

Fall 2008

News to Use



Please enjoy our new newsletter format. In an effort to conserve resources and money we will be reducing our printing and mailing and focus on great e-newsletters. Click on any story to go directly to that page.

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On the cover: Luke (Guatemala) laughs at the camera. He enjoys books, bubbles, and bikes!



Siblings Nicholas (Russia), Christina (Romania), Ky (Vietnam), & Marian (Romania) play at the beach on summer vacation.



"Anna (Vietnam) and Mommy (Amy) playing with bubbles in the mountains. Two silly girls who love to laugh!!"--Amy

Welcome

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Dear Friends,

If you have not visited North Carolina before, now is a beautiful time of year with glorious foliage, crisp nights and warm days. The fall weather is a major transition from the hot sunny days of summer! But, transition and change has become a familiar event at Carolina Adoption Services. This year more than ever we have seen events which impact international adoption and the orphaned children overseas. Key

events such as the implementation of the Hague Treaty, virtual closings of Vietnam and Guatemala, the slow down of adoption activity worldwide and the complexity of international adoption has kept us challenged. These events combined with a volatile economy have tried our resources greatly and prompted us to reinforce our effort to reach out to our families and friends for ongoing support. Regardless of all the political, social and economical transitions we must face, the orphaned and deprived children of the world desperately need us to persevere. And so we will...and we hope you will join us either as an adoptive parent to one of the waiting orphans, a humanitarian sponsor, a volunteer or a community advocate for the children. Come and see us either virtually through our website or in person, we would be delighted to visit with you! (www.carolinaadoption.org).

Sincerely,



Julie Glandt

Assistant Director



OUR MISSION

Carolina Adoption Services is a children's charity dedicated to improving the quality of life for orphans and vulnerable children worldwide.

Welcome Home

We welcome home the following children, who have joined their forever families in the past nine months.

CHINA

Ana York
Jovanni Burdette
Sara Hart
Mia Kenney
Isabelle Boneno

ETHIOPIA

Mentamer Conner
Samuel Albertson
Isaac Atwood
Estub Tallmadge



GUATEMALA

Isabella Richardson
Alison Bakke
Isabella Walker
Mario Toone
Barrett McGinnis
Logan Edgerton
Maria Oliveto
Joseph West
Ava Kuppens
Paige Mear
Miley Parks
Gabriella Ratz
Damaris Larner
Jackson Messersmith
Isabella Smith
Benjamin Geren

KENYA

Mary Thomas
Kevin Thomas
Aidan Krause
Damon Smith
Sundi Smith
Bernard Denell-Hess
Priscah Rodenhuis

MOLDOVA

Jade Lewis
Eugenia McCoy
Valeriu McCoy
Adelina Harwood
Val Pickford
Brett Pilkington
Bella Pilkington
Henrik Carlberg
Michael Honarchian
Emily Honarchian
Sarah Honarchian
Jennifer Treadway
Dennis Merryman
Robert Gustafson
Kate Clymer
Nathan Boyles
Mackenzie Boyles



RUSSIA

Brandon Burstein
Samuel Moore
Tyler Marat Dillon

Kenna Perri Irvin
Elijah Mattocks
Christopher Gutierrez
Alexis Waters



SOUTH KOREA

Tanner Smith
Jacob Garry
Kaden Fish
Ryan Gauffreau

VIETNAM

Daisy Barash
Hannah Pullin
Alexis Herman
Lara Caugherty
Lily Runyan
Xavier Johnson
Alexander Rushing
Lily Esposito
Emily McGreevy
Celia Eisenberg
Oliver French
Lucas Richarson
Michael Quigley
Max Noonan
Morgan Eager
Benjamin Golter
Jake Golter
Nicholas Golter
Rhonan Tresner
Sam Terry
Samuel Aycock
Alex Arbucci
Lilly Kaskovich
Cap Shuman
Sadie Berk
Madelyn Scherer
Thomas Collie
James Koop
Thomas Eckart

Supporting Students & Lives

Sixteen year old Moldovan twins Vladimir and Mihai need sponsors to assist them in completing their education. Orphaned by death and mental illness these young men live at a boarding school in Chisinau, the capital of Moldova. Even though they have a small flat they can't live in it because they have no money for electricity or water. The teachers and officials at the boarding school allow them to live there while attending the technical college. They are both described as good boys with exemplary behavior; friendly and respected by their school mates.

