

Title: **DISRUPTION POLICY**

Policy: In the event the adoption is not made final prior to the child's arriving in the United States in expectation of subsequent finalization of the adoption, KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will monitor the period of placement prior to the adoption being made final (Placement Period) to ensure that the placement remains in the best interests of the child. KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will make at least the number of home visits required by the State of Indiana, as well as by the country of origin of the child.

Purpose: To define the steps to be taken in the event a prospective adoption disrupts before the adoption is made final in the United States of America.

Scope: This policy shall apply for all prospective adoptive families adopting from Convention countries where their adoption is made final in the United States and not in the child's country of origin.

Procedure:

1.0 GENERAL RULES

- 1.1 KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. and the Adoptive Parent(s) will seek to avoid disruption of prospective adoption during such Placement Period prior to final adoption if that is in the best interests of the child.
- 1.2 The Adoptive Parent(s) will notify KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. promptly if significant problems arise in relationship or situation of the Adoptive Parent(s) and child during such time.
- 1.3 To the extent it has knowledge and resources, KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will provide advice and offer information regarding available external assistance such as counseling that the Adoptive Parent(s) may engage at the Adoptive Parent(s)' expense.

1.0 DISRUPTION OF ADOPTION BY MUTUAL CONSENT DURING PLACEMENT PERIOD

- 2.1 In the event that counseling is not successful in resolving serious difficulties and the Adoptive Parent(s) and KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. mutually decide and express in writing that continuing the Placement Period and the Adoptive Parent'(s) subsequent final adoption of the child are not in the child's best interest, the Adoptive Parent(s) and KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will establish an agreed upon date within 30 days to effect a change in the custody and physical home of the child.
- 2.2 KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will use its reasonable efforts to arrange for a qualified, eligible person to assume temporary custody of and provide care for the child

and act promptly and in accordance with any applicable legal requirements to remove the child from the Adoptive Parent's home.

- 2.3 KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will assume responsibility for finding a subsequent adoptive parent and placement for the child if possible, and, if done, for notifying the foreign country government about the child's new adoptive parents.
- 2.4 In considering future placement of the child, KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will consider the child's views when appropriate in light of the child's age and maturity and, when required by State law, obtain the consent of the child prior to change in physical home or custody. KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will also consider the child's age, length of time in the United States, and other such pertinent factors.
- 2.5 KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will return child to the child's country of origin only as a last resort, only after exerting best efforts to establish a new placement with other adoptive parents, and only if this foreign country government and relevant accrediting agency have provided prior approval in writing for such return.
- 2.6 Notwithstanding removal of the child from the Adoptive Parent's home and custody, the Adoptive Parent(s) shall continue to have financial accountability for all costs required for child's care until such time as KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. is able to effect other placement or return of the child as set forth above, and the Adoptive Parent(s) will pay such costs upon billing by KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will make reasonable efforts to determine if child is eligible for various governmental social welfare programs providing financial assistance to children and, if so, work with the Adoptive Parent(s) to see that child is enrolled and that the Adoptive Parent(s)' billed expense is reduced accordingly.

3.0 DISRUPTION OF ADOPTION DUE TO CRISIS OR EMERGENCY DURING PLACEMENT PERIOD

- 3.1 Upon or before placement of a child, the Adoptive Parent(s) will provide KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. information regarding the Adoptive Parent('s) arrangement during the Placement Period for custody and care of the child (guardianship) should a crisis or emergency arise making it impossible for the Adoptive Parent(s) to fulfill responsibilities for the child as set forth herein.
- 3.2 With the exercise of its reasonable efforts, KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will facilitate assumption of custody and care by the Adoptive Parent('s) designated guardian and will continue any responsibilities it has for monitoring and reporting during the post-placement period, but KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will have no financial or other responsibilities with respect to that custody and care.

4.0 DISRUPTION OF ADOPTION DUE TO NEGLECT OR ABUSE

- 4.1 KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. may conclude that continuing the Placement Period and the Adoptive Parent(s) subsequent final adoption of the child are not in the child's best interest if it believes that child neglect or abuse is occurring. In such event, KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc., in compliance with the laws and regulations of the State of Indiana will report such suspected neglect or abuse promptly to appropriate law enforcement and public child welfare authorities and cooperate fully in their investigation and its resolution.
- 4.2 If local law enforcement and public child welfare authorities act to remove the child from the home, and assume temporary custody and care of the child, due to child abuse or neglect, then:
- (a) KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will work to find a subsequent adoptive parent and placement for the child if possible, and for notifying the foreign country government about the change in custody and care and the child's new adoptive parents.
 - (b). In considering future placement of the child, KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will consider the child's views when appropriate in light of the child's age and maturity and, when required by Indiana State law, obtain the consent of the child prior to change in physical home or custody. KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will also consider the child's age, length of time in the United States, and other such pertinent factors.
 - (c) KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc. will seek to return child to the child's country of origin only as a last resort, only after exerting best efforts to establish a new placement with other adoptive parents, and only if this foreign country government and relevant accrediting agency have provided prior approval in writing for such return.
- 4.3 In the event removal of the child from the Adoptive Parent(s) home is the result of action by law enforcement or child welfare authorities, the Adoptive Parent(s) will have that financial and other responsibility for the child's care as is required by laws and regulations of the county, state, or other jurisdiction governing such circumstance.

Revision History:

Revision	Date	Description of changes	Requested By
0	02/26/07	Initial Release	Steven Pecar, Assistant Director
	1/1/12	Reviewed and Approved by Board	Steven M. Pecar
No	6/1/16	Reviewed and Approved by Board	Steven M. Pecar