



TDH (TERRE DES HOMMES) ONTARIO, INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

Part 1. General Description of Programs

The year since our last license renewal is marked by considerable change in the area of international adoption.

In 2007, the first full year of our operation, we were able to do 36 adoptions. In the fiscal year which ended on December 31st, 2008, we were able to propose 39 children to Ontario families from Vietnam, and 29 were completed. As of December 31st, 2009, we had proposed 35 children, and completed 31 adoptions. By December 31st 2010, we registered 21 completed adoption and had also proposed 21 that year. In the year to date this year we have proposed 5 children (special needs) and completed 10 adoptions.

Our present complement is 6 paid staff (total of about 145 man-hours per week). Manon continues to handle the parents before proposition of a child; H el ene takes charge of the dossiers from proposition to travel, and of the statistics and communication with the Ministry post-adoption; Nadia is in charge of the Ukraine and Russia programs, and Emi is in charge of Latin America (Honduras and Ecuador). The decrease in numbers of adoptions due to Vietnam's new law and Ukraine's law modification has required us to take some measures in order to conserve funds. We have been approved for a work-sharing project, so for the next six months two of our staff will be sharing hours until the situation normalizes.

Vietnam

In Vietnam, we had been working in 5 provinces: Quang Ninh, Hoa Binh, Vung Tau, Tra Vinh, and Ho Chi Minh City. The new law passed by the National Assembly in June went into effect on January 1, 2011. The law specifies a longer waiting period (180 days) to allow children to be adopted locally (in their own province) or nationally and additionally centralizes the process, with the greatest authority resting in the hands of the Ministry of Justice.

As of November 1, 120 children had been placed on the National database. By that same date, 77 of these children will have completed the 60 day wait on this national list. The next step for these cases is that DA will send the list of names of children to each province and ask them to send the complete dossier of each child back to DA. Meanwhile, DA will decide which parent dossiers

will be sent to these provinces so that the province will make the selection of which family each child may be assigned to.

At this point no agency has received an official child proposal. All agencies are waiting anxiously to see how the first 29 children will be distributed among countries and agencies. While no one knows for certain, we are optimistic that we will start to receive a few proposals during the month of November. Please note that the first proposals will probably be given to those who had received child proposals under the old law, but who - for one reason or another - were unable to complete those adoptions.

The situation for special needs children (as defined by DA, and not necessarily by the agency) remains different. These children may be adopted, and in fact, TDH has completed the adoption of 1 such child, 4 are in process, and TDH has been asked to find families for several others.

Thus the new format for international adoption is indeed in the process of being normalized. As is to be expected, the changes in the law have required that the Vietnamese make changes at the local level. That is never easy and not very quick anywhere. But progress is being made, not as quickly as hoped for, but as fast as the culture allows.

The second point is that while the role of the Department of Adoption (DA) has been increased, and the culture has had to find ways to restructure itself at the level of the individual orphanage, DA is mostly waiting for the local functionaries of the system to reorganize themselves, and there is a level of reluctance, if not actual resistance, to the idea that the provinces should cede their control to the Central Authority. Such resistance is to be expected as a normal human response to change.

The adoption agencies will have little or nothing to do with the orphanages in the future, according to the new law. It is said that this new provision was meant to eliminate any favoritism due to financial contributions. But the agencies do need to have some familiarity with the orphanages from which the children are presented from a bureaucratic and health point of view.

Now that agencies are not allowed to make direct donations to orphanages from which they receive children, the orphanages have to find ways to address this issue. That is accounting for some of the time the adjustment is taking. The theory was that fees would be paid directly to DA and those fees would be distributed to the orphanages. But the amount they are to receive by this means is greatly reduced from what was being donated by agencies, and the orphanages are pointing out that it is impossible for them to take care of all the children in the orphanage, to support those who will be adopted through the longer process required by the new law, and further to advance all the expenses until the end of the process when they would receive the funding. The bottom line is that the agencies must, in addition to the fees paid to DA, make donations at the provincial level which will be designated for the orphanage from which adopted children come.

In general, the new formula means that children will now come from a wider range of orphanages. This also implies that parents will often have to travel greater distances than before and that, of course, impacts on the logistics of the adoption trip.

