

Frequently Asked Questions about Dillon-Buckner Affiliation



DILLON
INTERNATIONAL

Affiliated with Buckner



What does Dillon International's affiliation with Buckner International mean?

To affiliate means to bring together or into close connection as a member or branch, thus an affiliation is a connection or association with another. In January 2009 Dillon International and Buckner International entered into an affiliation. Buckner International is an internationally recognized humanitarian organization providing services both domestically and internationally to children, families and the elderly. The two organizations were brought together by their shared values and goals of making life better for orphans, vulnerable children and families. With the affiliation, Buckner's international adoption programs under the name Buckner Adoption and Maternity Services, Inc., (BAMS) were united with Dillon's international adoption programs. Combining both Dillon's and BAMS' resources has created a much stronger, more effective association to meet the evolving, dynamic needs of homeless children and adoptive families. Dillon International assumed the management and administrative responsibilities for both international adoption agencies. *In essence, Dillon has become the international adoption arm of Buckner International.*

Did Dillon International merge with Buckner International?

No. When organizations merge, one organization is acquired by another organization. Hence, one organization becomes larger and the identity of the other disappears. Both Dillon International and Buckner International have retained their separate identities with separate non-profit 501(c)3 corporate status, professional affiliations and boards. In addition, because of separate child placement licensures in various countries, both Dillon International and BAMS have maintained separate Hague accreditation and state child placing agency licensure. The unique feature of this affiliation is the combining of both

agencies' resources to be able to work hand-in-hand toward a common goal.

Who directs the affiliation of the international adoption programs?

Deniese Dillon oversees the international adoption programs for both agencies. As the co-founder and Executive Director of Dillon International, she also serves as Vice President of Buckner Adoption and Maternity Services, Inc., within Buckner's organization. The dual role allows for unified leadership and coordination of all the international adoption programs so that families may be assured of receiving the best quality and professional service in their adoption process for which both agencies are known.

What is a placing agency?

A placing agency is the adoption agency that maintains a license with a particular foreign country to place children for adoption from that country. The placing agency is responsible for overseeing your adoption process.

Who will be my placing agency?

Dillon International maintains program licenses to place children from China, Ghana, Haiti, Hong Kong, India, and Korea. The placing agency for families adopting children from these countries will be Dillon. Buckner Adoption and Maternity Services, Inc. holds the licenses for Ethiopia, Honduras and Russia. Therefore, BAMS will be the placing agency for families adopting children from these countries.

Will I work with Dillon staff or BAMS staff through my adoption process?

The answer is both. We do not distinguish staff in this manner. We have caring, competent staff who are knowledgeable about particular countries and processes. We will clearly communicate with you throughout the process, and the appropriate staff will guide you through each step of

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and the appropriate staff will guide you through each step of your adoption journey. You will receive the same professional and personal experience regardless of the country you choose to adopt from.

I want to adopt a child from a country offered through the BAMS license. Why do I send my application to Dillon International?

Since Dillon International provides overall administrative support for both agencies, the Adoption Application-Part #1 is a screening tool to ensure that all families meet the basic requirements for our agency, the foreign country and the U.S. government no matter what country they choose to adopt from. Both Dillon and BAMS have the same basic family requirements that each family must meet in order to move forward in the adoption process. Once the family is approved to adopt a child from a specific country, the Adoption Application-Part #2 and all legal paperwork will be filed under the placing agency's name.

If we live in Dillon's service area, which agency will do our home study and post-placement services?

If you live in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas or southern California, you will be assigned a social worker to complete your home study and post-placement reports. The social workers we use are approved to conduct

home study and post-placement services for both Dillon and BAMS. All home studies, regardless of where a family lives, will be reviewed by the Adoption Supervisor to ensure the report meets the U.S. and foreign country's requirements.

Why do I receive paperwork from both Dillon and BAMS?

If you are adopting a child from a country where Dillon maintains the license, all correspondence will come through Dillon. If you are adopting a child from Ethiopia, Honduras or Russia, you may occasionally receive information on the Dillon letterhead, in addition to the many documents and letters you will receive under the BAMS letterhead. Please do not let this be a source of confusion for you: We are all on the same team, working together to unite children and families.

Why do we pay all our fees to Dillon if Buckner is the agency licensed in the country?

Dillon International is responsible for the financial management of all the international adoption programs for both agencies. Dillon is responsible for billing families, accepting payments and managing family accounts. When necessary, Dillon will also coordinate wire transfers of international fees.

Until Every Child Has a Home...

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