

BRIGHTENING THE FUTURES OF ORPHANED AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

WACAP Today

WINTER 2009/2010

*The
Season
of
Promise*

OUR MISSION

WACAP (World Association for Children and Parents) provides life-changing aid and adoption services to orphans and other children who need families.

CONTENTS

CEO's Letter	2
China	4
Russia	5
India	6
Ethiopia	7
China	8
Honored Children	9



Lillian Thogersen

Dear Friends,

The holidays are upon us, and with them comes a season of promise.

The winter months are always thrilling for us at WACAP, as we receive holiday card after holiday card from families who have come together with our help. In the photos that come with these cards, many of us recognize the faces of children who, years ago, were waiting in orphanages for someone to love them. Today, they have that love, and we know we kept our promise to them to find them a home.

But at the same time, we continue to receive information on children around the world who are waiting for families. These kids come from all the countries in which we work and have a variety of special needs—they're siblings, older or have medical issues. And as we receive their information, we make the same promise to them that we made to the thousands of waiting children who have come home through WACAP:

We will do absolutely everything we can to find you a family.

We know this is a promise that we can keep with the help of our donor-supported Promise Fund, which provides adoptive families with grants to bring waiting children home. For many families, the Fund makes all in the difference in their ability to bring a child home; for the children that they bring home, having a family makes all the difference in their lives.

Proof of this is in the stories you'll read in this issue of WACAP Today. Elijah, a 3-year-old with Down syndrome from Russia, is spending his first holiday season with his mom and three brothers this year. Ellie, a 14-year-old from China who came home in June 2009, walks home from school with her sister every day. Tonight, 4-year-old Pandu, who came home from India last November, will fall asleep to the sound of his father's voice reading him a story.

At this point in the year, many of us look back on the promises we made over the last 12 months and look forward to those we'll make for the next. As a friend of WACAP, you helped us keep our promise to Elijah, Ellie, Pandu and the hundreds of waiting children who came home to their families in 2009.

Thank you for making miracles for so many children in 2009.

Yours,

Lillian Thogersen
President & CEO
206.575.4550



“My Family” by Suphwawan.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

On the wall of Daniel and Pani Potrepka’s bedroom hung two portraits of the family, one made by their son, Daniel, when he was a young child and another made by their son, Stephen, when he came home from Thailand as a 7-year-old. But when Daniel and Pani brought 12-year-old Cecilia home from Thailand this last September, a flurry of doctor’s appointments and the process of getting her adjusted to a new home and school distracted them from suggesting she draw her own family portrait.

One morning, a few weeks after she joined her new family, Cecilia walked up to her mom and dad and handed them her own family portrait. “She simply thought to do it on her own, and then she presented it to us as a surprise,” says Pani.

Today, Daniel and Stephen have added Cecilia to their own family drawings, and her portrait proudly hangs on the wall next to her brothers’. “As much as Cecilia cheerfully reminisces [about] her 12 years of orphanage life, she is very happy to have a family now and to live here in the U.S. where she is anxiously awaiting her first snowfall,” says Pani. “We are so grateful for the truly amazing work WACAP does to bring families together.”

WACAP would like to extend warm wishes to all of the children celebrating their first holiday season with their family this year.

CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY WITH WACAP

At WACAP, we know how important moms are, and in 2010 we’re starting a new tradition to celebrate them: WACAP Mother’s Day Brunch! We hope you’ll join us on Sunday, May 9, 2010, at the Hotel Deca in Seattle, Washington, to celebrate the special mothers in your life. Look for more information coming later this year.

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China

“I would like to have parents again like other kids. As long as they are a happy family, it’s fine with me.”

*Ellie Xiao Dan Smith,
WACAP Adoptee*



The Smith family: Mark, Mason, Shana, Ellie, Patty, Riley and Brady.

WAITING FOR A HAPPY FAMILY

As she waited for a family in China, 13-year-old Xiao Dan was dangerously close to becoming ineligible for adoption. Her grandfather had relinquished her to the Luoyang Children’s Welfare Institute after becoming too old to care for her. “I remember when I was very young my father died, and then my mother died and I lived with my grandfather,” she told WACAP when we asked her about what she hoped for in a family. “I lost my parents when I was very young and I would like to have parents again like other kids. As long as they are a happy family, it’s fine with me.” But with each day that passed, her chances of coming home to that family got slimmer and slimmer.

