirming the re-adoption of the child.

### ☐ THE ADOPTION IS NOT FINALIZED IN THE FOREIGN COUNTRY

Parent(s) will be required by USCIS to adopt the child according to the laws of Parent(s)' state of residence regardless of any state law governing adoptions before the child can be naturalized. Parent(s) agree to supply Wasatch International Adoptions with court documents confirming the adoption of the child.

Even if re-adoption is *not* a requirement of Parent(s)' state of residence, it may be in Parent(s)' best interest to re-adopt the child. The decision to re-adopt rests solely with the Parent(s) and Parent(s) take all responsibility for making the decision to re-adopt or not readopt. Parent(s) will supply court documents to WIA if Parent(s) decide to re-adopt.

- 2. <u>POST-ADOPTION EVALUATIONS</u>. Post-adoption evaluations are a required part of every foreign adoption. Parent(s) agree to arrange for and participate in post-adoption evaluations for the adopted child.
  - a. Parent(s) agree to post-adoption evaluations completed according to the following criteria and timetable associated with adoptions in Bulgaria and WIA:
    - i. One original, notarized post-adoption evaluation by a certified, licensed social worker or agency **six (6) months** from the date the child arrives in the United States.
    - ii. One original, notarized post-adoption evaluation by a certified, licensed social worker or agency **twelve (12) months** from the date the child arrives in the United States.
    - iii. One original, notarized post-adoption evaluation by a certified, licensed social worker or agency **eighteen (18) months** from the date the child arrives in the United States.
    - iv. One original, notarized post-adoption evaluation by a certified, licensed social worker or agency **twenty-four (24) months** from the date the child arrives in the United States.
  - b. To submit with each evaluation three photos that meet the following criteria:

### adopted child alone, adopted child with new family, photo of choice showing adopted child.

- c. To submit with the social worker's evaluation, a certified copy of the social worker's state license.
- 3. <u>NON-UTAH RESIDENTS</u>. If Parent(s) live outside the state of Utah, additional post-adoption documents may be required by Parent(s)' state of residence and Parent(s) agree to submit such documents to the appropriate agencies in accordance with these laws. Parent(s) agree to the cost of these evaluations and understand the application of fees for these post-adoption evaluations as outlined.
- 4. NON COMPLIANCE WITH POST ADOPTION REPORT REQUIREMENTS. The post adoption reports required by Bulgaria are an important and continuing part of the adoption process. By failing to providing the post adoption reports as required, adoptive parents can and will put adoptions for other adopting families at risk. In some cases, the failures of adoptive parents to provide post adoption reports to the foreign country have closed the doors to adoption in that country. Because this is such an important part of the adoption process, WIA must have guarantees in place that adoptive parents will comply with these post adoption report requirements.

In order to bring adoptive parents that are delinquent with these post adoption reports into compliance, it is necessary that WIA have in place a means of forcing compliance when necessary. Therefore, it is understood by the adopting parents that if parents become seriously delinquent with the required post adoption reports, WIA will be forced to take legal action against these adoptive parents and will sue for damages if the post adoption reports are not received. WIA also reserves the right to send a Licensed Social Worker to the home of adoptive parents who neglect this duty to interview the adoptive family and complete the post adoption reports as required. The fees for this Licensed Social worker to compile these delinquent post adoption reports will be the expense of the adoptive family and WIA will take legal action to collect these fees if necessary.

Consent to Jurisdiction, Service of Process, Venue, Choice of Law – All actions or proceedings with respect to any dispute arising under the terms of this Parent Post Adoption Agreement shall be litigated, at the discretion and election of WIA, only in courts whose site in within Ogden, Utah, and in the Second District Court of Weber County, State of Utah, USA, and the undersigned hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the Second District Court of Weber County, State of Utah, USA. In addition, the parties agree to accept court service of process by registered or certified mail sent to the addresses provided above or to any permanent address that is current at the time the process is written. Such service will constitute personal service of such process. The parent(s) waive any right to transfer or change the venue of any litigation brought against him/her/them by WIA or any of its agents related to this adoption. The parties hereto agree that this Parent Post Adoption Agreement will be construed in accordance with the laws in the State of Utah.

