

I assure you, when you did it for one of the least of these... you were doing it for Me.

Matt. 25:40

#### **GRANT PROGRAM POLICIES**

### **Purpose**

The Bible repeatedly reminds us of God's love for children, orphans and widows and commands that mercy be shown to them. Adoption is one means of caring for orphans. Kinsman Redeemer seeks to reduce the costs of adoption for Christian couples who wish to care for and raise orphaned children. Our goal is to help bring more children a godly home by assisting those who request financial assistance with the costs of adoption. Based on the above, the following guidelines will be considered.

## Guidelines

- 1. Because our desire is for children to be raised in godly, Christ-centered homes, the paramount consideration in our application review is in regards to the parents' Christian walk of faith. It is our intent to uphold Biblically based Christian values, by limiting our assistance to Christian couples (in the traditional sense of husband and wife marriages). All applicants must sign the Statement of Faith, provide a statement of recommendation from their pastor, and provide a written testimony of their personal faith experience.
- 2. Prospective adoptive couples may apply for a grant after they have an approved home study by a licensed social worker. A copy of the home study must be included with the grant application. Their adoption agency/attorney must provide a letter of recommendation (see provided form in the application packet), ensuring that they are both committed to each other, their family and to the adoption process and have been determined to be good parents to a child. Prospective adoptive couples are home study approved before applying for a grant, to ensure wise stewardship of the financial resources entrusted to Kinsman Redeemer. EFFECTIVE 2016, International adoptive families must have received their travel date to pick up their child. Domestic adoptive families must have received placement of a child in their home. We do consider outstanding adoption debt/fees.
- 3. The prospective adoptive couple will be responsible to complete the provided Financial Assessment Sheet (FAS) and to return this with the rest of the application. This information will be used to determine

- eligibility for financial assistance. Clarification from the adoptive couple may be requested by the Board of Directors of Kinsman Redeemer.
- 4. Confidential Reference Forms are provided (see application packet), and must each be completed by the adoptive couple's employer(s), pastor and adoption agency. Please provide these individuals with a stamped, addressed envelope for them to send their form directly to Kinsman Redeemer.
- 5. For International adoptions, post-adoption costs are not considered. However, due to the natural process of Domestic adoptions, post-adoption costs can be considered.
- 6. This grant program is available only to legal U.S. citizens.
- 7. Applications are reviewed by our Board of Directors on a quarterly basis. You may request special consideration in cases where time is an issue by attaching a note to your application.
  - February 15 for consideration at March meeting
  - May 15 for consideration at June meeting
  - August 15 for consideration at September meeting
  - November 15 for consideration at December meeting
- 8. In return for a financial grant, Kinsman Redeemer requests a picture of your family and/or child (after the child is home). We also request a letter from you regarding the completion of your adoption journey. These will go on file to prove that the adoption was in fact completed, and that our funds were used appropriately. We also request permission to use these things in our newsletter or other publications (you could write your letter in "article" form, if you choose to do so, for that express purpose) to further promote the purposes of this ministry and to encourage other adoptive families. The families receiving support may and are encouraged to actively participate in the fundraising activities of Kinsman Redeemer.
- 9. THIS APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL to be processed and reviewed. Kinsman Redeemer will not be responsible for following up on incomplete applications.
- 10. Applicants or family members must reside in Missouri to be selected for grant monies.

### **Funding**

Monies for this grant program are received from general fundraising events, grants from other charitable organizations/foundations, and from individual and corporate contributions. Federal law prohibits accepting donations designated for a specific adoption. The Board of Directors always has the final decision in the distribution of funds.

### Disbursement

• All grant monies will only be disbursed for qualified adoption expenses that have been approved by Kinsman Redeemer.

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- Grant monies will be paid for approved expenditures to the appropriate agency or service provider. (Adoption agency, airline agency, hotel, foreign country, etc.)
- Kinsman Redeemer, under no circumstances, shall be responsible for any obligation incurred by the prospective adoptive couple for adoption related obligations.
- No party shall be deemed a third party beneficiary of any grant awarded.