Back in the U. S. in December of 2008, Patty Smith got a phone call. It was Jo Reed, WACAP’s supervising waiting child case manager, with some good news. “We got some new information on older kids in China that the government is going to make exceptions for because they are so close to aging out,” Jo told Patty. “Your family was the first we thought of when we found out about these Journey of Hope kids.”

The Journey of Hope is WACAP’s project to bring home older children from China. Xiao Dan was in the first group. If she was not adopted before her 14th birthday, she, like all other institutionalized children in China, would lose the chance at a family. If this happened, she would remain in orphanage care until the age of 18, when she would be turned out to make her own way in the world. Older kids like Xiao Dan are the hardest children to find families for. WACAP was racing time and fighting the odds to bring her home.

Patty and her husband, Mark, had been trying to adopt their fifth child since early 2007. Along with their two biological children, Shana, 13, and Mason, 11, they had adopted an infant girl, Riley, from China in 2004 and a toddler boy, Brady, from China in 2006.

But this time around, they ran into some trouble. After the family moved forward for a waiting child, “China had changed their rules, and in one day we were suddenly ineligible to adopt,” Patty explains. The new restrictions would not let them bring the child home. “It was just horrible. It was awful,” Patty says.

So when they learned about Xiao Dan, the family was understandably hesitant. At the same time, the pieces seemed to be falling into place; a Promise Child grant had significantly lowered the cost of Xiao Dan’s adoption, and due to her immediate need for adoption before her 14th birthday, government officials in China agreed to make exceptions to their parent eligibility requirements as long as prospective families were paper-ready. “We had immigration approval because of the other adoption,” says Patty, “We just knew, yeah, we are supposed to go for this.”

Seven months later, Patty and Shana, traveled to pick up Xiao Dan. “We got on a plane and we flew to China and we got her just a few days before she turned 14,” Patty says. “It was really down to the wire. Elizabeth from WACAP drove up to [SeaTac] airport with our travel approval on the day we left to get [Xiao Dan]. It was pretty crazy, but it was worth it.”

Today, Xiao Dan, who now goes by Ellie, is falling into perfect harmony with her new family. “She’s full of spirit,” says Patty. “[Speaking English] has been her biggest challenge, but it’s been very fun to . . . see her transform, and to see her smile is just great.” Ellie shares a room with Shanna, has prank wars with Mason, fixes Riley’s hair and plays with Brady. “About three weeks [after Ellie came home], we were standing in the kitchen and [Brady] hugged her around her legs and said, ‘Mommy, I just love Ellie so much.’” Looks like Ellie got that happy family after all.

For more information about the Promise Fund, turn to page 10.

“We are so blessed to have each other, and I couldn’t imagine life any other way.”

*Amy Lucas,
WACAP Adoptive Mom*



Elijah and his brother, Caleb.

A PROMISE KEPT

Last April, Amy Lucas became the first WACAP parent to adopt a child from Russia with Down syndrome. Here, she describes her adoption experience and the joy her sons bring to her life.

In the kitchen, I can hear my second-youngest son, Caleb, rummaging through a drawer of plastic cups. He walks past me with an empty sippy cup and takes it into his brother Elijah’s room. The cup is empty, but Caleb doesn’t stop to think he should put some water in it. All Caleb thinks is that Elijah’s thirsty, and he likes taking care of his little brother.

In fact, Caleb is all about Elijah! As soon as Caleb gets off the bus after school, he walks past me to Elijah. When Caleb wakes up in the morning, the first thing he says is “Elijah.” You’d think these two had been together all of their lives, but Elijah just joined our family last spring. His first two years were spent in an orphanage in Russia for children with special needs. Like his big brothers Jimmy and Caleb, Elijah has Down syndrome.

My oldest son, Jimmy, was born with Down syndrome, and he inspired me to become a Special Ed teacher. Because raising him was so rewarding, when he was around 17 and my other biological son, Ben, was 12, I started thinking about adopting a child with special needs. After I read that Russian orphans with special needs are transferred to homes for the handicapped at age 4 and may stay there for the rest of their lives, my calling became clear: I would bring home a child with Down syndrome from Russia. In June 2005, Caleb came home. Two years later, I realized that we were not quite done, and I began the process to adopt another son with Down syndrome.

Adoption from Russia is expensive. Not only is it document and labor intensive, it required me to travel to Russia twice. As a single mom of three and a school teacher, the cost could have seemed beyond reach. But WACAP’s Promise Fund helped take away the

financial barrier that loomed between me and my soon-to-be son in Russia. What a miracle that WACAP could connect me with a boy in Siberia who desperately needed a mom!

