



Dear Home Study Social Worker,

Reece's Rainbow is a 501c3 adoption grant foundation which advocates for the international adoption of children with Down syndrome and other special needs. Since 2007, we have found "forever families" for 1700+ children in countries around the world.

Please complete and return this form, indicating your preliminary contact and level of comfort approving one of our hopeful adoptive families. Because we are not an agency, *we rely entirely on your professional opinion and approval* prior to accepting a commitment.

This is NOT an official home study approval, nor does it guarantee that a family will be approved, but your preliminary thoughts and feelings about this family based on your initial contact and conversations with them are crucial to our ability to accept donations for this child and family.

This form must be submitted to Reece's Rainbow with a cover sheet, directly from the social worker or home study agency. Please sign and FAX BACK to us at 240-241-7871 or email to applications@reecesrainbow.org as soon as possible.

Family that you are working with: _____

Country they plan to adopt from: _____

Date you received their homestudy application: _____

First homestudy visit is scheduled for: _____

Date of estimated completion of homestudy: _____

Family is seeking to adopt: ____ children Gender: _____ Ages of children: _____

Describe the special needs of children: _____

Do you have reservations about the approval of this family from your initial contact for this child/ren?

Do you have reservations about this family adopting a child with previous severe neglect and/or institutionalization? (See second page for more information) _____

Social Worker NAME: _____

Home Study Agency Name: _____

Social Worker Phone: _____

Social Worker E-mail: _____

Signature of Social Worker: _____ Date: _____

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Please email applications@reecesrainbow.org with any questions.

PO Box 146 * Combined Locks, WI 54113 * www.reecesrainbow.org

Even with a child who is “typically developing”, the scars of institutional life can be very difficult to overcome. Be AWARE and PREPARED! Families may encounter any or all of the following conditions in their newly adopted child(ren):

- severe malnutrition (rickets, other vitamin deficiencies)
- lack of mobility or loss of mobility
- self-injuring behaviors
- possibly other diseases such as Hepatitis
- LOTS of 'stimming'- rocking, scratching, spitting, teeth grinding, hitting, punching, 'droning', dislocating 'clicking' joints, banging head, chewing/sucking on tongue
- possible heart defects which are past the point of repair due to further damage to lungs
- Lack of 'connection' with people and surroundings
- little or no eye contact
- non-verbal, grunts and groans
- Bursts of screams for good and bad emotions
- inappropriate response to pain (laughing often)
- considerable difficulty expressing or processing emotions
- additional developmental delay
- lack of exposure to *anything*
- inability to eat solid foods, often on bottle even at advanced ages, sometimes fear of food
- may not have developed an appropriate sense of hunger vs. fullness (failure to thrive or gorging)
- oral fixations- licking everything, putting everything into mouth
- enlarged tonsils from lack of treatment
- ear canals and drums packed with fluid/secretions often needing professional sedated clearing
- possible hearing loss from untreated infections
- unaware of how to 'play', throws everything, doesn't know what to do with toys
- vision issues from lack of stimulation during development
- Sensitivity to sound- may be frightened by loud sounds or seek everything that makes noise (or both!)
- institutional autism