- 5. <u>INCORPORATION</u>. Parent(s) agree the terms of this addendum shall be incorporated into the International Adoption Services Contract and all other contracts in the WIA contract packet and made a part thereof as though fully set forth therein.
- 6. <u>TERMS AND CONDITIONS</u>. The terms, provisions and conditions set forth in this addendum shall supersede and take priority over any contrary or ambiguous terms, provisions and conditions in the International Adoption Services Contract and all other contracts in the WIA contract packet.

Parent(s) have read and understand each provis same agree to accept and abide by all the terms	
Adoptive Father	Date
Adoptive Mother	Date
State of }	
State of } County of }	
Sworn and subscribed to before me on this	day of, 20
Ву	
Notary Public	



A Child's Way Home

# Schedule G Adoptive Parent Authorization for Release of Confidential Information and Indemnification

To whom it may concern:

RE: Release of Confidential Information Incidental to Adoption of a Child by the Undersigned

You are hereby authorized to release to Wasatch International Adoptions (WIA) any and all information in your possession for the undersigned including but not limited to records, reports, documentation or other information regarding my/our social, emotional, educational, religious, psychological and medical histories, including assessments, background, opinions, and any other relevant data necessary to assist WIA in providing continuing service to me/us.

This consent will remain in effect indefinitely or until canceled in writing.

This authorization to release information concerning treatment and/or condition applies to the complete history, and not any specific incident. Please do not disclose any records, reports, documentation or other information to any insurance carrier or other party without written permission from myself or my attorney for you to do so.

Except as authorized herein, confidential information will not be disclosed without my consent, except where the law may compel disclosure (1) to inform appropriate persons if there is reason to believe I am in danger of doing serious harm to myself or someone else, or (2) if there is reason to believe that reportable child abuse has occurred.

The undersigned adoptive Parent(s) agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless all persons and groups releasing the records, reports and information authorized herein from any and all liability for claims, actions, damages or suits arising from or relating to the release or exchange of information made pursuant to this *Authorization for Release of Confidential Information*.

Adoptive Father (please print)	Signature	Date
Adoptive Mother (please print)	Signature	Date
State of	}	
County of	}	
Subscribed and sworn to before me	e on thisday of	, 20
Ву		
Notary Public		



A Child's Way Home

# Schedule H Authorization for Release of Advertising

In an effort to promote international adoptions and help other adoptive families in their quest to adopt, I give Wasatch International Adoptions permission to use pictures of my adopted child/children. These pictures may be pictures that I have given Wasatch International Adoptions, or pictures that the agency may have on file of my child before the referral was given to me.

I understand that these pictures may be used on the Wasatch International Adoptions website, social media websites, and/or in promotion materials distributed by Wasatch International Adoptions in an effort to promote the concept of international adoption.

I understand that confidential information will not be disclosed and Wasatch International Adoptions will not use my name, the name of my adopted child, our location, or any other specific identifying information, but understand that only the child's picture will be displayed.

I understand that this consent will remain in effect until I cancel it by written notice to Wasatch International Adoptions.

I understand that Wasatch International is a non-profit organization and that there will be no compensation for allowing Wasatch International Adoption the privilege of using this information.

Parent	Date
	If you do not wish your child's picture posted, please sign below

Thank you for giving me this oppo	ortunity, but I do not wish to have my child/children erial for Wasatch International Adoptions at this time.
Parent	Date
State of } County of }	
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this	



. Release of Advertising



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# Schedule I Permission to Use FEDEX Account Number

I/We,	, do hereby grant Wasatch International Adoptions (WIA)
permission to utilize the following FedEx A	ccount number which I/we have established, for the sole
purpose of sending documentation relative	to my/our adoption in The account
number is	I/We understand that this account number will
remain in my/our adoption file, that it mus	t remain in force until this adoption file is completed, and
that I/we am/are responsible for the payr	nent of charges incurred on this account relative to this
adoption whether by me/us or Wasatch Int	ernational Adoptions.
Adoptive Father	Date
Adoptive Mother	Date
State of } § County of }	
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this	day of, 20
Ву	
Notary Public	



