



...lighting the way for new beginnings

BEACON HOUSE ADOPTION SERVICES, INC.

INTERNET CONTACTS

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www.beaconhouseadopt.com*

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EXCERPT FROM ‘ADOPTION IN A NUTSHELL’,
BY ANNE R. HUGHES, MSW, JD

Domestic Adoption in a Nutshell

Domestic adoption means adopting from within one’s own country, so for citizens of the US that means the child is born and adopted inside the boundaries of the United States. This can be adoption of a newborn or adoption of an older child. Generally speaking, the procedures will be quite different.

Adoption of a newborn usually involves working with a birth mother who is pregnant and making an adoption plan for her child. Birth mothers have choices in how they want to proceed, whether to work with an agency or perhaps an attorney, or sometimes even directly with the adoptive parents. Working with any agency provides the most protection to adoptive parents, for several reasons. First, agencies are monitored by state licensing departments; second, the level of experience of agencies greatly exceeds that of adoptive parents acting on their own, and frequently exceeds attorneys who devote a small portion of their practice to adoption.

Domestic adoption from a birth mother raises a couple of issues for adoptive parents:

1. Open versus Closed adoptions: When birth parents live in the same country and perhaps the same state as adopting parents, issues of pictures, letters, personal meetings and phone calls can arise. Adopting parents have to determine where their comfort level lies before accepting a match with a birth mother so that the birth mother is not misled about the adopting parents’ feelings and intentions. The worst possible mistake is making promises that are not kept. This leaves the birth mother feeling betrayed and disappointed.

In recent years, there was a trend toward more open adoptions; Beacon House, for a variety of reasons, did not subscribe to this trend, but instead chose a hybrid form of adoption, the “semi-open” process, where families and birth parents could meet on a limited basis with no exchange of identifying information, and then

engage in correspondence via the agency after the placement. A number of agencies that previously encouraged or even demanded open adoptions have now moved to the Beacon House format, and even use the term “semi-open” adoption.

2. Cost. An important issue is the cost factor. State laws vary on adoption costs, and some states allow certain expenses that other states do not. This can drastically affect the ultimate cost of the adoption. Medical costs for the birth mother, if there is no insurance and no Medicaid availability, can be quite high. Birth mothers frequently need assistance with residential expenses, and there are the agency, legal, and social services expenses as well.

Agencies may structure their costs and expenses differently, so it is difficult sometimes to make comparisons. The chart provided below may be helpful in making comparisons about what is and is NOT included in the fees, and what information the adoptive parents receive.

	Beacon House	Agency 2	Agency 3	Agency 4
Estimate provided	Yes			
Contract fee	\$2,500.00			
Agency overhead fee	\$6,500.00- \$8,000.00			
AP Support/Counsel	\$1,000.00			
Social Service fee	\$1,000.00			
Birth mother Marketing	\$1,500.00			
Legal fees for finalization	Included in total estimate			
BM costs itemized	Yes			
Legal fees for BM	Included in estimate			
Home study	Separate			
Personal Supervision of BM	Included in estimate			

In general, the cost of domestic infant adoption can cover an extended range from \$10,000.00 all the way to \$40,000.00. Adoptions on the lower end of this range are less common, however. In assessing the cost, there are factors to consider, including provision of necessities for the birth mother that will help her to maintain a healthy lifestyle; personal attention to the

birthmother that almost always ensures a successful conclusion; and the presence or absence of medical care.

Providing pre-natal care to a birth mother assures that if there are any problems along the way, adopting parents will be apprised of them rather than have an unpleasant surprise at delivery. This can also be done if the birth mother is eligible for Medicaid in the state of delivery.

Many agencies do not provide supervision of the birth mothers; they provide the birth mother her expenses and check with her by phone periodically. One of the many ways Beacon House is different is that each birth mother is assigned a personal caretaker, who is responsible for ensuring follow through on physicians appointments, counseling sessions, and personal contact with the BM on a weekly basis. This is an expense that is included in the preliminary estimate provided to parents by Beacon House.