When I got Elijah’s referral photo, he was an infant. When I met him for the first time in the receiving room of his orphanage, he was just over 2 years old. He was such a beautiful boy, and his caregivers loved him. By my second trip, he was standing up, clapping his hands and trying to imitate the sounds I made. He loved the cookies I brought and quickly learned the sign for “more.”



Elijah’s referral photo

After a smooth court process and long flight home from Moscow, Elijah spent his first night in his crib at our home (and he slept through it!). Since that day, it’s like he’s always been part of our family. He is the easiest, most lovable baby that there is. In his first week home, he learned three signs, could show us where his nose was and grew to love the song “If You’re Happy and You Know It, Clap Your Hands.” In fact, he can do all of the motions along with the tune! Jimmy took Elijah to his class to meet all of his friends, and Ben loved bringing his own home to meet his “cute and small” brother. Our little peanut continues to make great strides and loves his family.

I know that many people think that raising three sons with Down syndrome as a single mother is a challenge. They think, “Oh my gosh, that must be so hard,” but it’s not. All of my sons are such joys and gifts from God. We are so blessed to have each other, and I couldn’t imagine life any other way.

For more information about the Promise Fund, turn to page 10.

India

“There are moments when we look at him that are full of love. And where did that love come from? It just grew. That is the beauty of adoption.”

*Lalena Fayre,
WACAP Adoptive Mom*



Pandu with his new eyes.

THE BEAUTY OF ADOPTION

“Pandu will probably never learn to feed himself,” the orphanage special education teacher told Jason and Lalena Fayre, “and he has no tolerance for sitting.” The couple sat in silence. They’d traveled to India to pick up their new son, 5-year-old Pandu. They were already amazed to see how much better he was doing than they’d anticipated, but this grim assessment made his future seem bleak.

Pandu was blind. He was born with only one eye, and behind it, a tumor the size of a golf ball pressed on his brain. But despite these complications and his orphanage upbringing, “he was this curious little boy that roamed wherever they would let him,” says Lalena. “Although he didn’t communicate, he was eager to have attention. He wanted to be around us. It was amazing.”

For Jason and Lalena, adopting a blind child was a given. Jason was born blind, and he and Lalena knew they were uniquely positioned to parent a child who was unable to see. When they learned about WACAP’s Promise Fund, they began to review profiles of waiting children. Upon learning about Pandu, they fell in love. “Because of the spirit I saw in his photographs . . . we decided to move forward with the adoption,” says Lalena.

But when they brought Pandu home in the fall of 2008, the sailing was anything but smooth. Pandu had trouble bonding with Lalena at first, and he didn’t like to be held. He wasn’t used to receiving so much attention, and he had no language skills. “For three or four months, it was like I was a caretaker,” remembers Lalena. “It broke my heart.” The Fayres worked to create a routine for Pandu and fought hard to love him through the difficult times. Gradually, things began to change. In May 2009, Pandu underwent a four-hour surgery to remove the tumor that was putting pressure on his sinus cavity and eye. As he settled into his new life, he began

to form a strong bond with his parents, feed himself and even attend an early-child education school. “He went from an infant to a 3-year-old in six months,” Lalena remembers. The tumor removal seems to have alleviated a great deal of discomfort that prevented Pandu from progressing. He’s also been fitted with a pair of prosthetic eyes and is learning to walk with a cane.



Pandu, three days after coming home.

of prosthetic eyes and is learning to walk with a cane. Pandu has been home for almost one year, and he continues to make exponential gains. “I want him to be like everyone else,” says Jason. “I want him to have the same opportunities. I don’t want his blindness — or where he came from — to be a hindrance.” The original assessment in India painted a much different picture of Pandu’s future, Lalena says, “but you take it with a grain of salt and mark the days until you can get your child back home in your environment and you can love him or her as your child, not as your blind/deaf/delayed/deformed child.”

Today, “Pandu has blossomed into this loving, spirited little boy who seeks out your attention,” says Lalena. “He will come now to us and hug us and want to be help for a very long time. He has adjusted to my family and loves them and their attention but is still securely attached to us. He has begun to develop language and is adapting to American foods.” And Jason and Lalena are excited to watch Pandu continue to blossom. “There are moments when we look at him that are full of love,” she says. “And where did that love come from? It just grew. That is the beauty of adoption.”

For more information about the Promise Fund, turn to page 10.



Claire today.