MIHAI



*...because I don't have parents,
there's no one to help me to study,
to fulfill my dreams and be
successful. --Vladimir*



VLADIMIR

For \$800 a year one youth can be sponsored financially and emotionally. The money a student receives pays for living expense and school supplies to insure they complete their education. They receive emotional support through the commitment a sponsor makes by supporting them and through communication with their sponsor. Can you sponsor Vladimir, Mihai, or one of the many youth needing support? If you are interested in supporting a student, contact Amy Kreimer, akreimer@carolinaadoption.org. You can find more information about the student sponsorship program on our website: www.carolinaadoption.org/aid-development/programs/moldova-orphan-sponsorship-program.

Consider the Children in Vietnam

The closing of Vietnam to adoption does not mean that CAS has forgotten the children left in orphanages. The orphanages and children continue to have need and the Vietnamese government only provides \$20 per child per month in support. The average need per child is almost \$200, which covers cost of all food, clothing, diapers, formula, medical care, electricity, transportation to medical appointments, a portion of caretaker salaries, and uniforms. Carolina Adoption

Services continues to support three orphanages in Vietnam and has promised \$150 per child per month for their care and needs.

Please join us in supporting the children left behind by donating to CAS. If you have any questions about the need or number of children please contact Susan Fox or a Vietnam program team member for more information.



Q & A with Robyn, CAS Staff Member

Q: What is an Intake Coordinator?

A: My role here at CAS is to work with families in the beginning phases of researching adoption. I educate prospective adoptive parents about the different programs we have and the process in general. I often help families compare and contrast different programs in order to assist them in finding the program that will be the best fit for them.



Q: How long have you worked at CAS?

A: I started at CAS in May of 2004. I left in August of 2005 and taught Elementary Special Education for one year. During that year, I continued to work with CAS as a contract home study worker. When I left the school system, I came back to CAS full time in October of 2006, and have been here since then.

Robyn: I love talking to families about adoption. Please contact me with any questions, info@carolinaadoption.org or 800.632.9312.

Q: Have you held any other positions with CAS?

A: When I was here the first time, I was the Program Coordinator for the Guatemala program. When I came back, I was the Intake Coordinator and the Vietnam Program Coordinator. I have since left the Vietnam program in order to pick up a number of other duties here at CAS, including managing the Waiting Children program, the Kenya program, and other special projects.

Q: Do you have any recommendations for families?

A: I have many! But, since I work with families in the very beginning stages, I think it's important for families to know that they need to take their time doing their research, and make sure they feel entirely comfortable with the process and have all of their questions answered before they proceed. Once they do make the commitment and turn in their application, the biggest recommendation I would have is to put your faith in the agency. Many families are very excited at this point and want to rush right out and start things immediately. It takes some time to get started, and if you go out on your own and begin pulling things together, you may end up doing these things too early or make mistakes. Have faith in the fact that we have brought home over 2700 children. We are very experienced in adoptions, and we are very knowledgeable about the process. We will tell you when it is time to do something, at the right time, and in the right way.

Q: What is your favorite pastime/hobby?

A: I love sports. I am a huge fan of hockey, football, baseball, and basketball. Nearly all of my vacations center around major league sporting events. I also enjoy reading, knitting, and crocheting.



Isabelle and Mom (Lauren) pose for an impromptu photo shoot. Isa came home from Guatemala in September.

Homeland Trip to China

We're pleased to note the considerable interest shown in a CAS sponsored tour to China next summer for families with daughters from China. The 14 day trip is tentatively planned for the last week of June and the first week of July and will begin in Beijing and end in Guangzhou. Families will get to meet with our beloved facilitators, Helen and Dur in Beijing. Several experienced travel companies, specializing in Chinese heritage tours for adoptive families, are under consideration; a final decision is expected shortly.

CAS Assistant Director, Susan Fox, will accompany the group, expected to range from 10-14 adults and 6-8 children. Local English speaking guides will escort the families throughout their sightseeing. Families will visit their children's orphanages, as well as enjoy general sightseeing of interest to adults and to children. Four or five star hotels will be used, depending upon the company used. The airlines allow a child's fare to apply to children under



Michaela (China)

Are your girls excited about the trip?



twelve years. If both parents travel, the child shares the room with the parents. The travel companies under consideration all have individual English speaking guides that accompany each family to their child's province to visit the orphanage staff and caretakers. Given the distances of some orphanages, local overnight stays may be needed. All travel companies offer orientation and parent/child preparation.

