

ADOPTION FACTS



State of Wisconsin Special Needs Adoption Program

Lutheran Social Services works in partnership with the Department of Health and Family Services and other private adoption agencies within the State of Wisconsin to place children with special needs in loving stable homes.

- * Older children (*10 – 18 years old*), children experiencing emotional or behavioral problems, sibling groups of three or more, a child of an ethnic or racial minority group who is hard to place, a child with a disability or in need of personal care assistance or requiring special medical treatment or therapy, or a child at risk of developing special care needs wait in Wisconsin.
- * Many children are currently living in foster homes. This may be their first placement after being moved from their family of origin, or it may be one in a series of moves the child has experienced.
- * Agencies work together to find an appropriate adoptive family that best meets the needs of the child when it is not safe for a child to stay with his or her birthparents.
- * Singles and married couples are eligible.
- * Age requirements of prospective adoptive parents are flexible.
- * Prospective parents must attend an informational meeting offered in their region (*call the LSS office nearest you for more specific information.*)
- * Prospective parents must be able to meet the standards of a foster home to qualify for this program.
- * This program offers financial assistance to the family to meet the costs of extensive and frequently expensive care. (*Adoption assistance may include: medical assistance for some medical costs not covered by the family's health insurance; a monthly payment to adoptive parents to assist in meeting the financial demands of caring for a child's special needs; or reimbursement of certain one-time adoption expenses.*)
- * The Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Children and Family Services process all applications. Call the office nearest you for more information on the adoption of children from Wisconsin with Special Needs.
- * LSS further supports its commitment to children with these accreditations and memberships:
 - Hague Accreditation
 - COA Accreditation
 - JCICS Member (*Joint Council on International Children's Services*)
 - CWLA Member (*Child Welfare League of America*)



Wisconsin

Appleton 800-577-4100
Eau Claire 888-746-2850
La Crosse 608-788-5090
Madison 608-277-2966
Milwaukee 414-671-5950
Superior 715-394-4173, ext. 106
Waukesha 800-216-3437
Wausau 888-522-3678

Upper Michigan

877-994-8344

LSS serves every county in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Call your nearest office.

