

Dear Helpusadopt.org Family,

Making the financial choice to complete an international adoption is overwhelming. I remember sitting down at the dinner table with my parents and discussing how we would ever make it work. Both my husband, Alcin, and I were extremely nervous at the thought of almost \$40,000 in adoption expenses. It was always in my heart to adopt, as I am an adoptee, and Alcin felt compelled to build our family through adoption as well. However, we felt that it would be wise to wait until we had set aside some savings and could make the payments in a more responsible manner. My parents were so encouraging, and they kept saying that the length of time it would take to complete the adoption made it necessary to get the process started. I remember my agency representative encouraging us to seek out grants. I felt like it was such a leap of faith - many grants required that you were financially well underway in order to be considered as applicants. As I searched through various nonprofits, so many had specific religious requirements. Helpusadopt.org was one of two I found that was open to all families - and I was so grateful for that because I knew we didn't fit into some of the more traditional categories. After I submitted our application, we prayed that our family would be considered. We had a \$15,000 payment coming up that summer and had no idea how we could fund it by ourselves.

I received the [news] from Helpusadopt.org one afternoon in June - I left my classroom and my heart was pounding. I hoped so desperately that we were going to be rewarded with a grant. I could not believe our great fortune. The amount of stress that this took off our shoulders was indescribable. There were many days that I felt we may not ever be able to finish our adoption because we would accumulate so much debt. This extremely generous grant gave us such encouragement, and we will be forever grateful to Helpusadopt.org and all of the generous donors who made our dream of having a family possible.



Our adoption was finally completed after a period of two and a half years. We were thrilled beyond words to finally bring our daughter, Sophie, home from Africa. It was so special to have the opportunity to finally meet Becky and her family several weeks ago when they were visiting friends in Florida. I can't imagine a more perfect couple to have established such an important and needed organization.

In closing, we just want to express our sincere appreciation and love to everyone who has helped us through our journey to becoming parents. We truly could not have done it without you, and we represent one of so many families who have been made possible by Helpusadopt.org. Thank you to everyone who has taken on this unique and important cause. You are a blessing to us.

Sincerely,

Molly

