

## FAQ

### How long is the adoption process?

Delays vary from one region to another. The waiting period could last from a month to 3 years.

### Does Association Emmanuel work with international adoptions?

Our main focus is domestic adoptions but we occasionally work with international adoption agencies where a special needs child is involved.

### Can a single or gay person adopt a child?

Yes.

### Who will be in charge of our psychosocial evaluation?

Your local Youth Centre or, after a special agreement, a Youth Centre of another region, will be in charge of your psychosocial evaluation.

### Do I have to be a member of Association Emmanuel to adopt a child with a handicap or with special needs in Quebec, or can I simply do it with my local Youth Centre?

You don't have to be a member. However, Association Emmanuel offers a unique form of personalized support throughout the process. Furthermore, being a provincial association, Emmanuel actively collaborates with Youth Centres of every region of the province, thus increasing the chances to find the right family for every child.

### I am thinking about adoption but I have a lot of questions and doubts. Can Association Emmanuel help me?

We have created a program, Gestance, to answer the need for information and support of potential adopting parents.



Because every  
child deserves  
a family.



PO Box 352, Drummondville (Québec) J2B 6W3  
Phone: 819 857-4613

[www.emmanuel.qc.ca](http://www.emmanuel.qc.ca)  
[associationemmanuel@cgocable.ca](mailto:associationemmanuel@cgocable.ca)



**CHOOSING  
A SPECIAL  
NEEDS CHILD**



*Association Emmanuel is a registered charity serving nearly 200 families across Quebec. Among those members, more than 95 families have adopted over 300 children with various incapacities.*

Founded in 1987, *Association Emmanuel, l'Amour qui sauve* believes that every child, no matter his needs or his disabilities, deserves a loving family and a caring home. This group of families, professionals and friends are focused on children going through the process of adoption, either by their biological parents or by social services under Youth Protection Act.

By making the choice of adoption, "Emmanuel families" give themselves and commit to a child in a permanent life project. Thus, they give them the opportunity to fully enjoy the fundamental right of belonging to a family in which they feel protected, safe, loved and in which they can develop themselves to their full potential.

## Mission

*Association Emmanuel, l'Amour qui sauve* tries to find a positive answer to the recurring question: "is there a family for this child?". We actively work to promote the adoption of every child, no matter his needs, and for whom social services can't find an adoptive family.

### To achieve that aim, we:

- Make society aware of the basic right of every child to have a family
- Support biological parents facing the birth of a child with special needs
- Find and help adoption candidates open to the adoption of a child with special needs, according to the laws of Quebec
- Provide follow-up assistance to families after an adoption
- Support Emmanuel families in a variety of ways, including gatherings, meetings, conferences, activities...
- Work to create a diverse society more open to differences of all kinds

## Services

*Association Emmanuel* works in collaboration with Youth Centres to find adoptive parents for special needs children. We support and inform candidates every step of the procedures of the adoption of a child with special needs. *Association Emmanuel* helps this process by offering individual help, and by being the link between the family and social services, always with the best interest of the child as a guide.

Furthermore, mutual assistance among our members is important to us and we provide a network of support by organizing meetings, activities and conferences. Members can find in our newsletter, published 4 times yearly, other families sharing their personal story and experience, news and informative articles.

Telephone support is always available for members and individual meetings can be arranged in difficult times.

Finally, we support biological parents facing the birth of a special needs child in making whatever choices are right for them.

*Association Emmanuel is an extended family, a 'family of families'. Regular contact amongst families provides much needed support and nourishes our family spirit.*