COMING HOME Ethiopia

“Seeing her grow has brought us such joy.”

*Victoria VanZile,
WACAP Adoptive Mom*

HAPPY AND HEALTHY

When Victoria VanZile and Shai Wise opened the packet containing information on their possible child match, they were greeted by the photo of a tiny, 2-month-old girl. The baby, named Seham, had most likely been born premature. She was suffering the effects of malnutrition and weighed just 6.2 lbs. Still, Victoria and Shai didn’t hesitate to accept her as their daughter. “As soon as we got the information, we knew this was it!” says Victoria.

The couple had said they were open to an infant with disabilities in their homestudy and were prepared to handle the effects of prematurity and malnutrition. Babies born premature are at risk for a litany of short- and long-term complications, including disabilities and impediments in growth and mental development. Proper nutrition is critical to any premature baby, but in a country such as Ethiopia with a staggering orphan population and already-stretched resources, such nourishment can remain illusive for those without families or homes.

In fact, for children all over the country, proper nutrition remains a hope rather than a reality. “I would expect every child [in Ethiopia] we serve to have been under-nourished or malnourished at some point in his or her life before coming to WACAP House,” explains Megan Nikiema, WACAP’s Ethiopia adoption program supervisor. “We have seen some very low-weight babies and some who were likely premature and in need of the best possible nutrition. Obviously, it is vital for WACAP to provide the best care we can to help these kids while they wait for their families.”

For children like Seham, care at WACAP House can make all the difference. As Victoria and Shai waited to pick up their daughter, they continued to receive regular updates from Ethiopia. After a month of illness, Seham began to gain some weight and fill out in her photos. Still, “we expected her to be really colicky and possibly

have developmental disabilities,” says Victoria. But when they met her in Ethiopia, they discovered she had made great strides since coming into care. “We were very surprised at how healthy she was,” remembers Victoria. “The nanny brought her in and I remember



Claire’s referral photo.

seeing her big eyes. She just kind of stared at us.” Later, after the closing coffee ceremony, an Ethiopian tradition that is performed after each child joins their family at WACAP House, Shai and Victoria got a better glimpse of Seham’s personality. “The other kids at WACAP House had pieces of grass from the coffee ceremony and they were tickling her and she was laughing,” says Victoria.

After the couple brought Seham, who is now called Claire (with Seham as her middle name), home, “she did really well and gained weight really fast,” says Victoria. “Now she’s this round child instead of this skinny little sick girl.” The liveliness Claire displayed at the coffee ceremony has also rapidly manifested itself. “She’s definitely got a strong personality,” says Shai. “When she sees dogs or cats or animals, she laughs hysterically,” adds Victoria, “and she loves books.”

Now home for six months, 13-month-old Claire weighs in at 19 lbs. 15 oz. And soon, a little brother or sister from Ethiopia will be joining this happy, healthy baby: Victoria and Shai are WACAP’s first family to apply for their second WACAP adoption from Ethiopia. “We knew we wanted to get her a sibling soon,” says Victoria. “Seeing her grow has brought us such joy, and we can’t wait to bring home our next son or daughter.”

“Being part of a big, loving family is good for her. She’s so loving.”

*Betsy Traben,
WACAP Adoptive Mom*



The Traben family: Isaiah, Elliot, Ken, Oliver, Betsy, Jeremy, Kateri and Luanna.

FINDING THE WAY

“It was definitely a Christmas we will never forget,” Betsy Traben says. On December 25, 2006, she and her husband, Ken, were hunkered down in a hotel in China with their daughter, 28-month-old Lu Yan.

After having three sons and a daughter, Betsy and Ken began to look into adoption in 2005. “When we learned there were tons of waiting kids, we said, ‘We have to do this.’ This is why we’re adopting,” says Betsy. Just a few days after they indicated their interest in waiting children, the Family Finders team called the Trabens with information on a beautiful 2-year-old girl named Lu Yan. “They started describing her and I got chills,” Betsy says. “I just knew. I said, ‘That’s her.’ When my husband saw her picture, he said, ‘This is fate.’”

But Lu Yan had also been diagnosed with alpha thalassemia, a blood disorder. In the best case scenario, it would have little effect on her; in the worst, it would require monthly blood transfusions for the rest of her life. Until Lu Yan came to the United States and could be properly tested by specialists, there was no way of knowing how severe her case of alpha thalassemia was.