Prices are fairly comparable among companies. One company charges \$2,680 per person based on double occupancy and \$2,435 per child 11 years and younger

sharing a room with two additional travelers. This company offers 10 nights at five star hotels, local English-speaking guides and private transportation, admissions for all sightseeing listed, nine Western-style breakfasts, 8 lunches 3 dinners, intra-China flights, Li River Cruise Like the other companies, the price doesn't include home province visits - transportation or land services, Chinese airfare, international airfare, gratuities, and excess baggage fees. The sightseeing includes the more popular sites desired by adults and children but it can be tailored to the specific interests of the group.

If you wish your name to be added to the e-mail list for more information, please send an e-mail to rmm@carolinaadoption.org.



An Easy Way to Give!

What if Carolina Adoption Services earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting your favorite cause.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Carolina Adoption Services as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

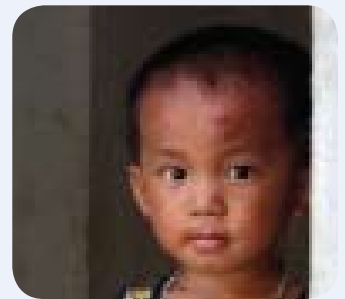


Save The Date - Have Some Fun!

The 2009 Carolina Adoption Services Gala has been planned for March 21, 2009! Go ahead and pencil us in for this exciting event. We have some wonderful changes and announcements happening at this year's event. Would you like to volunteer with the planning committee? You can offer your expertise and spend as much time as you would like having fun with us during the planning. If you are interested, please contact Julie Glandt, jag@carolinaadoption.org.

Watch Your Mail

Arriving soon in your mailbox will be an important message from Rosemary Martin, executive director. With the slowdown in the economy and adoptions worldwide, more and more children are being left without the basics for survival. Please support CAS and their mission to help these children. If you do not receive our mailing by December 2008 please contact us to make sure we have your correct address.



Triad Supporters Come Out and Shop!

Gifts that Give Twice

Join global visionaries, Carolina Adoption Services and Ten Thousand Villages, at our community shopping event to raise funds for vulnerable children worldwide.

What a perfect way for you, friends, and family to start your holiday shopping by purchasing gifts that give twice. Ten Thousand Villages will donate 15% of purchases during the event to CAS. Please join us.

Thursday, November 6, 2008, 6:00-8:00pm

**Ten Thousand Villages
Jefferson Village Shopping Center
1564-A Highwoods Boulevard
Greensboro, NC**



Ten Thousand Villages is a non-profit fair trade retail store. For more information about their mission go to www.tenthousandvillages.com.

Country Updates

Armenia

The Prime Minister's office in Armenia has been working to bring organizations and systems up to date within the country. Adoptions are a part of that process.

Now that Armenia is a signer to The Hague, they will need time to implement new legislation to fit the demands. Because it will take time to write and pass these new laws, the Prime Minister's office has agreed to allow adoptions to continue. We received word this week from our representative in Armenia that cases are continuing at this time and we expect two families to be given referrals very soon. Others are at the end stage of preparing their dossiers.

As we work with our attorney to negotiate the interim system, we will stay close to the Prime Minister's office to insure a clear path for our families.

Bulgaria

Bulgaria continues to be a popular country for prospective parents. Over the last two months several families have been working on their homestudies and dossiers. In early October our first dossier was sent to Bulgaria. Our facilitator has recently informed us that the Ministry of Justice hopes to finish matching children with families whose dossiers were submitted in 2005 by the end of this year. It is anticipated that the processing of dossiers submitted in 2006 and 2007 will be much faster as the number of dossiers submitted in those two years combined is significantly less than those that were submitted in 2005.

Bulgaria is a wonderful option for singles, married couples, and families wanting to adopt a child of either gender, 13 months and older. Older parents can also adopt from Bulgaria if they are open to an older child. Bulgaria has a need for families who are open to adopting Waiting Special Needs Children. We are currently seeking applicants for this program.

China

We hope people got a chance to see the Olympics and the stupendous job that China did in the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as overall. It was a great opportunity for China to "show off" and the country did itself proud. It was nice to hear Americans expressing how hospitable the Chinese people are.