3. Trans-racial adoption. Transracial and multiracial adoptions are becoming more common, with people integrating a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds into their family.

Potential adopting parents need to be in agreement as to the ethnic background of the child they seek. In considering transracial adoption, it would be wise to research the issues that arise in these situations and educate oneself on the subject.

4. Older child adoption. Adopting an older child (any child that is not a newborn) *generally* means that the child will have spent some time in the foster care system in this country. It also means that this child was removed from his or her home for a reason, and will generally carry with him/her some emotional baggage with which adopting parents will have to deal. Consider carefully your background and abilities before taking on this type of child. Children placed in homes for adoption in this way need the highest degree of consistency and continuity in their lives. To take such a child and then return he or she later does irreparable damage to this child.

4. Special Needs Adoption. The term “special needs” does not apply only to children who have physical handicaps or medical issues. The term can mean a child who is hard to place due to age or other specifically defined characteristics.

Children in the foster care system are often considered special needs placements. As with other issues in domestic adoption, adopting parents need to assess their own vision of their family to determine if this is the type of adoption for them.

Some people prefer the idea of domestic adoption for a variety of reasons. Obviously, no international travel is necessary. Many people believe that adopting parents should be providing homes for the child in need in this country rather than going to other countries. As a general rule, medical information and history will generally be more accessible in domestic adoptions. Finally, many people believe it is better that the child have easier access to birth relatives in his/her adulthood. The risks inherent in this type of adoption lie with the decisions of the birth parents, whether the birth father will consent or oppose the adoption and whether the birth mother will change her mind after delivering the child.

End of Excerpt

HOW TO ADOPT A BEAUTIFUL NEWBORN WITH BEACON HOUSE

GENERAL INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC ADOPTION PROGRAMS

Beacon House has many years of experience with the domestic adoptions of children of all ethnic backgrounds. Requirements and procedures for all the programs are very similar. Placements are made nationwide with the exception of New York State, and this agency has placed in a number of other countries.

Requirements for adopting families: Beacon House utilizes the most flexible criteria for approving adoptive families, within the parameters of each state’s law. Beacon House is interested in making an adoptive placement that fits your family and fits the birth mother’s wants and needs. Our criteria does not exclude single parents or families with existing children. The main criteria for families are that they be able and willing to

provide a loving, nurturing environment for a child, and be the subjects of an approved home study.

Open vs. Closed : The issue of open versus closed adoptions requires some understanding of the vast spectrum of possibilities in this area. This agency does not promote either totally open or totally closed adoptions. Instead, we provide extensive counseling with the parties to the adoptive process to determine their expectations. Throughout the process, various options are discussed and considered to assure that **no** person involved in a particular adoption feels compelled to enter into an arrangement that makes them uncomfortable. It is, however, our policy that confidential information not be exchanged at any time during the process. Those individuals for whom totally open adoption is a choice may enter into any arrangement they wish at the conclusion of the adoption process.

Interstate Placements: Beacon House is very experienced in working with interstate placements. Any time a child is moved across state lines for adoption, approval must be obtained from the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, an office in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the US Virgin Islands. Beacon House is well acquainted with the requirements of the I.C.P.C. and assures that necessary documents are collected prior to the birth. This way, there is a smooth transition of the child from birth mother to agency to adoptive parents. Beacon House does not place children in the state of New York.

Execution of Consents/ Surrenders: The consent that allows Beacon House to place a child with approved adoptive parents is called different things in different states. Regardless of the terminology, it is the timing of the consent/surrender and its revocability that are important. States may have differing procedures and time frames, and depends on several factors including where the child is born and where the biological parents reside. Adoptive parents will be apprised of the appropriate information when considering a match with a birth mother.