Ken and Betsy decided to go for it anyway. When they met Lu Yan, the couple couldn’t believe how well she was doing. “She [was] so much bigger and healthier than I’d ever imagined,” Betsy says. Lu Yan, on the other hand, tentatively resisted her new parents. “She was very rambunctious and difficult,” Betsy recalls. “She was petrified of [Ken] most of the time we were in China. She would try to run to other women and she wouldn’t come back to us. We were strangers. It was very hard, harder than giving birth to any child.”

On the plane ride home, Lu Yan clung to Betsy and avoided Ken. Emotionally drained, physically exhausted and homesick, the

Trabens were eager to see their other children but didn’t know how their new daughter would receive them. “We were nervous,” remembers Betsy. “When we got off the plane, the kids were all waiting for us at the airport. [Lu Yan] looked at them and just ran into my son’s arms like she’d always known him.”

With the help of her siblings and her parents, Lu Yan, now Luanna, has come a long way since December of 2006. “Having the other kids there really helped,” says Betsy. “When she saw how [they] treated Ken, she started to change her mind. Being part of a big, loving family is good for her. She’s so loving.” As for her blood disorder, Luanna has had no health problems as a result of it. “Even if you look at her blood work and it looks bad, she doesn’t display it,” says Betsy. “Her body is used to low iron, and she’s not sick. We see a specialist for her . . . once a year, and the doctors are amazed at how healthy she is.”

Looking back, the Trabens realize that Luanna’s initial behavior was a result of the trauma of being in an orphanage and being removed from the things that are familiar for her. “She has completely changed,” says Betsy. “She’s quiet, gentle and always puts others before herself. She just started kindergarten and she got an award . . . for being kind, compassionate and a good listener.”

Luanna’s bond with her brothers and sister, while always strong, has also grown immensely over the years. She is especially close with her big sister, Kateri, who’s just 15 months older than her. “I just love the fact that the sisters have each other,” says Betsy.

And while the road was bumpy at first, Betsy is quick to encourage others to adopt waiting children. “They’ll enrich your lives and make you a better person,” she says. It’s so rewarding to hear her say she loves us, and we love her so much.”

For more information about the Promise Fund, turn to page 10.

Tribute Gifts

“WACAP did so much for our family, and she wanted to help WACAP in return.”

Ondrea Hidley

WACAP Adoptive Mom, speaking about her mother, Shirley.



Shirley Hidley enjoys a moment with her granddaughter, Jia.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE ONES YOU LOVE

Tribute gifts are a thoughtful way to celebrate a birthday, wedding, or the arrival of a child. They can also serve as a special memorial to a friend or relative. We'd like to share about the special people who demonstrated their love of children through tribute gifts.

Shirley Hidley was excited to welcome her first grandbaby. “When she learned we were adopting from China, she promptly started crocheting a red baby blanket,” says Shirley’s daughter, Ondrea.

In fact, Shirley was so thrilled that in anticipation of her granddaughter’s arrival, she moved from California to Washington and stocked her new home with books, toys, blankets and plastic dishes. “She and I talked virtually every day, sharing the excitement as we waited for the referral,” remembers Ondrea. “When we received the call from WACAP with referral information, Mom was as overjoyed as my husband Rick and me. Jia Song arrived home in January 2008. I took a three-month leave from work, and Jia and I spent a considerable amount of time with Mom. Just after my leave ended in May of 2008 and as Jia was taking her first steps, Mom was diagnosed with stage IV lymphoma.”

Despite her illness and the challenges of treatment, Shirley, now “Nana,” and Jia developed the special bond that grandparents and grandchildren share. “It was delightful to watch them be so silly and happy together,” says Ondrea. “I am convinced that Mom fought her cancer with such vigor because of her love for Jia. No matter how uncomfortable Mom may have been, it all faded when Jia visited.”

When Shirley began planning her estate, “she immediately thought of WACAP. It just made sense – WACAP did so much for our family and she wanted to help WACAP in return. When Mom passed on March 12, 2009, I decided to do the same and asked that people commemorate Mom by sending contributions to

WACAP. By bringing Jia into our lives, WACAP was able to make Mom’s dream of becoming Nana come true,” says Ondrea.

At her June 2009 wedding, WACAP mom Annette Lapas decided to ask for donations to WACAP in lieu of presents. “It just seemed like the most responsible thing to do,” she says. “My husband and I were older and we both had households and did not need a thing. When I told [my husband] about waiting children and Promise Child Fund, he jumped on board, as did my children.”

