

FUNDING YOUR ADOPTION



Adoption costs can feel overwhelming. It's important to remember that you are not alone—we have seen God provide financially for families countless times. There are so many ways to make adoption a reality for your family!

“As operators of a small family farm, we were counting on having two crop years to help finance our adoption. Well, the Lord’s perfect timing is bringing our daughter to us much sooner! Our process will be right around 12 months in total. As we were traveling to visit family for Thanksgiving, we were discussing how we will generate the remaining funds, which are a large sum at the end of the adoption journey. During our discussion and worry, I checked our email on my phone, and we had been awarded the Xiamen Special Treasures Grant! God is so good! Why did we worry?”

—Andrew and Kylie Prasuhn, AGCI Adoptive Parents to Sadie Mei

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION

“How to Make Adoption an Affordable Option” is a great resource for families who are considering adoption but are reluctant because of cost. It’s also great for those caught up in the emotions of adopting, who may not have given serious thought to some of the less obvious financial aspects of adoption. This kit includes information about common adoption expenses, financial assistance, and tax breaks available to adoptive parents.

Resources:

Ibsen Adoption Foundation:
www.ibsenadoptionnetwork.com

ADOPTION GRANTS



“We feel absolutely called by the LORD to add this precious boy to our family, but the costs and the fast pace have been scary. Getting word that we, once again, have been chosen to be grant recipients at a crucial point in our adoption process is a tremendous blessing and a great encouragement.”

—David & Kallie Locklair, AGCI Adoptive Parents to Jahleel and Connor

ADOPTION GRANTS:

Some families are able to supplement their adoption with adoption grants. Since 2005, AGCI families have received just over \$5 million in adoption grants. Many foundations require a completed home study or even a referral before approving a family for a grant. Most grants are given to families open to adopting children with special needs, older children or siblings. In addition to the grant resources listed below, families should also research adoption grant opportunities specific to their state, church, and organizations they are a member of.

AGCI Grants:

- To date, AGCI has awarded over 1.03 million in adoption grants to families.
- The AGCI Fund - Established in 1997, the AGCI Fund provides financial assistance to AGCI families who adopt waiting children with special needs, older children, or sibling groups.
- Brittany’s Hope Grant - Brittany’s Hope Foundation is a non-profit dedicated to aiding the adoption of children with special needs, sibling groups, or older waiting children by providing adoption grants to qualifying families. To date, 94 AGCI families have received grants from \$3,000 to \$20,000 for a total of \$673,000 since 2007.
- Connected Hearts Ministry - On a mission to have a global impact, Connected Hearts Ministry raises funds for adoption of children with special needs, older children and sibling groups. They not only offer financial assistance to families, but free one-on-one personalized adoption funding coaching with an adoption funding specialist.

Grant Resources:

A Child Waits Foundation
www.achildwaits.org

JSC Foundation
www.jsfoundation.org/process

LifeSong Legacy Fund
www.lifesongfororphans.org

Hand in Hand
www.handinhandadopt.org

Gift of Adoption Fund
www.giftofadoption.org

1 Million Home
www.1millionhome.com

Never Alone Foundation
www.laurelsmesssage.org/what-we-do/funding-programs

Tinina Q. Cade Foundation
www.cadefoundation.org/grants/family-building-grant

Show Hope
www.showhope.org/our-work/adoption-aid

Katelyn's Fund
www.katelynsfund.org/adoption-grants

Reece's Rainbow Down Syndrome Adoption Grant
www.reecesrainbow.org/new-family/financing-your-adoption

One Less Ministries
www.onelessministries.org/adoption-grant-application

Beauty Amidst the Ashes
www.beautyamidsttheashes.com

National Adoption Foundation
www.fundyouradoption.org/adoption-grants

Help Us Adopt
www.helpusadopt.org

Heart of the Bride
www.heartofthebride.org/adoption-aid-grants

Ephesians 3:20 Foundation
www.eph320foundation.org

FUNDRAISING



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Fundraising is a great way to engage your local community in your adoption and raise funds and awareness about the orphan crisis. Many families take the opportunity to create their own personal products to promote their adoption, like T-shirts, which others can wear in support. Other families set up a crowdfunding or an adoption fundraising webpage where their family and friends can make tax-deductible donations toward their adoption expenses.

