



Liberia Adoption Program Overview

All Blessings International, Inc. is very excited to announce our merger of adoption services with Acres of Hope, Liberia. Acres of Hope is one of the three licensed Liberian adoption agencies given permission to process adoptions for children with medical or special needs following an adoption moratorium lasting from January 26th, 2009 through October 7th, 2010. Expected adoption processing time is 12 to 18 months.

Children Available: Only children with special needs or medical issues will be available for adoption. These needs include developmental disabilities, cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus, limb differences, cleft palate, and HIV+ children. Children live at the Acres of Hope compound in Monrovia.

General Adoptive Parent Requirements: Liberian adoption requirements are extremely flexible. Parents should be age 21 or older. Couples must be married. Single women may adopt, but two-parent families are preferred.

Adoption Process– The adoption process can appear overwhelming at first as a great deal of paperwork is involved. However, it is a step-by-step process and ABI will guide you. The first step in adopting from Liberia is to have a **Home study** conducted by an agency licensed in your state of residence. The second step, which can be done concurrently, is to file your Immigration and Naturalization Paperwork: the **I-600A**. All Blessings International and Acres of Hope will assist you in all aspects of Immigrations for your child, both in the US and in Liberia.

Dossier. The next step is the dossier. Your dossier is a compilation of documents that require various seals at different levels of government. ABI, Inc. will provide adopting families with exact directions about how to prepare their dossier and an up-to-date dossier document list for Liberian adoptions. Don't be overwhelmed - we'll help you with this and ABI Inc. will even manage dossier preparation and domestic and international mailing!

Referral. The wait time for a referral from Liberia will vary based on age, gender, and special needs of the child the family is requesting. Referral information includes as much detail as we receive from our overseas counterparts and a three way phone call with the orphanage director so that the family can ask detailed and specific questions of someone who knows the child well.



Travel. Travel is generally required for at least one parent at the end of the adoption for the well-being of the child.

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) during the first six months following placement. These are sent by ABI to Liberia. After these reports the adoptive family is required to submit a written report once a year until the child's 18th birthday.