A Child's Way Home

## Schedule J Adoption Disruption/Dissolution Agreement

Parent(s) understand that all foreign countries Wasatch International Adoptions works with to place children with families will complete and finalize the adoption in that respective foreign country. Parent(s) also understand that once their adoption has been finalized in the foreign country, that child legally becomes their child. As the adoptive parents of the child they have the same legal obligation to provide for and care for that adopted child as though he or she were born to them. From time to time, after adopting the child, Parent(s) may make the decision that in the best interest of the family they must dissolve the adoption and relinquish parental rights of the adopted child. If the decision is made to dissolve the adoption, Parent(s) understand and agree to the following:

- 1. The Parent(s) understand that the adoption of the child was finalized in the foreign country and that it is their legal responsibility to provide for and care for the adopted child in the same manner as they would care for a biological child born to them.
- 2. The Parent(s) understand that if the decision is made to dissolve the adoption of the child, in no circumstances can Wasatch International Adoptions assume custody, guardianship or responsibility for the adopted child.
- 3. The Parent(s) understand that although they, as the legal parents of the child, retain custody of the adopted child, Wasatch International Adoptions can provide limited assistance to the family in the way of crisis intervention, short-term counseling and support when disruption/dissolution is being considered.
- 4. Parent(s) understand that in order to place the child with another adoptive family, they must sign legal documents and appear before a judge to terminate all parental rights of their adopted child. The Parent(s) understand that once these documents are signed terminating parental rights, the decision is irrevocable.
- 5. The Parent(s) understand that they have a legal right to identify a family, work with an attorney, and place the child with another family of their choosing. The Parent(s) are under no obligation to work with or place the child using Wasatch International Adoptions, but do agree to contact the staff of Wasatch International Adoptions to notify them of the fact that the child is being placed with another adoptive family. If the Parent(s) place their children with another adoptive family, they agree to provide the contact information for the new adoptive family.
- 6. The Parent(s) may also work through Wasatch International Adoptions and ask for assistance in identifying a second adoptive family in which to place the child. In the event that this option is utilized by the Parent(s), it is understood that the placement of the child is handled as a domestic adoption and they may incur costs associated with this option. However, in most cases all costs associated with a domestic adoption will be the responsibility of the second adoptive family, not the Parent(s). If this option is chosen, the Parent(s) understand that:

- They have the right to identify and choose a suitable family for their child from among the family profiles provided by Wasatch International Adoptions.
- Even when a family is chosen by the Parent(s), it may be two to four months before physical and legal custody can be transferred to the second adoptive family.
- No money can be paid the Parent(s) for reimbursement of fees paid for the
  first adoption of the child. This is construed as child buying by USCIS and
  Federal Law and is illegal. However, since this is considered a domestic
  adoption, there may be some legal reimbursements of costs that will be the
  responsibility of the second adoptive parents once the child has been matched
  with them and the second adoption begins.

I/We, the undersigned, acknowledge, accept and agree to be bound by all provisions of this Disruption/Dissolution Agreement and that the execution hereof is free, knowing and voluntary and not the product of duress, fraud, or any undue influence on the part of WIA or anyone acting on its behalf. We further expressly acknowledge that no promises or representations have been made by WIA or anyone acting on its behalf beyond those specifically set forth in writing in this Disruption/Dissolution Agreement.

Adoptive Father	Date	
Adoptive Mother	Date	
State of		
County of		
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this	day of	_, 20
Ву		_,,
Notary Public		



A Child's Way Home

### Adoptive Parent Service Plan Bulgaria

WIA is happy to welcome you to our agency and the international adoption process. We will do our best to provide you with quality service and planning in order for you to complete an adoption. Below is a list of services WIA will perform on your behalf. We welcome any questions you might have at any time during this adoption process, and promise a quick response with answers. Please read the following information so you will understand our role in this adoption journey.

- 1. When you become an official client of WIA, we will act as the Primary Provider for your adoption process. We will follow this service plan as outlined below to provide the adoption services needed to complete your adoption. If you live outside the state of Utah, we will work closely with your home study agency who will complete the home study for you and who will also provide post adoption services to you. WIA will also be the liaison between the Central Authority, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and any other foreign providers, such as **Happy Child NGO**, used for your adoption.
- 2. The following list outlines the services that will be provided by WIA on your behalf and is considered an individualized service plan for your adoption process.