Fundraising Resources:

www.ladybugblessings.com/pages/returning-in-march-2020
www.abcfundraising.com
www.easy-fundraising-ideas.com/products/fundraising-products
www.fasttrackfundraising.com/aboutus.php
www.flowerpowerfundraising.com
www.ezfund.com
www.fundcraft.com/fundraising-cookbooks/index.asp
www.bothhands.org

Fundraising Ideas:

www.fundraisingideas.com
www.fundraiserinsight.org/ideas
www.fundraiserhelp.com/creative-fundraising-ideas.htm
www.fasttrackfundraising.com/fundraising-ideas.php

Fundraising Websites:

Phoneraiser
www.phoneraiser.com

Conected Heart Ministry
www.connectedheartsministry.org

Adoption Bridge
www.adoptionbridge.org

Adopt Together
www.adopttogether.org

Pathways for Little Feet
www.pathwaysforlittlefeet.org/ministries/#family-fund

His Kids Too
www.hiskidstoo.org/adoption-info/adoption-financial-assistance-program

EMPLOYEE AND MILITARY BENEFITS



EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Many U.S. corporations, including Wendy's, Home Depot, Intel, Johnson & Johnson, and Hewlett-Packard, offer adoption assistance to their employees. Benefits range from extended paid leave or unpaid leave to cash payments or adoption reimbursements of \$1,000 to \$10,000. Currently, there are more than 500 corporations that assist families with adoption costs.

If your company does not currently offer this benefit, consider asking them to! Adoption benefits are considered good personnel practice, and qualified adoption plans receive favorable treatment from the IRS on a company's tax return. The National Adoption Center has an informative packet entitled "Advocating for Adoption Benefits" that you can refer to as well.

More information available at:
www.adopt.org

MILITARY BENEFITS

There is a one-time subsidy program available for full-time military personnel. Adoptive families can receive up to \$2,000 per child or \$5,000 for siblings. Military families are also entitled to adoption benefits of up to \$2,000 a year for reasonable and necessary expenses associated with adoptions.

Benefits Cover the Following:

- Public and private adoption fees charged by an agency in a foreign country.
- Placement fees, including fees charged to adoptive families for counseling.
- Legal fees in connection with services that are unavailable to military personnel through their legal assistance office.
- Medical and hospital expenses of a newborn.
- Medical expenses incurred by a birthmother.
- Benefits are paid after an adoption is finalized, and apply to both singles and couples.

Military Resources:

www.militaryfamily.org/info-resources/adoption

TAX BENEFITS



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Most adoptive parents are eligible for federal tax credits. To learn more, check out Publication 968 – Tax Benefits for Adoption, which can also be downloaded from the links above. Contact your state’s Division of Family Services and State Tax Office to ask about your state’s tax credits for adoption, or to find out if you qualify for any special state subsidy programs.

More information available at:

www.americanadoptions.com/adopt/adoption_tax_credit,

www.adopthelp.com/adopthelp-education-center

Dependency Exemption

Adoptive parents may take the same dependency exemption on their income taxes for their adopted children as they would for their biological children. This exemption reduces a family’s taxable income. It’s important to remember that families must provide more than half of their children’s support to list them as exemptions.

More information available at:

www.irs.gov/publications/p501/ar02.html#en_US_2010_publink1000236378

Tax Resources:

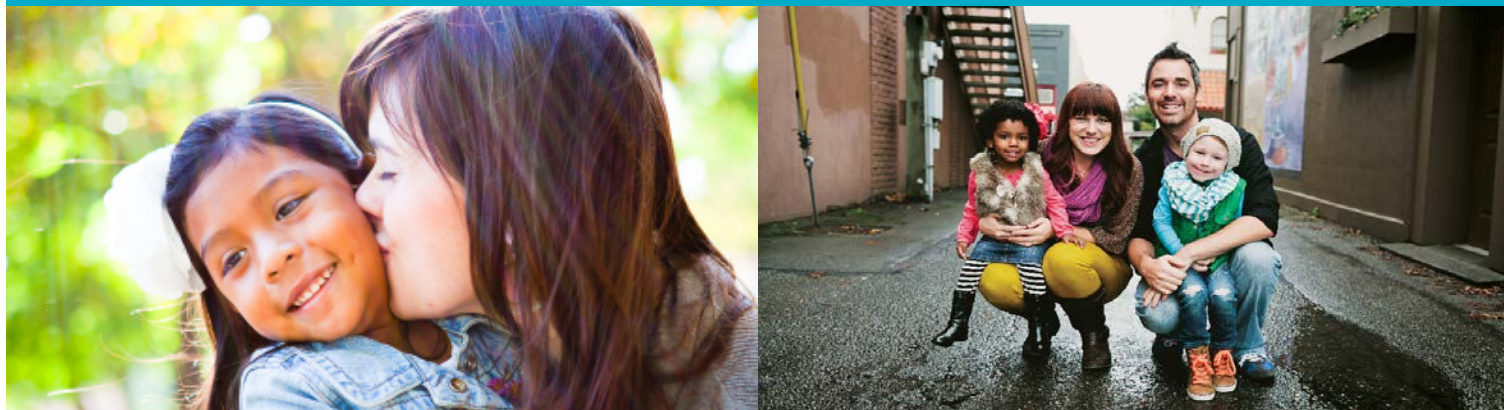
Federal Adoption Tax Credit:

<http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc607>

State Subsidies/Reimbursement for Non-Recurring Expenses

A reimbursement for non-recurring adoption expenses (agency fees, legal costs, and transportation) is available through many states for families who adopt children with special needs. In some cases, these subsidies apply to internationally adopted children. Half of the expenses are paid through state funds and the other half through federal funds up to \$2,000.

