

"Every child has the right to a permanent family."

- Fr. Paul Engel, O.F.M. Cap Founder of Downey Side

# AMERICA'S RESOURCE FOR ADOPTING OLDER CHILDREN

**Downey Side is an adoption agency dedicated to special needs children whom we call "America's Waiting Children".** Downey Side is one of the few national adoption agencies in the U.S. recruiting families for America's Waiting Children. Consider adopting a waiting child in one of five groups:

1. Older children

- 2. Minority children
- 3. Physically challenged children
- 4. Emotionally challenged children
- 5. Sibling groups (ages 2-17 years old)

Adults of all ages can adopt. We welcome single, married & divorced people at all income levels, of every race and religion, as well as physically challenged individuals. We welcome parents who own or rent their homes – what matters is the love and concern they bring for the welfare of the child.

## WHAT WE DO

We prepare and certify families aspiring to adopt a child or children. Downey Side then connects them to the county the children come from to make the eventual placement as smooth as possible. We stay available to the family throughout the process. The one time cost to begin this process is \$5000 for a single parent and \$7000 for a couple. For married couples, we require both applicants to be trained.

## **OUR MISSION**

At Downey Side, we believe every child has the right to a permanent family. It is our purpose to work in partnership with the government as a licensed adoption agency to place America's waiting children who otherwise would remain homeless. We are dedicated to family life for all children and strongly believe that a healthy permanent relationship is the best prevention against homelessness. Downey Side has the additional purpose of leading members of each community to become advocates for children in need.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Downey Side relies on generous contributions from individuals & corporate sponsors to provide the resources necessary to foster our mission to provide loving homes for as many children as possible. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. You may donate online or send a check to one of our offices. You may also purchase "America's Youngest Hostages" by Ian Keldoulis available at Amazon or Barnes & Noble.

## OUR SERVICES

Downey Side offers prospective parents an array of services throughout the adoption process:

**Training** – Downey Side leads Exploring Adoption training, a seminar that assists families in their self-assessment, and is now required by most states.

**Certification** – All families are certified by Downey Side and licensed according to the laws of their state.

**Support Group** – An opportunity to be part of a monthly support group during the adoption process and beyond.

Financial Subsidies – In most cases, monthly subsidies are available.

Independent & Step Parent Adoptions

#### **Downey Side Family Life Centers**

### New York Office:

100 Underhill Street Yonkers, NY 10710 212.714.2200 centraloffice@downeyside.org

#### New Jersey Office:

103 Washington Ave. Lavallette, NJ 08735 732.359.8434 lavalletnj@downeyside.org

#### Donate online @ downeyside.org