

**Annual Report for Illinois Licensed Adoption Agencies**

Date: 10/11/23

Name of Agency: Hephzibah Children's Association

Corporate Address\*: 1144 Lake Street Oak Park Illinois 60301

Illinois DCFS

License/Provider ID number: 009410-14 Telephone: 708-649-7140

License Effective date: 11/6/21 to 11/6/25

The reporting period and answers to all questions for this report relate to the agency's most recent fiscal year. Specify the dates of your agency's fiscal year and reporting period for this report: 7/1/20 to 6/30/21

**\*If the agency operates satellite or branch offices, please attach a separate sheet listing complete addresses of all other offices.**

This report is to be completed by agencies providing adoption services and shall be filed with the Department of Children and Family Services and with the Illinois Attorney General's Office. In addition, each licensed agency that maintains a website shall provide this report on its website. The report shall be filed annually, no later than the 45<sup>th</sup> day following an adoption agency's license anniversary date. Failure to provide the annual report or disclose certain information required in the report may result in the suspension of an agency's license for a period of 90 days. Subsequent violations may result in a revocation of the license. [Rule 401.530]

**This report applies only to the provision of adoption services and includes agencies providing foster care conversion services.**

Question number 1 (A – M) pertains only to domestic and international agency-assisted adoption services, and home study services-only programs. Question number 1 (A-M) does not pertain to foster care conversion adoptions. Agencies that provide adoption services only through foster care conversions must answer questions 2 – 12, but need not answer question number 1.

Please respond to the following questions with a yes or no answer on the left and provide additional detail as requested:

No 1. **Non-identifying** information for the past year concerning adoption is attached:

**Domestic Agency-Assisted Adoptions**

- A. The number of adoptive families who have submitted an agency application but who are not yet licensed: 0
- B. The number of adoptive families who are licensed and awaiting domestic placement as of the agency's fiscal year end: 0
- C. The number of biological parents who the agency provided services to during the reporting period for domestic adoption: 0
- D. The number of children placed in adoptive homes during the year:  
Adoptive parents/families who are Illinois Residents: N/A  
Adoptive parents/families who are non-Illinois Residents: N/A

E. The number of adoptions initiated during the year:  
Adoptive parents/families who are Illinois Residents: 9  
Adoptive parents/families who are non-Illinois Residents: 0

F. The number of adoptions finalized during the year:  
Adoptive parents/families who are Illinois Residents: 9  
Adoptive parents/families who are non-Illinois Residents: 0

G. The number of adoptive placement disruptions: 0

H. The number of domestic adoption dissolutions this year: 0

**International Adoptions (either by direct placements/referrals, or through home-study-services-only)**

Check the boxes that apply to the intercountry adoption services the agency provides:

- Child referral/matching placement services;  
 Adoption home study/post placement services (utilized by families who are working with another agency for their referral/match);  
 None.

The number of adoptive families who have submitted an agency application but who are not yet approved or licensed: N/A

The number of adoptive families who are licensed or approved and awaiting international placement: N/A

The number of international adoptive placements made during the year: N/A

List the countries with which you have accredited international adoption programs:

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The number of international adoptions finalized this year in the U.S., specifying the countries of origin: N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

The number of finalizations in other countries, specifying the countries of origin:

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The number of international adoptive placement disruptions: N/A

No 2. Has the agency:

- lost the right to provide adoption services in any state or country,
- had its license suspended for cause, or
- was the agency the subject of other sanctions by any court, governmental agency, or governmental regulatory body relating to the provision of adoption services?

*If the answer to any portion of this question is yes, attach a full and complete statement of explanation.*

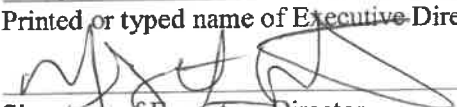
- No 3. During the past year, were any actions related to licensure initiated against the agency by a licensing or accrediting body?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation.*
- No 4. During the past year, has the agency been a named party in any civil court actions in relation to the provision of foster care or adoption services?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation.*
- No 5. Is the agency currently the subject of a pending investigation by federal or state authorities?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation.*
- No 6. Were there any criminal charges, child abuse charges, malpractice complaints, or lawsuits related to the provision of adoption services against the agency or any of its employees, officers, or directors during the past year?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation and the basis or disposition of the actions.*
- No 7. Was the agency found liable for any civil or administrative violation or found guilty of or pled guilty to any criminal or administrative violation that relates to the provision of adoption services under federal, state or foreign law?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation.*
- No 8. Was any employee, officer or director of the agency found guilty of any crime or determined to have violated a civil law or administrative rule relating to the provision of adoption services under federal, state or foreign law?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation.*
- No 9. Was any civil or administrative proceeding relating to adoption services instituted by the agency during the year (excluding uncontested adoption proceedings and proceedings filed pursuant to Section 12a of the Adoption Act)?  
*If the answer is yes, attach a complete statement of explanation.*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The agency's website address is: www.hephzibahhome.org
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. An audited financial statement for the prior fiscal year, including a general description of fees, wages, salaries and other compensation described in Rule 401.565(a), certified by an independent public accountant, is attached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. This Annual Report with attachments and audited financial statement, certified by an independent public accountant, has been posted on the website listed in item 9.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Effective August 15, 2005, Annual Reports are available upon request.

Information contained in this report is subject to the applicable confidentiality requirements of the Child Care Act and the Adoption Act.

I certify that the above statements are true and accurate, based on information available to me at this time.

Merry Beth Sheets

Printed or typed name of Executive Director

  
Signature of Executive Director

10/11/23  
Date

Mailing Instructions on the back

This report is to be mailed to the child welfare agency's A&I licensing Unit and the Illinois Attorney General's Office:

Illinois Attorney General  
Charitable Trust Bureau  
100 W. Randolph Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-814-2595 or 312-814-3000

DCFS Agency and Intuitional Licensing Units:

Cook County

A&I Licensing Unit  
A&I Licensing Supervisor  
1911 S. Indiana Ave. – 9<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
Chicago, IL 60616

Northern Region

A&I Licensing Unit  
A&I Licensing Supervisor  
1619 W. Jefferson Street  
Joliet, IL 60435

Central / Southern Region

A&I Licensing Unit  
A&I Licensing Supervisor  
1124 N. Walnut  
Springfield, IL 62702