Now that the Olympics are over, things are starting back up with the CCAA. The CCAA has finished the review of adoption applications that have been registered with CCAA before January 31, 2007, and they have matched families with referrals whose LID's were before February 9, 2006. We have one family with an LID of February 16, 2006, so we hope they will be in the next batch of referrals – how exciting!

Our Executive Director, Rosemary Martin, and our China facilitator, Grace Chang, were in China just before the Olympics. They had a very productive meeting with the CCAA. One of the things that the trip clarified is that CAS will be assuming from cases from the agency, Adoptions From The Heart, with which we have partnered in the past for our China program, due to AFTH not being able to get Hague accreditation yet.

We look forward to getting more families into the CAS China Program, and most of all, having these wonderful children come home.



Country Updates

Haiti

As many may have seen, Haiti has been the victim of several tropical storms and hurricanes over the past few weeks. As of late last week our facilitator has informed us that while the country has suffered great damage and loss, Maison des Anges has weathered through the storms without damage.

Haiti is a great option for single females, married couples and families wanting to adopt a child of either gender between four months and nine years of age. From the submission of dossier until the child is referred is approximately three to five months. It then takes approximately 14-16 months for court approval and the issuance of the decree of adoption. Families are permitted to visit their child while waiting for court approval. Adoptive parents will make one trip to Haiti, which lasts five to seven days.



Kenya

Currently, we do not have any families in the program living in Kenya. We have a couple of families who are working on their dossier, and hope to be in Kenya around the end of 2008 or beginning of 2009. Kenya is still working to finalize their interpretation of The Hague Intercountry Adoption Agreement. While they are working on this, the adoption process in Kenya remains slow. CAS and several of our contacts in Kenya continue to advocate for the process to be shortened. There is an overwhelming need for the orphans of Kenya. CAS remains committed to helping meet the needs of the orphans not only through helping them find their forever families, but also through humanitarian work and advocacy.



Korea

CAS welcomes families living in NC, SC, NJ and VA to the Korea program, which is networked with Family & Children's Agency (FCA) of Connecticut. Families adopting in the Korea program must meet the requirements of the Korean Social Welfare Society (SWS). Please visit our website for a current list of requirements of SWS, or call to speak with the Korea case manager. SWS provides excellent foster care for their stay is approximately one week. Currently the wait time for a referral is five to seven months from the time the packet is sent to Korea. Once accepting a referral, it takes approximately four months to bring the child home, and children are generally 10 to 12 months of age when they arrive home. One family received a referral recently and a few families are expected to travel in the next couple of months.



Moldova

Adoptions from Moldova continue making good progress. The Ministry of Social Protection for Children and Families (MSPCF) which includes the National Adoption Committee has enacted changes with regard to the adoption process. As the central authority, the MSPCF, has authorized agencies in good standing to continue their work without reaccreditation until the first of the year. Additionally, MSPCF will now be the authority which will refer children to agencies based on a family's registered dossier. Additional changes are anticipated in the coming months as the first families adopting under new Hague laws become ready to process. We have had 4 families recently return with their children and two families expected to travel before the end of the year.



Country Updates

Peru

During the month of September, SNA held two matching sessions in which 23 families (domestic and international) received matches of children. Of these 23 families, two were American families. Families enrolled in the Peru program continue to wait on approval or the match of a child from Peru's Central Authority. Other families are busy working on their CIS approval or completion of dossier. Families can anticipate at least a six to eight month wait after submission of their dossier for an approval decision from SNA and at least a one year wait for a match of a child under age three. Those families open to an older child, older sibling groups or children with special needs may have a shorter wait time.

We anticipate that SNA will have two matching sessions in October as they did in September and hope that we see more American families receive matches of children. Our Peru program is currently full and not accepting new applications. We hope that as families receive matches of children and travel, we can begin accepting new families into the program.

Russia

The Russian Program continues to process families at a steady pace. Three families were able to complete their first trips in September. Several families have been assigned court dates for October. One family should have their court date scheduled for sometime in November. In the past few months we have received referrals from St. Petersburg, Kirov and Sakhalin. Now that the summer months are over and adoption officials are back in their regions, it is anticipated that there will be increased activity in the Moscow region. Check for regularly scheduled Russian Program webinars to learn more about adopting from Russia.