What does seem to be working is that, once the various searches for domestic adoptive parents is completed and the child is deemed eligible for international adoption, it seems that the actual adoption process (from proposal to finalization) will proceed more quickly than previously.

The new law clearly makes a distinction between healthy children and those who fall under the category of Special Needs. For the healthy children, TDH will continue to provide the same level of medical and social assessment as before. The category of Special Needs has taken on a new value for international adoption, in part because the process is slightly quicker, but also because, in general, these are children whose future, and even whose lives, remain bleak in Vietnam because the medical, social and cultural infrastructure is not yet developed to a point where it can care for them adequately. So for these children the option of being adopted to Canada, where there is a high quality of medical expertise, often means life rather than death, but always means a quality of life that is entirely different from that which is possible in Vietnam. This distinction, of course, will impact upon the motivation and intentions of the Canadian couples looking to adopt from Vietnam. It will also impact on the way agencies are viewed by DA. Those agencies that are sensitive to the needs of these children are truly appreciated by the government of Vietnam.

We expect that children proposed for adoption will be mostly between the ages of 8 months and 2 years old. There will be some older children, but this is more unusual in Vietnam than in some other countries.

Eastern Europe

Nadia Lutskaya has worked with the staff this year to further establish Ukraine, and we have just completed our first adoption in Ontario, a child of 11 years old. The law in Ukraine has changed this year, and only children over the age of 5 or sibling groups may be adopted. Children are generally very healthy.

There are currently 5 families in process of adopting in Ukraine, and we hope that these adoptions will be finalized in 2012. Several other families have also expressed interest, and we hope this program will grow in the coming year (2012).

Nadia has also continued to work to receive our accreditation in Russia. The application for accreditation in Russia has been deposited and we are currently waiting for their response. We hope to receive a response within the next few months. Children will be mostly from the age of about 1 year to 5 or 6. Health screening is available and we will make this an important aspect of the proposal process.

Latin America

In Honduras, we have received 1 child since our last license renewal. There are 5 files in process, 1 of which has the number 19 and thus should receive a child proposal this year, and 2 more who have expressed interest in pursuing an adoption in Honduras. Children in Honduras are generally about 18 months to 5 years or older. A complete medical profile is provided at the time of proposal.

For the moment, the request for accreditation in Ecuador has been put on hold, as the accreditation that remained in the 8 allowed by Ecuador was given to another country. Our lawyer continues to monitor the situation.

US Outgoing Adoptions

This year, we also applied for an extension of our license to the US. In light of the fact that both Vietnam and Ukraine have slowed and TDH, along with most other agencies, has had to diversify our adoption activity to include smaller numbers of adoptions in more countries. Our research revealed that a number of Hague-approved US adoption agencies are placing children in British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario, and in fact the Ministry business meeting announced that the US was one of the top three countries for which homestudies were being approved. We have therefore contacted 3 US agencies, and hope to form working relationships with them as soon as our application for extension of license is approved.

Communications

Marlene Alt continues to maintain and improve our website, and it is becoming more interesting and informative all the time.

Sharon Kashino is the volunteer editor of our newsletter, and she has produced a very professional and interesting quarterly edition, now in its third year.