The six Hague adoption services: Completed by: Wasatch International Adoptions Identifying a child for adoption and arranging an adoption Bulgarian Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Securing the necessary consent to termination of parental rights and to adoption; Performing a background study on a child The child background study will be provided by or a home study on prospective adoptive MOJ. The home study will be provided to Utah parent(s), and reporting on such a study Clients by Wasatch International Adoptions. Non-Utah clients home study will be performed by a Hague licensed agency in your state of residence. Making non-judicial determinations of the Wasatch International Adoptions and MOJ best interests of a child and the appropriateness of an adoptive placement for the child Wasatch International Adoptions Monitoring a case after a child has been placed with prospective adoptive parents until final adoption; and When necessary because of a disruption Wasatch International Adoptions before final adoption, assuming custody of a child and providing or facilitating the provision of childcare or any other social service pending an alternative placement

**Approval of your application.** By this point you have been through the application process and your application has been approved by our review committee. In order to have received this approval you have met criteria set by WIA, the United States government, and all requirements issued by MOJ.

**Performing a home study for prospective adoptive parents and reporting on such a study.** If you are a family living in Utah, WIA will assist you when it is time to complete your home study. We will assign one of our social workers to your case. This social worker will contact you to make an appointment to begin the home study. You must gather the necessary supporting documents required in order for the social worker to verify your income, general health, and the general health of any children currently living with you. You will need to ask one relative and three friends to provide letters of reference. You will also be required to submit to a criminal and child abuse background check with the state of Utah and any other place you have lived since the age of 18. Also you will have three or four home visits and interviews with your assigned social worker.

If you are a family living outside the states of Utah, this means you have chosen to be your home study agency. When beginning the home study process with your home study agency you will be required to provide similar supporting documents to the social worker who completes your home study, and will also have 3 or 4 home visits and interviews with your social worker. You will also be required to submit to a criminal and child abuse clearance in your state of residence and all other places you have lived in since you were 18 years of age. WIA will work closely with your home study provider and will also be available for any assistance needed during this process. When you have completed the home study, this same agency will be able to assist you with the parent education required and will also do the post adoption monitoring required by MOJ.

- a. Dossier documents. As soon as your service contracts have been signed, you will be assigned a Dossier Specialist who will assist with the preparation of documents needed to submit the dossier to the foreign country. The Dossier Specialist will be your agency representative throughout the adoption process. The Dossier Specialist is available to answer any questions. They will give you the assistance you need throughout the entire adoption journey. When the dossier is completed, the Dossier Specialist will review all the documents carefully and help you through the translation and authentication process. When the entire dossier is completed and approved it, will be sent to the appropriate foreign officials to begin the work on the foreign side of the adoption process.
- b. Parent Education. From the beginning of the adoption journey, we ask you to educate yourselves on the problems your child and you may face. However, because your adopted child will have missed out on many of the important things learned by living in a family setting, there are things that you need to be aware of so you may help your child "catch up". The parent education manual will help you understand attachment and bonding, grief and loss issues your child may face, how to help a child who has been sensory deprived, how to help your child overcome the effects of malnutrition, and how to get through the adjustment period upon return home as well as other important topics. If you live outside of the state of Utah, you are encouraged to work with your home study agency to complete the parent education they require. However, in addition to the parent education your home study agency asks you to complete, you will still be required to read WIA's Parent Education

Manual and complete all the homework at the end of each section. When the 12 hours of WIA's parent education are completed, you will be given a certificate of completion. A copy of this certification will be retained in your adoption file. And, if your home study agency has provided parent education or if you have completed parent education online, we also require certificates of completion for all courses you have completed. When you are finished with the required parent education, we encourage you to continue reading appropriate adoption materials listed in WIA's Parent Education Manual. Continuing to educate yourselves in issues surrounding adopted children will give you the knowledge you will need to deal with any problems that may arise placement.

