



Summer of Hope

*I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.
John 14:18*

SUMMER OF HOPE HOSTING REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

In general, families who wish to host a child through the Summer of Hope program must be of the Christian faith, at least 27 years old and have been married for at least 3 years. The couple must be physically and psychologically fit to host a child(ren), able to provide proper care and support. Neither host parent can have been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude. One parent must be able to stay home with the child during the four week program.

SPCO REQUIREMENTS

- Application for summer hosting program
- Release of Information (one for each person 18 years and older living in household)
- Fingerprint based criminal records check (for each person 18 years and older living in household)
- Satisfactory child protective services check (for each person 18 years and older living in household)
- Satisfactory motor vehicle check (for each person in household who will be driving)
- Social worker visit
- Social worker written assessment
- Signed Host Family Agreement

COUNTRY SPECIFIC SUMMER HOSTING REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the above requirements, families wishing to host a child from the Philippines must provide the following:

- Physical health report (can be a signed statement from a doctor or use health examination form provided)
- Statement of financial stability (copy of most recent tax return will suffice)
- Written statement by the host family's biological or adopted children (10 years and older) consenting to their parents' plan to host a child
- Letter of Acceptance to host a child
- Recently taken whole body, colored, clear, properly labeled pictures of the couple, family and home

OTHER

- Letters of reference (3) from a friend or acquaintance, employer, and pastor/clergy/priest who have know the prospective host/adoptive parents for at least five years
- Confidentiality Agreement
- Client's Rights document
- Release Form To Use Likeness
- Family Safety Plan



TRAINING

All host families participating in the Summer of Hope program, regardless of the country they will be hosting from, must complete 15 hours of training to adequately prepare them for their hosting experience. Training components are as follows:

10 hour formal training - group session or online training which will cover the following topics:

- The impact of institutionalization on development
- The attachment cycle and impact of poor, inadequate or absent parenting
- How institutionalization impacts the emotions and behavior of the older child
- Typical challenges and adjustment issues
- Developmental parenting and behavior management
- Setting realistic expectations
- Life in the orphanage
- Culture/customs

An additional 5 hours of informal training will be conducting during the regularly held meetings of the host families leading up to the time when the children arrive. For families living outside the geographical host area, this training will be conducted via phone or skype. The following topics will be covered:

- Review of host family responsibilities
- Preparing for the arrival of the child
- Safety/childproofing your home
- Coping strategies for host families
- Advocating for your host child

The host families will also be given a recommended reading list from which they can choose additional reading.

Summer of Hope is a program of The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach

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