Interim Care: In general, a birth mother and infant are discharged from the hospital on the second day after birth. Beacon House utilizes temporary private care from hospital discharge until consent/surrender, at which time adoptive parents are welcome to take physical custody of the infant. If the placement requires Interstate Compact approval, there may be a period of time when the new family needs to remain in the state where the child was

born until ICPS approval can be obtained, usually not a long wait.

Beacon House understands that there are a number of agencies that encourage prospective adoptive parents to be present at the delivery of the child. Here at Beacon House we believe that we have obligations to all parties of the adoption triad in equal measure, and based on many years of experience, we have found that it is more usual for a birth mother to need some time in the hospital to obtain closure for her adoption plan. The presence of adoptive parents can disturb a delicate balance of emotions, so this method is not part of our program.

Bonding: Bonding is a process that can begin at any time after a child is united with parent(s), and continues throughout the years of the relationship. Early bonding is important, and can begin as soon as the child is placed in the physical custody of the adopting parents. In Interstate placements, the waiting period for ICPC approval provides the adopting parents with personal, special time with the newborn to begin this process.

Waiting Time: The time frame from application completion, to match, is generally 3-6 months. Naturally, this time can be extended by the requirements of the adoptive family, or the needs of the birth mother. The more flexible you are and the more reasonable your budget, the more likely you are to be placed earlier. This means that you can expect to be matched quickly with a birth mother.

Birth Mother location: Perhaps the single most difficult thing about adopting domestically today is the location of a birth mother who is considering adoption. With the easy availability of birth control and now the “morning after pill”, which can be obtained at local health clinics, the search for a birth mother who is considering adoption is taking longer and is more expensive than ever. It is more important than ever that agencies reach potential birth mothers on a large scale through advertising efforts in many geographic areas.

Beacon House has an aggressive marketing strategy that directly targets birth mothers in a number of areas that have continued to be successful; the agency funds the outreach to birth mothers through classified advertisements, television and radio ads, outdoor advertising (billboards),

Yellow page ads in 14-15 states, and internet presence.

Beacon House works with birth mothers in all states, but many choose to relocate to Louisiana, Mississippi, or Florida and are therefore subject to the laws of the state where they relocate. In these states, birth mothers may receive residential assistance, medical, legal, and travel expenses.



BEACON HOUSE DOMESTIC PROGRAMS:

- I. TRADITIONAL, CAUCASIAN BIRTH MOTHER/BIRTH FATHER
- II. TRADITIONAL, CAUCASIAN BIRTH MOTHER/HISPANIC, ASIAN, AFRICAN AMERICAN BIRTH FATHER
- III. MINORITY BIRTH MOTHER AND FATHER

PROCESS: The following process can be followed to make an application to the agency for programs (I) and (II) above:

A. APPLICATIONS:

1. Preliminary application form, found in this packet, to be filled out completely and sent in with a non-refundable application fee of \$250.00; this is preliminary, and will be processed by our domestic staff;
2. Receipt and processing of the preliminary application form is followed by receipt of a contract, a disclosure of fees and costs, and an Internet Guidelines agreement, all of which should be executed and returned to Beacon House with the contract fee of \$2,500.00; **this step makes the applicant(s) eligible to be presented to birth mothers.**
3. Once your contract and other documentation have been returned to the agency, Beacon House will establish your file and provide you with a list of documentation needed to complete the file. At the same time, you will be placed in our pool of adopting parents eligible for birth mother match.

**** Please Note:** Based on the information you provide, you will be contacted about every birth mother *that meets your requirements*. *Please note that one of your requirements will be the adoption budget you list on the application.* **SO, with our process, you are considered for situations as soon as we receive your completed contract! There is NO WAITING LIST!** Contracts considered complete upon receipt of executed document and contract fee.

