

## Intercountry Adoption Family Support Service

The path to adopting a child from overseas can be both a rewarding and challenging experience. There are many points along the journey where issues can arise and support from a professional who understands intercountry adoption can make all the difference.

The Intercountry Adoption Family Support Service is a free, independent, nation-wide service, that provides post placement support to families formed by intercountry adoption, including expatriate adoptions, as well as support to couples and individuals engaged in the intercountry adoption process. Support is also provided to adult intercountry adoptees.

The service provides counselling support and information and support services to assist with a range of issues and challenges including:

- Practical and emotional support to prepare couples and individuals for the assessment process, as well as support post placement
- Support in planning for and meeting your adopted child
- Support in dealing with the impact of the process on you and your relationship
- Help with managing the transition from a couple to parents
- Support for you and your child in managing challenging behaviours (at any age).
- Assistance and guidance in navigating supports and services for you and your child

Services are provided free of charge and people wishing to access the service can do so by calling the **Intercountry Adoption Support Coordinator on 1300 543 396** or via email at icasupport@lifeworks.com.au. The Coordinator will help to identify what supports you may wish to access and refer you onto your nearest counsellor or information and support worker.

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