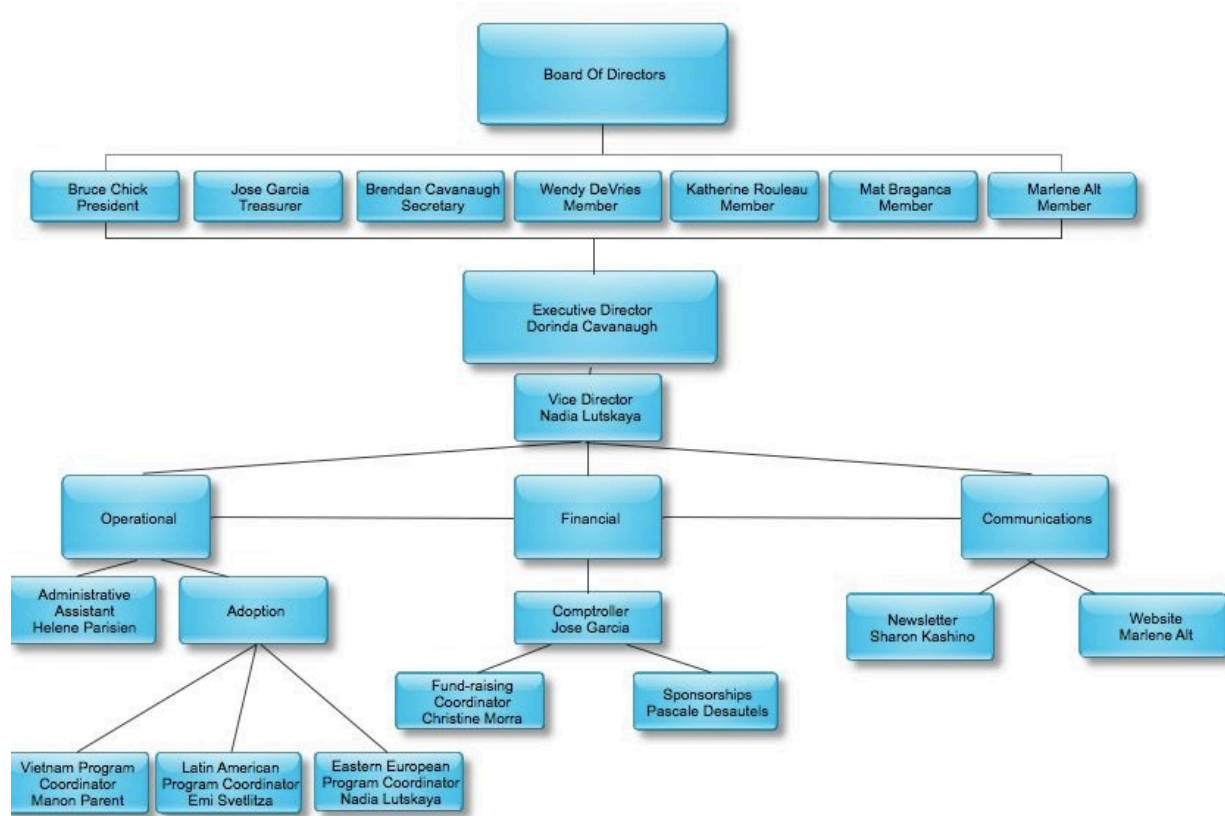
Christine Morra is our volunteer fund-raising coordinator. The Gala which took place in April brought in more than \$25,000 again this year. We had the delegation of visitors from Vietnam from the Department of Adoption and from Vung Tau province, and a record number of adoptive families were present.

We are currently implementing a database, MyAdoptionPortal (MAP), by which clients will be allowed to self-register and to have access to their own file throughout their adoption process. At the same time it provides a communication tool with parents individually and as a group, and allows for reporting formats and other features which lead to increased efficiency of the process.

Financial Stability

The difficulties imposed by the changes in numbers of adoptions in Vietnam and Ukraine have put a certain financial pressure on TDH to be able to remain viable throughout this period. Apart from diversifying our countries, we have also taken the step of imposing an annual administrative fee of \$1000.00 to support the office and overhead during the lengthening adoptive process. Additionally, we have applied for and received a work-sharing subvention from Service Canada which will allow 2 employees to work on this program for six months. We feel that this is the time we need to reestablish Vietnam, and begin programs in Russia and the US.

Part 2. Organizational Chart



Part 3. Agency Staff and Biographical Information

Dorinda Cavanaugh, Director

Dorinda is the co-founder, with her husband Brendan, of TDH Ontario, and the focus of her life work since 1972 has been international adoption. She and Brendan have five children, with only

one child left at home. She is a Child Psychologist by training. The recipient of the *Alumni Achievement Award* from the Catholic University of America, in Washington, DC in 2008, she has been internationally acknowledged for her humanitarian service to children. Dorinda believes that every individual child is important. Under her leadership TDH has developed a reputation for caring response to children that goes considerably beyond the professional organizational activity.

Jose Wilfredo Garcia, Comptroller

Jose has been the Comptroller for TDH Ontario since 2005. He lives in Montreal with his wife Martine and three children. Jose collaborates with Brendan in managing the financial aspect of international aid projects and with Dorinda in managing the financial aspects of international adoption cases. He brings to this work a concrete awareness of the problems of the Third World from his personal experiences in his native Salvador.