Ukraine

The SDAPRC continues to review and process submitted dossiers. One family submitted their dossier to SDAPRC in mid September 2008 and have been scheduled for SDPARC appointment in mid November 2008. There have been recent changes in Ukrainian legislature requiring that adoptive parents be no more than 45 years older than the adoptive child. This change will allow the younger parent to adopt in their name only with the consent of the other parent. Families interested in adoption from Ukraine are encouraged to submit an application and begin the homestudy process, to insure processing in 2009.

Vietnam

As of September 1 adoptions between the United States and Vietnam were suspended until the two countries create and agree to a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Those families that were officially matched with children prior to September 1 are able to proceed with their adoptions. CAS will continue to work with JCICS and other U.S. agencies in support of a new MOU so that adoptions may resume.

We are excited to report that many families have received their I-600 approvals and will be traveling to complete their adoptions! Staff member Allie Weldon is accompanying traveling families at the end of October and into November. CAS continues to support all Vietnam program families in process.



Recent Memorials & In Honor Donations

Memorials

In Memory of Delbert Dunlap
In Memory of George Stratton
In Memory of William & Elizabeth Murphy

In Memory of Margaret Murphy
In Memory of Theodore Gerard Donahue
In Memory of Erland Hultin

In Honor Donations

In Honor of Kelly & Landon Ozley
In Honor of Vera Worth-Smith
In Honor of Mary Limber
In Honor of Rosemary Martin
In Honor of Anastasia Johnson
In Honor of George Bent
In Honor of Alex & Danny Rodriguez
In Honor of Christopher Scott
In Honor of Dana Petroff
In Honor of Sara Argenta
In Honor of Lizzy McComber
In Honor of Lela & Tamari
In Honor of Lea Valentina
In Honor of Robert Ferguson
In Honor of Milo Perelman
In Honor of Ruby Shebanow
In Honor of Clair Argenta
In Honor of Janette Alexander
In Honor of Jake, Marie, Nicholas, & Ky
In Honor of Lea Matzat

In Honor of Mary Ann, Scott, & Meli
In Honor of Anika Kreider
In Honor of Tanner Nipper
In Honor of Laurie Perry
In Honor of Cameron & Emily Moore
In Honor of Winter Park School
In Honor of Matthew & Ryan Martin
In Honor of Hazel Waller & Family
In Honor of Amelia & Ava Nicholson
In Honor of Alex Kauer
In Honor of Henrietta Leatherman
In Honor of Kevin, Jamie, & Anna Johnson
In Honor of Melissa Green
In Honor of Mrs. Beryl Brown
In Honor of Elizabeth Skowronek
In Honor of Kelly & Chad Brasington
In Honor of Alexander Henson

Condolences to Pencie Rumley, CAS business manager, on the loss of her father, Delbert Dunlap
Condolences to Sharon Martin, CAS social worker, on the loss of her father, George Stratton
Condolences to The Dodd Family, CAS Family, on the loss of their mother & wife, Shannon Dodd

In Honor donation cards are available during the holidays and year round. A \$5 donation is suggested to help vulnerable children. You will receive a card to send stating a gift has been made in the recipients name. You may also give memorials of loved family members to CAS. To donate to CAS and receive one of the cards please contact Cindi Rager. If you have any questions about donation options, please contact the CAS business office, cas@carolinaadoption.org. You may also donate online: www.carolinaadoption.org/donate.

CAS Approved by Children's Charities of America

CAS recently receive news of acceptance by Children's Charities of America for the 2009 campaign. This makes CAS eligible for inclusion in the 2009 Combined Federal Campaign. If you are a federal or state employee, this allows you to give directly to CAS! **Our CFC # 12406.** Please consider the children when giving this year.



CAS Approved in Nepal!

Carolina Adoption Services is now approved to facilitate adoptions from Nepal and are quickly working on the structure of the program. This may become an exciting new adoption option for families struggling to find a good fit. CAS was one of 58 U.S. and International adoption agencies to receive approval from the government of Nepal.

Nepal Program Highlights:

Children: 6 months and older, sibling groups are sometimes available

Parent Requirements:

Age: 30-55, no more than 45 years older than child

Marriage: Married at least 4 years or single females

Watch for updates on our website or in our Monthly Updates. We look forward to moving forward with this exciting new adoption program.



Isabella celebrates her first birthday!

**The Jackson Family find joy in everyday...
look at the smiles!**



Help keep us current! Send your change of address, phone, or email to info@carolinaadoption.org or call 800.632.9312. This ensures you will receive announcements, invitations, newsletters, and country updates.