

## ABOUT AFS

Adoption First Steps is a not-for-profit Charitable Trust established by parents who adopted children from overseas. Since April 2014 the number of people using our services has steadily increased, with more than 60 Prospective Adoptive Parents having chosen AFS to help them.

AFS services are audited regularly by the New Zealand Government as well as professional accountants.

Our vision is to have an outstanding reputation for timely, supportive and professional services, specialising in working with Prospective Adoptive Parents wanting to adopt children from overseas.



## ADOPTION FIRST STEPS SERVICES

AFS understands that adopting children from overseas can be complex and challenging, and has developed its services to be:

**Timely** so you can work towards seeking approval for adoption as soon as practically possible.

**Targeted** with an Education Programme focussing solely on parenting children who have been institutionalised or impacted by other circumstances.

**Supportive** having been developed by New Zealand adoptive parents who understand the unique journey.

**Step by Step** to work best with the circumstances of Prospective Adoptive Parents.

While AFS is based in Auckland, we offer services throughout New Zealand.

If you would like to talk to us or have questions, please contact us:

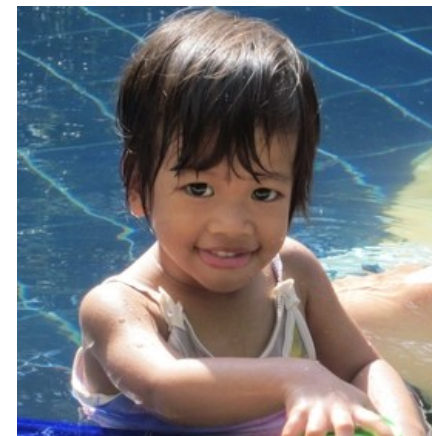
**Email:** [info@adoptionfirststeps.org.nz](mailto:info@adoptionfirststeps.org.nz)

**Phone:** 027 2372014

**Website:** [adoptionfirststeps.org.nz](http://adoptionfirststeps.org.nz)



WELL PREPARED FAMILIES FOR  
INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION



**Adopting a child from overseas  
may be an option for New  
Zealand Residents.**

**Adoption First Steps can help  
you with information and  
services for inter-country  
adoption.**

*AFS is a Charitable Trust,  
Registration No. CC46102, and  
accredited by the Ministry of Social  
Development to deliver education  
and assessment services for  
overseas adoption.*



## ADOPTION FIRST STEPS (AFS)

We help families and individuals adopt children from overseas orphanages or state care into suitable New Zealand homes.

Established by parents with first hand experience of inter-country adoption, we give down-to-earth information and advice about the requirements and process, as well as what to expect throughout your journey.

To qualify for inter-country adoption you must be a New Zealand Resident living and working in New Zealand.

### You may be able to adopt from:

- India
- Thailand
- The Philippines
- Lithuania
- Chile

## HOW CAN I ADOPT FROM OVERSEAS?

If you are thinking about overseas adoption you need to first find out whether you are eligible.

You then need to determine whether you meet the criteria for the country from which you wish to adopt and, importantly, whether inter-country adoption is right for you.

AFS can advise you on what your options may be. We also provide the following step by step services:

**Checks** – You will need to satisfy various medical, police and reference checks.

**Education** – Each parent will need to complete an Education Programme, so they are well prepared for the unique experience of inter-country adoption.

**Assessment** – A Social Worker will formally assess your suitability against set criteria such as parenting skills, home and family environment etc.

**Home Study Report** – If all the requirements of these steps are met, AFS then works with you on this Report to apply for Government approval.

If approval is granted, adoptive families can then work with a separate Placement Agency to be matched with a child.

Being able to meet the needs of the child is always paramount.

## FREE INTRODUCTORY COURSE

AFS offers a free introductory course which tells you more about inter-country adoption.

The course is on the AFS website.

We are also happy to talk to you confidentially about any aspect of inter-country adoption and, if you wish to proceed, we can then start the process.

*"Thanks for your support. It's a huge process and you have been wonderful and made the first step of the way a total joy."*



## OTHER RESOURCES

- Oranga Tamariki Ministry for Children  
[www.orangatamariki.govt.nz](http://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz)
- Inter-Country Adoption NZ  
[www.icanz.org.nz](http://www.icanz.org.nz)
- Compassion for Orphans  
[www.cfo.org.nz](http://www.cfo.org.nz)