### c. Identifying a child for adoption.

#### • Identifying the Child to be adopted:

If you are interested in adopting a child from our waiting child list, the MOJ may grant you a pre-approval status. You will then have six months to submit the dossier and adoption paperwork to the MOJ. Once the family dossier has been completed, translated, state and consulate authenticated it is sent to **Happy Child NGO**. It will then be submitted to MOJ for approval. MOJ will review the family dossier. The dossier will be approved and ready to be matched with a child.

MOJ will match a child/children to the adoptive family that fits the description outlined in the family home study and dossier. **Happy Child NGO** will be notified and given the referral information for the family, including a photo, birth certificate, medical papers and a social history of the child. Happy Child NGO will send the packet to Wasatch. The packet is in Bulgarian so the packet will be sent to a translator for translation. The Bulgarian and English versions of the referral/match packet will be sent to the adoptive family by the Dossier specialist. The Director of Social Work will call and discuss the referral with the adoptive family.

The family will be given the dates, within 60 days, they would like to travel to Bulgaria to meet their child for the mandatory 7 day in-country visit. Happy Child NGO will help the family to arrange all travel to Bulgaria for the visit. During the visit, the family will go to the orphanage where the child resides and visit them every day, during this visit a social worker from the MOJ will observe the adoptive family with the child/children that have been referred to them, the social worker will also conduct an interview with the adoptive couple. The MOJ social worker will write a report recommending the match and the adoptive family will accept the referral while in-country.

Medical and Social Information on the Child being adopted. WIA will provide all the possible information, received from the MOJ via Happy Child NGO, about the child referred to you or the children that are offered to you as a referral. All medical information, pictures or videos of the child, and any information regarding social development, abandonment, or birth family will be given to you. If the information in any of these reports is not written in English, WIA will be responsible to see that all information is translated into English so that you can understand all the information provided by the foreign country. Before accepting the referral of a child, we recommend you take all available information to a pediatrician or other medical professional who assess the reports provided by the foreign country and give a professional opinion in regards to the information provided on the medical reports. WIA also encourages adoptive parents to send all information to an international adoption clinic that specializes in interpreting the medical information provided by foreign doctors. There is a fee associated with this service, but when making life decisions this may be a

very important thing to do. We do not want you to accept the referral if you find there are medical problems or other red flags that make you uncomfortable. If this is the case, we will work on your behalf to see if it is possible to be issued a new referral.

- d. Securing the necessary consent to termination of parental rights for the placement of the child. All legal documents ensuring a child is available for adoption fall under the jurisdiction of the MOJ, the placing central authority. These documents are prepared and issued by each foreign country's central authority. When a child is referred to WIA from the central authority it is assumed that the specific foreign authority has done all that is necessary and legally appropriate to ensure the referral is unencumbered and that all documentation is in place. To the extent possible, WIA will review all information provided to be sure the necessary documents are in place and the child meets the USCIS definition of an orphan as outlined in Federal Law. If there are any problems with the paperwork provided by the foreign adoption officials, WIA will work as an intermediate to resolve any problems before presenting the referral.
- e. Making non-judicial determinations of the best interests of the child and the appropriateness of an adoptive placement for the child. The mission of WIA is to find homes for children. The welfare and best interests of the child is of the utmost importance. When a child referral is given to an adoptive family, WIA's social worker and the Dossier Specialist will be very involved in this process. When the referral is issued, the Director of Social Work will discuss the referral information to you. If you have any questions at all regarding the appropriateness of the referral, WIA's social worker will discuss with you the appropriateness of the referral and the decision to accept or reject the referral.

  A social worker from the MOJ will observe the adoptive family with the child/children that have been referred to them, the social worker will also conduct an interview with the adoptive couple. The MOJ social worker will write a report recommending the match and the adoptive family will accept the referral while in-country.
- **f. Monitoring a case after the child has been placed with the prospective adoptive parents until the finalization of the adoption.** The adoption finalization process is unique to each foreign country. In the case of Bulgaria, the adoption is finalized prior to your second trip. This means that when you take physical custody of your child that child is yours as though he or she had been born to you. However, from time to time, while in the foreign country, or during the initial transition period after arriving home, problems do arise. Happy Child NGO is very skilled in dealing with parents who have a difficult time while in the foreign country. They are available and will help with any problem that may arise, from a baby that cries all night, to a baby or child who refuses to eat. If your child gets sick in the foreign country, Happy Child NGO will help you access medical professionals who can help with the crisis. Also your Dossier Specialist and any of WIA's social workers are just a phone call away.
- g. When necessary because of a disruption before final adoption, assuming custody of the child and providing child care or any other social service pending an alternative placement of the child. Currently, the adoption programs offered by WIA are structured so that the adoption is completed in the foreign country and there is no period of time between when you as the adoptive parents accept custody of the child and the adoption is finalized. However, if you are having serious problems with your child while in the foreign country, remember that