Hélène Parisien, Executive Assistant

Hélène is the administrative assistant for TDH Ontario. She is a resident of Hawkesbury, Ontario, married with two children. She has long been an active community member with many years of board experience particularly with the Hawkesbury Hospital in Ontario. She works with Dorinda and Manon as part of the TDHO team in Vankleek Hill. Her particular responsibility covers the files and paper work including the external correspondence with adoptive clients, the Ontario Ministry, and TDH Canada and the International Federation of TDH. She also assists with the Vietnam adoption program during the phase after the child is proposed.

Manon Parent, Adoption Program Coordinator, Vietnam Coordinator

Manon is the Adoption Program Coordinator for TDH Ontario. She lives in Hawkesbury, Ontario with the youngest two of her five adopted children. She has previously worked with community services for adolescents and general community. She is experienced with Special Needs children and the various provincial systems. Manon works with Dorinda and Helene as part of the TDHO Vankleek Team. She is particularly focused on external contacts with clients by telephone, email, and mail. She manages extensive and long term communication with them. She coordinates with Dorinda and Helene.

Nadia Lutskaya, Vice Director and Eastern European Program Coordinator, TDH Ontario

Nadia is the Eastern European Program Coordinator. She provides guidance on Ukrainian and Russian adoptions to clients and meticulously supervises the construction and management of files. Nadia, who is originally from Kharkov, Ukraine, was trained as a mural artist working with stained glass and then was the Manager of a large artistic commercial enterprise. She now lives near her daughter in Montreal. She joined TDHO in 2005 with eight years experience in Ukrainian and Russian international adoptions.

Emilce (Emi) Svetlitz, Latin American Program Coordinator for TDH Ontario

Emilce (Emi) is in charge of the Spanish speaking program in Honduras and our communication with Ecuador. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, she and her husband and child live on the West Island of Montreal. Her previous experience was as a corporate financial administrator. She is in charge of international adoption case management for Honduras. She brings a pro-active spirit, an experienced and knowledgeable managerial style, and a deeply felt sense of commitment to children in need.

Part 4. Comparative Program Summary

	VIETNAM	HONDURAS	UKRAINE	RUSSIA
CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION	8mos – 2yrs Special Needs 5 years and older	18 mos and older Adopters over 40 may only adopt older child	5 years and older Sibling groups	1 year and older
TOTAL # OF CHILDREN ADOPTED IN 2010	20 (ON) 7 (BC)	1 (BC)	0	N/A
TO DATE IN 2011	8	1 (BC)	1	N/A
Total # of applicants as of 31 Oct 2011	57: Ontario 8: other provinces	5:Ontario 3: BC	3: Ontario 1: other provinces	N/A
Average time from Ministry approval to final adoption	3 years for healthy children 1 year for Special Needs	2 years (depends on age of child requested)	Less than 6 months	6 to 18 months
Total costs	\$40,000	\$35,200	\$35,000	\$45,000
Cdn admin	\$17,000	\$12,300	\$11,000	\$11,050
Foreign admin	\$12,500	\$ 7,300	\$11,500	\$14,600
Travel, accom., 3rd party	\$11,000	\$15,600	\$12,500	\$20,000
Post adoption reports required	6 over 3 years	4 per yr. for 1 st yr. 2 per yr. for 2 nd yr. 1 per yr. until 14	1 per yr. for 3 years 1 per 3 yrs. until 18	2 per yr. for 1 st yr.

Part 4. Board members and Biographical Information

Bruce Chick, President

Bruce is a financial/development consultant specializing in the automotive, technical and ski resort areas. He lives in Kanata, Ontario with his wife and two girls, one of whom is adopted. His

education background is in international Business Management with studies in Canada, France, England and the US. In addition to his work with TDH, Bruce is deeply involved with the administration of Canadian freestyle skiing. He is a person with highly developed analytical and interpersonal skills. Bruce provides the Board with strong leadership.

Marlene Alt, Vice-President

Marlene lives in Kanata Ontario with her husband and her two adopted sons. Her education and training was in English (writing) and science (Earth Sciences). She primarily has managed websites and applied IT services in telecommunication companies doing writing and communications projects in arts (dance), technology (earth science, architecture) and the public sector. As a Board Member she has volunteered considerable time and skill to TDH's IT needs, and manages the website of TDH Ontario. She is an articulate and insightful advisor.