B. MATCHING

1. Profiles/Dear Birth Mother letters: You will need to provide letters/profiles for presentation to birth mothers. Our domestic staff can assist you in drafting a letter and advise on how to develop a profile, or we can refer you to professionals who provide this service for you.
2. Match Process: Generally within 3-6 months from the time that you complete the application process, a birthmother situation will arise. In accordance with our **NO WAITING LIST** policy, all families eligible for this placement will be contacted. Available social and medical history will be provided verbally, along with a good faith estimate of the costs involved in the placement.

It is an important decision whether or not to be presented to any particular birth mother for selection. In most cases, this decision will have to be made quickly; once provided with the background information on the situation and estimated costs, there will be limited time for reflection. In addition, to prevent adoptive parents from rejecting a match after a birth mother makes the choice, a good faith deposit is required to be presented to the birth mother. This deposit will be credited toward the total cost of the placement. Deposits do not exceed \$2,000.00; if not chosen by the birth mother, the deposit is returned.

In the event that adoptive parents are chosen by the birth mother and then decide they do not wish to proceed, they will forfeit their deposit.

C. POST - MATCH

1. Once matched with a birth mother situation, adoptive parents will be provided a written estimate of costs/expenses with a payment schedule; it will be necessary to work with our domestic office staff to complete documentation required to make the placement during the next few months. Regular updates will be provided on the birth mother's pre-natal care.
2. At the time of delivery, adoptive parents will be updated on the status of the birth mother after delivery, as well as delivery information on the baby. Depending on the state, the birth mother

will execute her adoption consent at the appropriate legal time; the agency will make all the arrangements. After the consent is complete, adoptive parents will be able to accept the placement and take physical custody of the child.

3. In the event that the adoptive family lives in a different state than where the child was born, Interstate Compact must be addressed and the family will need to remain in the state of residence of the child/ birthmother until approved to return home.
4. In most cases, unless discussed with the adoptive family first, finalization arrangements will be made by Beacon House via the attorneys available to the agency.

PROCESS: The following process may be used for application to Program (III) above.

A. APPLICATIONS:

1. Preliminary application form, found in this packet, to be filled out completely and sent in with a non-refundable application fee of \$250.00; this is preliminary, and will be processed by our domestic staff;
2. Receipt and processing of the preliminary application form is followed by receipt of a contract, a disclosure of fees and costs, and an Internet Guidelines agreement, all of which should be executed and returned to Beacon House; **this step makes the applicant(s) eligible to be presented to birth mothers.**
3. Once your contract and other documentation have been returned to the agency, Beacon House will establish your file and provide you with a list of documentation needed to complete the file. At the same time, you will be placed in our pool of adopting parents eligible for birth mother match.

B. MATCHING

1. Profiles/Dear Birth Mother letters: You will need to provide letters/profiles for presentation to birth mothers. Our domestic

staff can assist you in drafting a letter and advise on how to develop a profile, or we can refer you to professionals who provide this service for you.

3. Match Process: This program generally has a longer matching time frame; In this program, Beacon House will match upon delivery of a child; Available social and medical history will be provided verbally, along with a good faith estimate of the costs involved in the placement.

C. POST - MATCH

4. Once matched with a birth mother situation, adoptive parents will be provided a written estimate of costs/expenses; all fees are due and payable within 72 hours of acceptance of match; it will be necessary to work with our domestic office staff to complete documentation required to make the placement during a short period of time following the match. All available information on the child will be provided.
5. At the time of delivery, adoptive parents will be updated on the status of the birth mother after delivery, as well as delivery information on the baby. Depending on the state, the birth mother will execute her adoption consent at the appropriate legal time; the agency will make all the arrangements. After the consent is complete, adoptive parents will be able to accept the placement and take physical custody of the child.
6. In the event that the adoptive family lives in a different state than where the child was born, Interstate Compact must be addressed and the family will need to remain in the state of residence of the child/ birthmother until approved to return home.
4. In most cases, unless discussed with the adoptive family first, finalization arrangements will be made by Beacon House via the attorneys available to the agency.