Happy Child NGO is skilled in providing assistance and reassurance while you are away from home. We encourage you to not become too discouraged while in the foreign country, but give the child and yourselves some time to go through this transitional time. The child is going through a grieving process getting used to being with you. Often times, this is a difficult and stressful time for all involved. Once you return home with your child, the WIA's clinical staff is available to provide crisis intervention, social services and advice if necessary. It is rare that major problems persist. However, if the problems you are having with your child do not resolve after crisis intervention and social services, and after letting a reasonable amount of time go by, please understand WIA can not take custody of your child. This child is yours, just as if he or she were born to you. However, WIA can assist you with advice and counsel on dissolution of an adoption. If dissolution is imminent, WIA needs to be involved and can provide you with information on how to dissolve your adoption and re-place your child with another family. WIA also has a responsibility to continue reporting the outcome of the adoption to the foreign country and the U.S. Department of State. Therefore WIA will need to continue to be involved with the adoptive family that adopts your child once the dissolution process has taken place.

h. Post adoption services after the child arrives home from a foreign country with a full and final adoption order. WIA wants to be responsive to any post-adoption related issues, adjustment problems, etc, that adoptive families may experience after the adoption is finalized. WIA will provide all services as outlined above to you as adoptive parents. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any problems that arise after the adoption is completed and you are home.

If problems persist, rarely, but from time to time, an adoptive family may make the decision to dissolve the adoption. WIA should be informed if dissolution occurs.

Another important aspect of post adoption services is the post adoption reports. Each foreign country that allows children to be placed with U.S. citizens is still interested in the well-being of the children who were placed. In order to follow up on the placement, these foreign countries require post adoption reports be sent to them on a periodic basis detailing the adjustment of the child to his or her new family. These follow up reports are so important that you sign a legal and binding contract with WIA agreeing to provide these post adoption reports to the foreign country. Failure to provide these post placement reports by adoptive parents has caused several countries around the world to close their doors to international adoption. Therefore, we urge you to follow through with your promise to provide these reports.

For adoptive parents residing in the state of Utah – the post adoption service will be provided by WIA and will include the following:

- Assistance with post adoption reports, including reminders of when these reports are due, and help with scheduling the social worker visit so the post adoption report can be completed.
- Translating, mailing and submitting these post adoption reports to MOJ.
- Social Services and assistance with problems that may arise after placement.
- Assistance with re-placement if dissolution of the adoption becomes necessary.

For adoptive parent(s) living outside the state of Utah – WIA will work closely with your home study provider in order that all services can be extended for the following:

- Assistance with tracking the schedule of when each post adoption report is due, and contact with your home study agency to alert them about the dates these reports should be submitted
- Translating, mailing and submitting these post adoption reports to the foreign adoption authorities.
- Crisis counseling and assistance. If long term problems arise, WIA will notify your home study agency so they can provide the help within your state of residence.
- Assistance with re-placement if dissolution of the adoption becomes necessary.

WIA makes a pledge to you as adoptive parents to do all we can to provide responsive, quality service to you. If problems and bumps arise during the process, we are here to advocate for you and also for the child you adopt. We want this adoption journey to be exciting and joyful, and will try our best to minimize the frustration and worry that is part of any adoption journey. Please let us know if you need further information. We are pleased to have the opportunity to be able to partner with you to bring your child home as quickly as possible.

I have read and acknowledge the Adoption Service Plan as presented above.

Adoptive Father	Date
Adoptive Mother	Date
State of	
County of	
Subscribed and sworn to before me thisday of	, 20
Ву	
Notary Public	