Dr. Brendan Cavanaugh, Ph.D., Secretary General

Brendan is one of the co-founders of TDH Ontario, and presently serves as Secretary of the Board. He is principally concerned with policy and development. He is a retired university professor (Philosophy and Psychology) and psychotherapist. In addition to maintaining an overview of TDH Ontario and its associated organizations, he maintains a particular focus on international aid projects for children. He lives in suburban Montreal with his wife Dorinda and the youngest of their five children. He also represents TDH Canada internationally, such as in Geneva at the Terre des Hommes International Federation, in New York at the United Nations, and in Ottawa at the various national bodies to which TDH Canada belongs, such as the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children.

Jose Wilfredo Garcia, Treasurer

Jose has been the Comptroller for TDH Ontario since it was founded in 2005. Born in San Salvador, as a Canadian Jose lives in Montreal with his wife and three girls. He is an accountant, having pursued his studies at the University of Montreal. Jose oversees all the accounting of TDH, manages the financial aspect of international aid projects and the financial aspects of international adoption cases for Ontario. He brings to this work a concrete awareness of the problems of the Third World from his personal experiences. His accounting work has been consistently praised by both the Federal and Quebec governments as well as the Auditors.

Wendy DeVries

Wendy, was born in England; now as a Canadian she lives with her husband in Cobourg, Ontario. Their adopted daughter is a career reporter for television, and their son is the manager of a ski shop in Whistler. Wendy's career has been in client management and she is an invaluable source of advice on those matters. She began by managing clients for the Pilgrim Project (a Quebec Hospice Program) and then as Director of client services for a series of major pharmaceuticals:

Phoenix International, HDS Harris and finally Anapharm before her retirement in 2011. Her CEGEP and University studies were in Social Service. With her husband she is an adventurous sailor aboard their small yacht.

Dr. Katherine Rouleau MD

Katherine practices Family Medicine at St. Michaels's Hospital, Toronto, Ontario. Katherine is married with one adopted child; they live in Toronto, Ontario. A University based physician (principally the University of Toronto, but also McGill and Ottawa). She currently holds positions in three Toronto institutions (St. Mary's, St-Michael's Hospitals, and Seaton House Homeless Shelter). Her responsibilities have been as teacher, administrator, and supervisor of medical students. She has Medical and Community field work experience in Toronto, and in Malawi (with Dignitas International), Montenegro, Haiti, and Cameroon. Her approach is collaborative and consultative, with a strong bent towards ethics, programming and training. She has an enduring and strong interest in International Health and Development .

Mat Braganca

Mat and his two children live in Toronto, Ontario. As a young man Mat spent nearly a year as a volunteer field worker in India and founded a small charity to support an Indian orphanage. His academic background is science (Geology), computer programming, and electrical engineering. Mat was a senior partner in his family business, Clarica Insurance until he established his own insurance brokerage. He is an entrepreneur with cultural ties to India and a sense of charitable commitment. He is an expert in sales. Mat also volunteers his direct help with fundraising in Ontario.

Dorinda Cavanaugh, Director of TDH Ontario (ex officio, non-voting)

Dorinda is the co-founder, with her husband Brendan, of TDH Ontario, and the focus of her work since 1972 has been international adoption. She and Brendan have five children. She is a child psychologist by training, and has been acknowledged for her humanitarian service to children, including an *Alumni Achievement Award* from the Catholic University of America, in Washington, DC in 2008. Dorinda believes that every individual child is important. Under her leadership TDH has developed a reputation for caring response to children that goes considerably beyond the professional organizational activity.

Part 5. Complaint Procedure

Complaints about any part of the adoption procedure or decisions of the agency are always taken seriously, and an effort is made to reach a satisfactory conclusion to any problems. You are welcomed and encouraged to first address your concerns to the agency directly. These may also

be channeled through the President of the Board of Directors of the agency, Mr. Bruce Chick. His email address is bruce.chick@sympatico.ca

We hope this report has given you a “snapshot” of who we are and our accomplishments, challenges, and goals for this year and the future. We welcome you to contact us with your comments and questions.

Respectfully yours,

Dorinda Cavanaugh
Director
TDH (Terre des hommes) Inc.

36 Home Avenue, PO Box 963 Vankleek Hill Ontario K0B 1R0
Tel (613) 482-6306 Fax (613) 216-2565