Annette adopted her 13-year-old daughter, Lilly, from China with the help of the Promise Child Fund in 2005. She also has two daughters whom she adopted from Vietnam and Romania (to see a photo of the whole family, turn to page 10). “My children understand my compassion for children and especially children who need to be adopted,” Annette says. “I felt it was a wonderful way to celebrate our special event. As a result of our requests, I believe we collected well over \$1,300 for WACAP. Many people told me it was a wonderful gesture. In fact, one of my good friends said it was a ‘class act.’”

Tribute gifts can even become an annual tradition. When Astrid Reichenbach and Manny Fabregas’s birthdays rolled around last year, the couple decided to ask friends to donate to WACAP through our Facebook Cause page instead of giving them gifts. “It’s a great way to ignite some interest,” says Astrid. “It’s possibly the easiest way to make money for a cause out there. I did a minimal amount of work yet was able to make some money for WACAP and spread the word both about adoption and WACAP.”

WACAP is honored to receive tribute gifts in commemoration of life’s important events, and we put them to work for children. As a gesture of gratitude, we also print the beneficiary’s name in WACAP Today. To see who’s being recognized this holiday season, turn to page 10.

IN HONOR OF THESE CHILDREN

Donations have been made in honor of the following children and other members of the WACAP family. These funds will be used to continue adoption services and humanitarian aid to children who need families in all the countries WACAP serves. We welcome your donation to WACAP. It's easy. Just visit www.wacap.org, or use the envelope included in this issue of *WACAP Today*.

Alexander Hall
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Mariya Bridget Redden
Mark Geon Kaczynski
Michael Breinholt



Peter Hall
Roopa Konakanchi
Ryan Clabby
Sara Louisa Constans
Susan Fuli Taylor

Please note that you can also build a bridge to the future of other children just like those listed here by including WACAP in your will and legacy planning.

WACAP'S PROMISE FUND

Changing Children's Lives.

WACAP's donor-supported Promise Child Fund was established in 2001 to help the most vulnerable orphans find their way home to loving families. The circumstances preventing these waiting children from being adopted are **always** out of their control.

Healthy kids over the age of 7, especially boys, are the hardest to find homes for solely because of their age. Brothers and sisters who want to stay together cut their likelihood of being adopted down to the slimmest margins. And for children with special needs who already have fewer chances of finding a family, spending an entire childhood in an orphanage than cannot provide them with proper care can mean no future at all. These are the kids the Promise Fund serves: those who need it the most.

For the last eight years, the Promise Child Fund has helped WACAP identify waiting children, provide them with individual advocacy efforts and assign subsidies toward the adoption of these kids to pave the way for families to bring them home. These subsidies, which are distributed in the form of Promise Child grants, break down financial barriers for families who cannot

afford the full cost of an adoption all at once but can offer a child a healthy and loving future.

Many of the children you've read about in this issue of *WACAP Today* came home with the help of the Promise Fund, and they're perfect examples of its importance. The Fund was created for kids like Elijah, Pandu and Ellie. Each of these children had specific, challenging needs—Down syndrome, visual impairments and being older. When wonderful families like the Lucases, Fayres and Smiths are ready and hoping to adopt these kids, we never want finances to keep the children from coming home.

Thankfully, our supporters don't either. Because of your generosity, WACAP has seen over 1,000 children come home thanks in part to the Promise Fund. We look forward to another successful year of bringing waiting kids home to families with your help. To donate to the Promise Child Fund, visit our Web site at www.wacap.org or use the return envelope enclosed in this issue of *WACAP Today*.

FAMILY ALBUM



- 1 Jessica, Abbey and Shawn (US)
- 2 Lily (RU)
- 3 Helen (ET)
- 4 Lisa, Anjali (I) and Gordon
- 5 Alex (RU) and Sofia (RU)
- 6 Cutter and Bereket (ET)
- 7 Luke (RU), Polina (RU) and Roman (RU)

ADOPTING THROUGH WACAP

Since 1976, WACAP has helped nearly 10,000 children find loving homes. We currently help families in all 50 states adopt children from eight countries: China, Ethiopia, India, Kazakhstan, Korea, Russia, Thailand and the United States. We are fully accredited and strive to meet the highest ethical standards in all of our endeavors. If you are interested in learning more about adoption, call us at 206-575-4550, or e-mail wacap@wacap.org. You can also request an information packet via our Web site, www.wacap.org.

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At last! Joel meets his new mom, Kam, for the first time in Bangkok, Thailand.

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