

A Tie That Binds



During adoption travels to Russia and Mongolia, BRAFF families saw firsthand that children remaining in the orphanages needed advocates. How could we share the riches our children would grow accustomed to with their orphanage friends? The result - a passionate group of volunteer parents started BRAFF - enjoying biannual reunions for our families, and continued financial support for the orphanages. BRAFF formally organized, filling for non-profit status, in December 2003, but our roots are much deeper. In the fall of 1997, the first families adopted from Ulan-Ude, spending nearly a month in Russia. Families adopting children from Mongolia joined our group in 2002. Today, BRAFF enjoys a membership of over 160 families! Families who have adopted children from the Baikal Region are welcome to be part of our growing BRAFF family!

BRAFF Supports...

Birth-Three Centers

Teachers are trained how to stimulate development and learning on an individual basis.

Medical Assistance Program

U.S. doctors travel to offer instruction in areas of infection control, resuscitation and birthing techniques. Medical supplies and equipment are sent to children's hospitals.

Refusnik Fund

Special care and consideration is made available to abandoned newborns while in the hospital.

Scholarship Fund

Provides direct financial assistance to difficult to place Baikal Orphans.

Nutrition Program

Supplemental food and vitamins are provided to orphanage children.

Orphanage Programs

Provide funds to help celebrate children's birthdays and allow them to experience their world outside the orphanage walls.

Orphanage Renovations

Improvements to orphanages include such things as fencing, plumbing, accessibility, painting, and remodeling.

Ninety-five cents of every dollar donated goes directly to programs which support the children of the Baikal Region. We have direct contact with the Baikal Region and bear firsthand how the programs we support impact children's lives.

Children in Crisis

Political instability and a collapsed economy have put almost fifty percent of the population in poverty. Seven hundred thousand children live in underfunded, understaffed orphanages in Russia, and many more in even worse conditions in Mongolia.

Only five percent of children over 5 will be adopted

If not Adopted, by age 16...

60% will be homeless and unemployed

50% will turn to crime or prostitution

40% will use drugs

10% will commit suicide

I asked God how much time I had left and he responded, "Enough to make a difference."

Scholarship Fund

The Fund is to provide direct financial assistance to difficult to place Baikal Orphans. The Fund will reimburse an adoptive family for specific in-country (Russian or Mongolian) expenses incurred by the orphan. All reimbursable expenses must directly serve the orphan.

The BRAFF Executive Committee will determine on a year to year basis the maximum limit of scholarship money available per orphan. The Executive Committee will review letters of inquiry and award scholarships within four weeks of receiving a request.

At anytime in the adoptive process, an adoptive family may submit a letter of inquiry to the BRAFF Executive Committee. The letter must detail the family's reason for seeking financial assistance (multiple adoptions, medical expenses, limited resources), why this orphan is difficult to place (medical condition or age constraint, older than 5 years), how the family will or has supported BRAFF (participate and promote BRAFF) and the approximate adoption time line (anticipated dates of travel).

Reimbursable expenses must be submitted to BRAFF within eight weeks of returning to the US. Expenses may include doctor visits, plane fares and embassy expenses.

You Can Make a Difference in the World

Send your tax-deductible donation to:

Baikal Region Adoptive Family Fund

**P O Box 2672
Appleton, WI 54912-2672**

You will be sent a receipt

For more information
Check out our Web Sight at

www.braff.org

Donate to the fund by using the Amazon link

Or Contact

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B.R.A.F.F. is a post adoptive support group and benefactor to the children of the Baikal Region. This organization does not participate in any official adoption proceedings.

Baikal Region Adoptive Family Fund

Dedicated to supporting the adoption and welfare of children in the Baikal region of Russia and Mongolia

Like the Selenge river that ties the capital city of Ulaanbaatar,

Mongolia to the ancient Lake

Baikal of Buryatia, Russia, our

post adoptive families are

forever bound to the children of the Baikal Region.

These families personally

witnessed the severe lack of resources in the remote areas.

Minimal food of poor quality,

few toys and books, primitive

medical care and no

medicine are consistent problems.

Please join us in an effort to make the lives of these waiting children as promising as possible.

