Why Adopt From Peru?

There are approximately 660,000 children living without parental care in Peru. The orphan crisis in Peru has been brought about by economic crisis, pervasive poverty, disease and lack of basic social services.

Peru is located in South America, with more than half of its population experiencing extreme poverty. It is estimated that over fifty percent of Peru’s population lives on $2 a day or less. Many of the Peruvian children live on the streets, exposing them to malnutrition, disease, trafficking and even death. In Peru, the population of orphaned children have little access to health and social services and face food insecurity.

It is estimated that of Peru’s street children, most become homeless between the ages of 5 and 9 and are either abandoned by their families or the children leave to escape violence in the home. Most will only live a few years. Those who do survive do so by sifting through trash to feed themselves and to find wares to sell on the streets. The majority of these children will enter into prostitution or a life of crime and violence.

Though adoption will not solve Peru’s larger social and economic issues, it is one permanency solution that does provide children in Peru without families with the loving support and security of a family.

The Benefits of Adopting From a Hague Convention Country. Peru is a Hague Convention Country, meaning there are additional safeguards by which Peru operates to ensure adoptions are both ethical and in the best interests of children. Hague Convention countries tend to be more stable and predictable in processing adoptions and are less likely to be reactionary and make quick decisions that negatively impact the adoption process. Furthermore, Hague Convention Countries are more likely to have a process and procedure in place in the event the country elects to make any changes to its adoption process.

Who Are the Children in Need of Families?

- Children range in ages from six and older (at time of referral) to teens
- Both boys and girls are in need of families; gender preference may be specified
- Children are of Hispanic descent
- Children with special needs may be adopted, including those with known needs ranging from correctable to severe
- Sibling groups of all ages
- Children from Peru may need to be placed in families through international adoption due to extreme poverty, lack of acceptance of unwed mothers, medical reasons where parents lack the financial resources to meet the needs of their biological children, and loss of biological parents.
Who Can Adopt From Peru?

- Married couples and singles women may adopt
- Adoptive parents must be at least 25 years of age and no older than 52
- Prospective parents must demonstrate the ability to support the physical & emotional needs of the child
- Peru allows for co-habitating couples to adopt if they have been co-habitating for at least two years.

How Long Does it Take to Complete the Adoption Process?

The Peru adoption process does not officially begin until the dossier has arrived in country and has been translated and stamped by the appropriate authority. The dossier preparation can take upwards of six months. Because Peru is considered to be a pilot program, the timeframe to receive a referral is currently estimated to be approximately 12-24 months after dossier registration, depending upon the age and gender of the child the family has indicated. The process may be expedited if a family is open to an older child or a child with special needs.

Referrals are given based on the date of dossier submission and balanced by several variables; characteristics of the child the family has indicated (age, gender, health status) and the children in need of families at any given time. Upon receipt of the referral and I800 approval, adoptive parents are required to travel to Peru and remain in Peru, caring for the child until the adoption is finalized. Time in country is anticipated to be 4 – 6 months.

Please note that timeframes may vary on a case-by-case basis and are subject to change.

Why Choose MLJ Adoptions to Adopt From Peru?

Approved in Peru. MLJ Adoptions is one of the few U.S. adoption service providers approved by the Peruvian Central Authority, Ministerio de la Mujer y Poblaciones Vulnerables (MIMP) Dirección General de Adopciones (DGA, to provide adoption services in Peru.

Experienced and Compassionate Staff. Our MLJ Adoptions’ foreign and domestic teams are composed of a diverse group of professionals who are committed to supporting families before, during and after adoption. Our Peru Program Director, Sonja Brown, has ten years of experience in adoption, from various countries, and has united more than 200 children with their forever families. Furthermore, MLJ Adoptions retains licensed attorneys domestically and works with an attorney in Peru. It is beneficial to families to have attorneys in both the United States and Peru assisting with the legal process of adoption.

Country information is to be considered general information and subject to change. The information is based upon state, federal, foreign, and international law, as well as our own business policies.