ADOPTION LOANS



“Words cannot express how grateful we are for the added security of an adoption grant as we navigate through an ongoing path of medical appointments, therapies, and other procedures for our sweet girl.”

–Ben and Bethany Cirotta, AGCI Adoptive Parents to Ayla

ADOPTION LOANS

If you own your own home, you may be eligible for a home equity loan, or you may be able to refinance your mortgage. Often the interest is tax deductible. Also, many banks offer home equity lines of credit. Rates on these loans are often low and the interest is also tax deductible. Your bank may have a special loan program for adoptive parents.

Some financial institutions offer low-interest loans with special terms strictly for adoption expenses. The National Adoption Foundation (NAF), American Christian Credit Union, Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), Funds4Families, MBNA, and First Union Bank of Maryland offer loans for adoptive parents. Lastly, many life insurance companies have a provision in their whole life insurance policies that will permit you to borrow a percentage of the cash value at a low interest-rate.

Several non-profit organizations also offer low/no-interest loans that are specifically for adopting families, and often have flexible or covenant-based loan terms tailored to the adoption process.

Loan Resources:

The Abba Fund
www.abbafund.org

America's Christian Credit Union
www.americaschristiancu.com/personal/adoption-loans

A Child Waits Foundation
www.achildwaits.org

Bruce & Jeralyn Ryskamp Adoption Assistance Fund
*email Sue at sharkema@att.net to request application & additional information

Jewish Free Loan Association
<http://www.jfla.org>

Additional Resources:

China Care
www.chinacare.org

The Collaboration to Adopt US Kids
www.adoptuskids.org

Creating a Family
www.creatingafamily.org/adoption-category/save-adoption-infertility-dave-ramsey-way

Department of State Office of Children's Issues
www.travel.state.gov/content/adoptionsabroad/en/adoption-process.html

Help Us Adopt
www.helpusadopt.org

JSC Foundation
www.jscfoundation.org

National Adoption Foundation
www.fundyouradoption.org

The Never Alone Foundation
www.laurelsmesssage.org

One Less Ministries
www.onelessministries.org

Reece's Rainbow
www.reecesrainbow.org/new-family/financing-your-adoption

The Sparrow Fund
www.sparrow-fund.org

Lifesong for Orphans
www.lifesongfororphans.org/adoption/apply

ORGANIZATIONS

Adoptees' Liberty Movement Association (ALMA)
PO Box 727 | Radio City Station, NY 10101-0727
(212) 581-1568

Adoption Exchange Association
8015 Corporate Drive, Suite C | Baltimore, MD
21236
(410) 933-5700

American Academy of Adoption Attorneys
Box 33053 | Washington, DC 20033-0053
(202) 832-2222

American Academy of Pediatrics
141 N.W. Point Blvd. | Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
(847) 228-5005

American Adoption Congress
1000 Connecticut Ave., Ste. 9, N.W. Washington,
DC 20036
(202) 483-3399

Child Welfare League of America
440 First St. NW, 3rd Floor | Washington, DC
20001
(202) 638-2952
www.cwla.org

Gift of Adoption Fund
101 East Pier Street, 1st Floor Port Washington,
WI 53074
1-262-268-1386 (877) 905-ADOP(2367)
www.giftofadoption.org

The National Adoption Center
1500 Walnut St., Ste. 701 | Philadelphia, PA 19102
(800) TO-ADOPT
www.adopt.org

National Resource Center for Special Needs
Adoption Spaulding for Children
16250 Northland Dr., Ste. 120 | Southville, MI 48075
(810) 443-7080

North American Council on Adoptable Children
970 Raymond Ave., Ste. 106 | St. Paul, MN 55114-
1149
(612) 644-3036 (800) 372-3300
www.nacac.org

Raise the Future
14232 E. Evans Ave. | Aurora, CO 80014
(303) 755-4756 (800) 451-5246
www.raisethefuture.org

Resolve, Inc. (National Office)
1310 Broadway | Somerville, MA 02144-1779
(617) 623-0744
www.resolve.org

Single Parents for Adoption of Children Everywhere
6 Sunshine Ave. | Natick, MA 1760
(617) 641-9816
www.adoptionsservices.org

