



## Haiti Adoption Program Overview

All Blessings International, Inc., is a Hague accredited, non-profit agency licensed in Kentucky and Missouri. We are a Christian agency – this does not infer exclusion. It simply means we will serve our clients with honesty, compassion and transparency. Seeking at all time to glorify God and be examples of Christian love. **We serve families of all faiths.** ABI has been working in Haiti for four years and our program director has been working in Haiti for eight years. ABI currently supports numerous humanitarian efforts in Haiti.

**Children Available:** Children of all ages and siblings are in need of permanent loving families and a safe environment. Most are healthy by third world standards. Some have pre-identified special needs.

**General Adoptive Parent Requirements:** Under the **current Haitian adoption law and policies**, prospective adoptive families must meet the following criteria:

- married couples with **one** parents age 35 or older *and*
- ten years of marriage or seven years of marriage and a minimum of three years cohabitation
- families may have any number of children living in the home
- OR**
- married couples with **one** parent age 35 or older *and*
- ten years of marriage or seven years of marriage and a minimum of three years cohabitation *and*
- no biological children (of both parents)
- OR**
- single women age 35 or older

**Adoption Process**– ABI staff will assist you with the considerable amount of paperwork required to adopt a child from Haiti. Our Haitian partners will process the adoption in country. All Blessings International will assist you in all aspects of Immigrations for your child, both in the US and in Haiti.

As of summer, 2011, expected wait times from acceptance of referral to travel to pick up your child averages approximately 12 months for families with no biological children and 18 months for those with biological children.

**Dossier**- An adoption dossier is a compilation of documents that require various authentication at different levels of government. Your dossier will include a **home study** conducted by an agency licensed in your state of residence. ABI, Inc. will provide you with exact directions about how to prepare your dossier and an up-to-date dossier document list. ABI's professional dossier preparation specialist will help you through assembling your original dossier documents, and will take care of the legal and logistical steps for your once it is assembled.

**Referral**- Referrals are made only once a family's dossier is complete. The wait time for a referral from Haiti will vary based on age, gender, and special needs of the child the family is requesting. Generally, referral wait times are very short. We have many children, including healthy infants and toddlers, waiting for families. Referral information includes as much detail as we receive from our overseas.

**Travel**. Both parents are required to travel at least once for a stay of four business days, but we encourage more visits in the interests of the child. Different orphanages have varying rules regarding parent/child visitation. ABI can help with arranging your visits.

**Post-Adoption**. Following a child's placement for adoption, three reports must be completed by a licensed adoption agency (typically the same one that conducted the home study) at one, six, and twelve months following placement. These are sent by ABI to Haiti. After these reports the adoptive family is required to submit a written report once a year until the child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