ADOPTIVE PARENTS OBLIGATIONS

Beacon House Adoption Services, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) organization. This means that the agency is non-profit and able to accept donations for which donors can receive a tax deduction.* As a not-for-profit organization, we rely on contributions and volunteers to assist us in furthering our programs.

As a part of the process of working with BHAS, adoptive parents are asked to commit to a minimum number of volunteer hours working on various projects for the agency, either during or after their adoption. The minimum requirement is 30 hours per year for a period of three years. Parents do not have to be geographically local to BH to complete this commitment; most projects can be completed using email or telephone. A volunteer commitment letter will be required.

Alternatively, if family circumstances are such that the volunteer commitment cannot be made, there is the option of pledging a minimum contribution to the annual fund or the capital campaign. Information can be provided about this alternative upon request.

*This is a general statement and not intended to guarantee that every contribution will be eligible. Please see your tax advisor for your individual situation.

SUMMARY: SO WHY ADOPT FROM BEACON HOUSE?

Beacon House has an excellent record of placements of newborns. Since 1989, we have served several thousand families and birth mothers and maintain a high success rate. Birth mothers are provided with extensive in-house counseling by our staff, as well as independent counseling with licensed social workers. This communication with the agency is part of the reason for our success.

Beacon House aggressively markets our services to birth mothers; in addition, many of our past birth mothers refer others to us – they would not think of working with anyone else! Our experienced staff knows just how to respond to the needs, emotional as well as physical of a birth mother.

Beacon House Adoption Services, Inc. is committed to providing the highest quality professional adoption services to our clients. We respect the rights of all parties to the adoption process and attempt to provide an adoption

experience that will leave all parties satisfied and with a positive view of adoption. Adoption is more than just taking on a child. It is taking on a series of issues that involve other people and their feelings and this agency is well aware of the emotional environment of adoption. We believe our agency provides compassionate, straightforward service to all members of the adoption process.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Beacon House provides additional adoption related services outside of placement programs. Home studies, post placement services and educational training are available separately from placement programs.



THE COST OF ADOPTION

There is no doubt about it – adoption can be an expensive endeavor, and families often wonder how they can afford it. The good news is that there is help out there – in places you may have considered and those you may not! What follows is a suggested list of financial sources for you to consider and try. It is by no means exclusive – use your creativity!

1. **Family resources**: Families can sometimes provide financial support in large and small amounts that may help to defray some of

the costs of adoption.

2. **Tax credit**: Allows a maximum \$10,690.00 per child income tax credit toward qualified adoption expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer. IRS Publication #968 is available by calling the IRS or checking the IRS website. You should check with your tax advisor as to your eligibility, as the credit begins to phase out after an AGI of \$155,000.00. See <http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc607.html> for more information.
3. **Employee benefits**: Many employers are providing adoption assistance in the form of grants, reimbursement or other benefits. A list of employers providing benefits can be found at www.adoptionworkplace.org/employers.html . If your employer is not on the list, ASK!
4. **Savings**: If you do not already have a savings account, start one. It does not take a lot to open an account, and automatic deposits from your paycheck will mount up fast.
5. **Military Adoption Reimbursement Program**: This program allows reimbursement, up to \$2,000.00 per child, for active-duty personnel. There are some restrictions on these funds, such as certain expenses that are not covered, and the requirement that a non-profit agency be used for the adoption. For information, see www.nmfa.org .
6. **Loans**: There are several groups that provide loans specifically for adoption. These include:
 - The National Adoption Foundation in Danbury, Connecticut (1-800-841-1982), The National Adoption Foundation Credit Card (1-800-932-2775) – see also www.nafadopt.org;
 - MBNA in Wilmington, Delaware which has a variety of programs including low interest loans, home equity loans, and low interest credit cards;
 - A Child Waits Foundation (1-914-962-0886), a non-profit

foundation in Pittsfield, Massachusetts that provides low interest loans for international adoption – see also www.achildwaits.org ;

Jacob Free Loan Foundation (1-413-737-2601), providing interest FREE loans up to \$5,000.00 to members of the Jewish community.

