

THE FACTS ABOUT AACA

- American Adoptions of California (AACA) opened its doors in February 1983, and was formally incorporated in 1993. AACA is licensed by the State to provide adoption services throughout the entire State of California, with four offices to serve families. The main office is in Modesto, with branches located in Sacramento, Fresno, and Carlsbad.. All of the offices are licensed to provide resource family services within a two-hour radius to facilitate adoptions from the California foster care system. The agency is generally accredited by the Council on Accreditation.
- AACACA is a non-profit, 501(c) (3) religious corporation. We do all of our work as a service to Jesus Christ, and in response to the Scripture found in James 1:27 which states, “Pure religion is to take care of orphans in their distress.” The agency operates by Judeo-Christian moral values expressed in the Bible.
- State adoption regulations require that all applications be processed without discrimination in relation to race, national origin, religion, disability, marital status or sexual orientation. All applicants must demonstrate a two-year history of stability, whether married, single, or co-habiting, with exceptions made on a case-by-case basis, for instance, when a placing parent picks the adoptive family.
- Over the years, the agency has helped over 7000 children into forever families. The children placed have ranged in age from infancy to fifteen years, and have come from every race and ethnic background. They have come in ones, twos, threes, fours, fives and even sixes. Most of these children have been “waiting children.” Some waited because of their age, their race, their medical or emotional challenges, their membership in a large sibling group, or some combination of these factors. Approximately two-thirds have been from the California foster care system. Some were placed for adoption directly by their birth parents, or were adopted by legal guardians or relatives. The rest have been placed from other countries, with the help of child-placing agencies with programs in those countries: China, Russia, Hong Kong, India, Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Ethiopia, South American countries, and others.
- Families adopting from AACA vary in age, family composition, income, education, race, and religion. Some become first-time parents through adoption. For others, the new addition joins other children in the home. The common factor shared by all families is their desire and ability to nurture a child.
- The AACA adoption process can be an enjoyable experience for families who approach it with the right mindset. Support for the adoptive family is built into the AACA process, with group meetings and networking. Some agency staff members are adoptive parents themselves. They relate to adopting parents with warmth and understanding. Social events and gatherings occur throughout the year.

- Education is a key component of the AACA process. Parents gain the information and insight to help them make good choices for their families. AACA uses the Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) system to teach families about therapeutic parenting for children who come from hard places.
- AACA is funded in five ways: fees that families pay for the services, foster care monies, California state reimbursement funds (PAARP), grants, and tax-deductible donations.
- AACA has a passionate commitment to children who wait for permanent, loving homes, and to the families who long to open their hearts and homes to these waiting children.