



# Guidelines for Care Packages

*...sending wishes from afar*

Care Packages are a great way for families to connect with their child while waiting for travel clearance. Below are a few things to keep in mind as you begin to collect goodies to add to each package.

- ◆ Packages must be valued **under** \$100 and less than 60lb to avoid custom charges. It is very important that families adhere to this policy otherwise Eastern will incur these fees and may restrict this opportunity. Please do not send expensive items such as cameras or camcorders, limit med/vitamins to 1 bottle per package.
- ◆ Include the following information inside the package: child's Korean Name, Case Number, Date of Birth, Social Worker (located in your child's referral paperwork) and U.S. agency - *please print this information neatly and do not use cursive*
- ◆ Allow between 2-3 weeks for your package to arrive. Families have had the best luck in using USPS rather than express shipping such as DHL or FEDEX. Boxes should **not be larger** than the Medium Sized Priority UPS box.
- ◆ Families should wait at least 30 days in between sending packages. Please wait until your official assignment paperwork is sent to Korea before sending the first package.
- ◆ Because this new policy will increase the frequency and number of packages received, Eastern will no longer be able to provide confirmation of receipt.
- ◆ Families may send packages one of 3 ways— 1) With other traveling families, 2) Mailing directly to Eastern 3) With Dillon Staff during travel

**Sample Customs Declaration Form** - you'll need to fill this form out if mailing it yourself:

**Addressee Last Name:** include the last name of your child's social worker **First:** First name of child's social worker

**Business:** Eastern Social Welfare Society

**Address:** 493 Changchon-dong, Sodaemun-gu

**Postcode:** 120-836

**City:** Seoul

**State/Province:** Leave Blank

**Country:** South Korea

Check the box marked: **Other**, write in **Donation** Check the box marked: **Airmail**

- ◆ Due to the large number of children in care, Eastern has expressed a strong need for every day play clothes from families. You may want to include a mix of sizes, some current sizes and some larger for layers. In winter months, heavier coats and hats are appreciated. For shoes, soft-soled ones (Robeez) may be a good choice as they offer more flexibility in sizing.
- ◆ For special items for your child, it may be helpful to focus on primary senses (smells, sounds, sight) as a way to introduce yourselves to them. This may include a photo album of your family/home or a DVD/USB introduction including singing special songs, a lovey or stuffed animal that you've slept with and now has your scent, a recordable story book, card or toy. For more general items, some ideas include children's toothbrush/paste, stacking and more developmental & learning toys. Toys that use English words are also helpful as are ones that assist with fine motor skills.
- ◆ We encourage families to express their gratitude to the foster family with a small gift. Some suggestions include a neck scarf, jewelry, face creams, lipstick/gloss or medicinal products such as multivitamins\*, Omega 3\*, glucosamine\* (\*due to customs, send only 1 of these items at a time) or honey. Coffees, candies, chocolates, scented lotions, books and souvenir type items are not recommended. You may also wish to send a larger bag with one of your initial packages as the foster families have to carry all of the items back to their home while carrying the child and many use public transportation.
- ◆ Typically, the items sent will not be returned to you unless the child is particularly attached to it. It may be beneficial to purchase duplicate items so your child arrives home to something familiar.
- ◆ Families are not permitted to share or receive identifying information /contact information or communicate directly with their child's foster family until after finalization and necessary permission is granted from both sides. This includes, but is not limited to, email address, blog sites, home address, facebook page, phone numbers or last names.