The National Council for Adoption has negotiated with Bank of America to provide unsecured lines of credit for adoption. More information is available at

<http://www.adoptioncouncil.org/financing.htm>

7. **Grants:** Some organizations providing grants for adoption include: The Gift of Adoption Fund in Wisconsin (1-877-905-2367 for information) (1-414-268-1368 for application) – see also www.giftofadoption.org ; Bright Futures – www.homestead.com ; National Adoption Foundation in Danbury, Connecticut – www.nafadopt.org ; The National Adoption Center in Philadelphia, which provides a list of corporations that give grants for adoption (1-215-735-9988) -- www.adopt.org ; Love Knows No Borders, send a SASE to 500B Monroe Turnpike, Box 4, Monroe, CT 06468 for an application.
8. A new foundation is www.helpusadopt.org which launched fundraising grant programs in July of 2007 specifically to assist families who need help with the financial burden of adopting. They plan to award grants up to \$15,000.00 beginning in November 2007.
9. **Kingdom Kids Adoption:** Recently we have learned of an additional resource for some families. Kingdom Kids Adoption Ministries is a Christian ministry that helps families to raise funds for adoption. They have limited grant money available – see also www.KingdomKidsAdoption.org for further information or call (504) 465-3520.

BEACON HOUSE ADOPTION SERVICES, INC.

COSTS AND FEES: DOMESTIC PROGRAMS

The following is a list of the fees charged by Beacon House Adoption Services, Inc. for professional services:

APPLICATION FEES: All Programs

I. Preliminary Application Fee	\$ 250.00
II. Traditional Program (I) and (II) Contract fee	\$ 2,500.00
III. Minority Program Contract fee	N/A

PLACEMENT FEES: Domestic

Traditional program (I) Placement fee:*	\$ 8,000.00
Traditional program (II) Placement fee:*	\$ 6,500.00

OTHER PROFESSIONAL FEES:

Adoptive Parent support/counsel	\$ 1,000.00
Social Service fee	\$ 1,000.00
Birth mother marketing	\$ 1,500.00

HOMESTUDY AND POST PLACEMENT FEES

I. Home Study	\$ 1,800.00
Discount of \$300.00 if applicants proceed with adoption via Beacon House Adoption Services, Inc.	
II. Post Placement	\$ 300.00

* All placement fees are as per contract and exclusive of birth mother related costs and expenses including medical care, residential expense, legal fees, independent counseling, foster care, travel, or supervision

expense. Good faith estimate provided prior to commitment.

PLEASE NOTE: THAT THE TOTAL COST OF ANY DOMESTIC ADOPTION DEPENDS IN LARGE PART ON THE INDIVIDUAL SITUATION OF THE BIRTH MOTHER AND THE ADOPTIVE PARENTS. **PLACEMENT FEES** ARE ONLY THOSE FEES PAID TO THE AGENCY FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED FROM FIRST CONTACT WITH ADOPTIVE PARENTS THROUGH FINALIZATION OF THE ADOPTION.

FEES FOR MINORITY PROGRAM:

Minority program (III) Fees:

Placement fee:	\$ 7,000.00
Expenses:	\$10,000.00
Total fees: Program (III)	\$17,000.00**

**Minority program fees and expenses do not vary as with other programs; \$17,000.00 is a flat fee.

BEACON HOUSE ADOPTION SERVICES, INC.

