

# Welcome Home USA – Fact Sheet

## What is Welcome Home USA?

Welcome Home USA is a unique program that offers a one week host/camp environment for adoptable county services children. The goal is to find these kids forever families.

#### What is a Host Home?

A Host Home is a family environment who is dedicated to finding the children an adoptive home. The Host Home can be an advocate for the children and/or prospective adoptive family.

### What are the Costs?

This program is FREE. There are NO agency fees. In fact, for the adoptive family, there are subsidies to assist the child and family in their new home together until the child is 18 years of age. These subsidies also include medical insurance, counseling assistance, etc., from the State. Families incur application costs (ie. fingerprint clearances, psychological evaluation, etc., and the cost of providing food and shelter for the child during their stay.

#### Tell me about the children:

ICA reviews psychological, medicals and social histories before a child is selected for the program. Every child has a history. We all have histories. Most of the children will have been exposed to (not necessarily direct victims of), all types of abuse and neglect. ICA and the county will make every effort to disclose all records.

#### What are the requirements of the family?

ICA is faith based and will explore the emotional, physical and spiritual strength of the family. It seeks to find families who have been married over 3 years, economically sound, strong references, and the ability to be proactive and resourceful in finding the right care and attention what the child needs. Families will undergo a home study and psychological evaluation. Strengths and weaknesses will be discussed and steps will be made to make your family unit stronger. Training will be mandatory and highly valuable.



#### Give me a quick re-cap.

- Totally FREE, no cost program (no agency fees)
- Financial, medical, counseling/therapy support, until the child is 18 (State/County funds).
- Adoptable children-all ethnicities, single and sibling groups, ages 5-17 (with sibling groups there often is a younger child or baby with older siblings).
- Host for one week in your home. Planned and mandatory activities for that week.
- If you are not adopting you MUST commit to helping ICA advocate for a family.

#### NOTE:

- Pools must be fenced
- Out-of-state clients accepted on a limited basis
- Out of county clients accepted