

ORPHAN HOST  
PROGRAMS

# Family Hope



## Making It Better For Older Orphan Children

### Family Hope Orphan Host Programs

Every year dozens of orphan children, ages 5-12 from countries outside the United States, have the opportunity to visit and live with American families for 3-4 weeks. They are treated to the cultural experience of their young lives, and along the way most meet families who adopt them.

The goal of Family Hope's Orphan Host Programs is to bring older children to the U.S., most of whom are available for adoption, and expose them to American culture and wholesome families. Through this unique program there is a high

probability that the children will be adopted by either the advocate family, or another family who has the opportunity to meet and spend time with the child.

Many would-be parents feel uncomfortable considering the adoption of an older child because of the perception that they are more difficult to assimilate into families than younger children. While there are often parenting challenges, prepared families can successfully integrate an older child into their home. Through Family Hope, families and children have the opportunity to spend time with each other before lifetime commitments are finalized.

Family Hope enables orphanage children to travel to the United States, live with families and attend special activities

throughout their trip. Families interested in adopting an older child can host first and decide if adoption is right for their family.



# Family Hope

Family Hope International is not an adoption agency, but has partnered with International Family Services, a licensed and Hague-accredited adoption agency, to assist families interested in the possibility of adopting a child they hosted, or met during a hosting program. Families interested in adoption should contact Maria Peterson at Family Hope International (817-832-9188) for details regarding adoption of any Family Hope child. For more information about IFS in general, see [www.ifservices.org](http://www.ifservices.org). Adoption of Family Hope children may vary from traditional Ukrainian adoptions and complete information regarding Family Hope adoption is not available on the website.

# Family Hope Destinations

**Past Destinations:**  
Portland OR, Southern California CA, Bay Area CA, Wichita KS, Western PA, Eastern PA, Northeast VA, Seattle WA, Central WA, Houston TX, Austin TX, Dallas TX, St Louis MO, Ashland KY, Southwest MO, Phoenix and Mesa AZ, Tallahassee FL, Naples FL and Fredericksburg VA.

**Future Destinations:**  
The Family Hope Orphan Host Program schedule continually evolves to establish host programs throughout the United State.

contact Maria Peterson, Family Hope National Director of Orphan Host Programs at 817-832-9188.

Family Hope is pleased to partner with agencies in all 50 states. If you are interested in sponsoring an Orphan Host Program

## How to Get Involved in Family Hope

Over the past decade over 1000 children have been hosted by loving families in Texas, Oregon, California, Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, Virginia, Kentucky,



Pennsylvania, Florida, Washington and Arizona. The vast majority were adopted.

Family Hope International is seeking families who can be passionate

about advocating for an orphan child in need of a family.

We are searching for:

- host families who hope to adopt an older child,
- host families who do not plan to adopt but who will partner with an orphan child to help them find a permanent home by serving as an advocate on behalf of a child,
- or advocates who will help an orphan child financially who may never be available for adoption.

## How You Can Get Involved

### Sponsor

In order for Family Hope to succeed we need financial support from those who have the means to change the course of a child's life. We know that if we can get them to the U.S. there is a high probability we will find homes for these children. Your gift could be a child's last hope for a family.

### Host

As a Family Hope Host you will be involved in caring for a child (or children, if you desire to adopt more than one child) for 3-4 weeks. Responsibilities may include providing a loving and nurturing home, parental guidance, assisting and participating in an orphan host program and weekend events, and communicating with Family Hope International in the form of weekly reports. Other responsibilities are detailed in the Family Hope Advocate Manual provided to all approved Family Hope Host families.

Host Families may not wish to adopt but may be willing to provide a home and care for a Family Hope child. Advocating on behalf of an orphan child is very important to make Family Hope a success. Many families will be exposed to the Family Hope children through local media coverage and by word of mouth. The goal is for every child available for adoption to be adopted and those who are not available for adoption to be advocated for in the event there are medical or other physical or emotional related needs.

### Volunteer

FHI needs volunteers who will help find financial sponsors and host families. We also need volunteers to help with activities, and hosting the chaperones who travel with the children. If you or someone you know is well connected with the media, please help us promote Family Hope through local radio, newspaper, and television. If you are a doctor or dentist please consider offering your services to a local Family Hope team or make your phone number available in cases of emergency.

## About Family Hope International

Family Hope International is dedicated to the needs of orphans around the world. FHI partners with orphan advocates, organizations and agencies to find homes for homeless orphans and to provide aid for those who will never be adopted. Family Hope International is a non-profit organization recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



Learn more about the Family Hope International Orphan Host Program by

calling Maria Peterson, FHI National Director, Orphan Host Programs at 817-832-9188 or Bob Mardock, FHI Executive Director at 559-789-4979 or visit [www.familyhope.org](http://www.familyhope.org).

**Family Hope  
International  
12334 Daimler Dr.  
Frisco, TX 75034  
817-832-9188 (Phone)  
972-767-4009 (Fax)  
[www.familyhope.org](http://www.familyhope.org)**