...lighting the way for new beginnings

376 West Chase St, Pensacola Florida 32502 (850) 430-4005

5917 Jones Creek Rd., Ste 100B, Baton Rouge, LA (225) 753-5551

Toll Free: 1-888-987-6300

DOMESTIC APPLICATION FORM

Date _____

Applicant 1 _____

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Spouse _____

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Address _____

Email address _____ Home phone _____

	APPLICANT	SPOUSE
Date of current marriage		
Date of birth		
Place of Employment		
Employment address		
Employment phone		
Employment fax		
Occupation		
Annual Income		
Amount in savings		
Social Security No		
Number of divorces		
Last date divorced		
Any medical diagnoses		

Any mental health history use additional pages if necessary		
Medications		
Criminal convictions		
Arrests		
Religious affiliation		
Children: This includes all children in the family, whether or not living in the home, regardless of age, and from all previous marriages		

Do any others live in the home with you? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, describe relationship

Do you currently have a home study _____ completed or _____ in process?

Name of agency _____

Address and phone _____

Caseworker [Name, email address, phone number]

Have you ever been denied approval for a home study? _____ Yes _____ No

Aside from the previous question, have you ever been rejected as an adoptive or foster parent? If yes, please explain, if No, write "N/A" below.

Are you working with any other resource besides BHAS?

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Applicants may not specify gender and/or age of desired child.

The following questions must be answered for your application to be considered complete.

1) Does either applicant have any history of substance abuse as indicated by counseling, treatment, arrest or conviction?

2) Is there any history of mental illness or treatment for mental illness at any time in the past?

3) Is either applicant taking any medication? If so, list medications and the reason it was prescribed

4) Has either applicant completed any pre-adoptive educational training at this time? If so, describe such training, who provided it, how many hours, class/online, etc.

5) Briefly state why you wish to adopt a child domestically.

6) Have you attended any informational seminars on adoption? Where and when?

By signing this application I/we authorize BHAS to obtain information about me/us from any and all resources listed above and from all adoption agencies or home study agencies that are now or have in the past provided services to me/us. I/We agree that BHAS is authorized to maintain and display my/our information on BHAS premises, and to provide and share confidential information to my/our home study agency.

I/we understand that laws and regulations of the foreign governments and agencies in countries where BHAS maintains programs may change without notice; that adoptions in any country may be delayed, suspended or terminated at any time without notice; and that consequently, I/we may

be subject to changing requirements and/or programs for international adoption. I/we agree that a photocopy of this authorization is as valid as the original.

I/we understand that this application is preliminary in nature and as such application does not guarantee acceptance into a particular program; applicants must meet program criteria as provided by the foreign country or the agency.

I/we further state that to the best of our knowledge, information and belief, all of the information contained in this application is true. I/we understand that in the event that we have misrepresented information to BHAS, our adoption process may be terminated immediately and all fees shall be due immediately.

Signature

Please return this form along with:

1. One photograph of the adoptive couple
2. Non-refundable check or money order in the amount of \$250.00

TO:

5917 Jones Creek Rd

Ste 100B

Baton Rouge, LA 70817

**Applications not accompanied by the fee will not be returned, nor will they be processed
MasterCard/Visa accepted – call (225) 753-5551 for processing.**

CHARITABLE DONATION

TO HELP US KEEP COSTS AND EXPENSES REASONABLE, WE ASK THAT ALL APPLICANTS CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION IN ANY AMOUNT TOWARD THE RISING COST OF ADOPTION.

Beacon House Adoption Services, Inc., a 501©(3) corporation, thanks you for your generous donation in the amount of \$_____. In accordance with the regulations of the Internal Revenue Service relative to tax-exempt entities, this receipt reflects that _____

[Name]

received no goods or services in exchange for this donation and that the amount is fully deductible under the IRS tax Code, subject to the individuals' eligibility for such deductions.

Anne R. Hughes
Executive Director
Beacon House Adoption Services, Inc.

YES! I want to support the efforts of Beacon House to build families. Enclosed please find my tax-deductible donation in the amount of

_____ \$100.00 _____ \$125.00 _____ \$150.00 _____ OTHER

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

DATE