

For Expectant Parents – Choosing an Adoption Resource

The Agency Difference

At Catholic Charities Adoption Services, adoption is more than just "a legal transaction." It is a process that involves many experiences and feelings by all involved: expectant parents, adoptive parents, and children. Our special expertise is in assisting and supporting all who are involved before, during, and after the adoption. This is generally not available in independent or private adoptions. In an independent adoption, the parties work with someone, usually a lawyer, to facilitate the adoption. Also, an independent adoption resource is usually employed by and for the benefit of the adoptive parents, leaving the expectant parent without an objective advocate. At Catholic Charities Adoption Services, we maintain separate departments for expectant parents, and adoptive families. Our counselors are trained in how to best assist you in this time of need.

Screening Prospective Adoptive Parents

Adoption agencies screen prospective adoptive parents before the placement is made to ensure that the child will be placed in a safe, loving, stable home. Catholic Charities parents take many hours of educational classes so that they will be prepared to deal with the normal experiences that come with being an adoptive family. Catholic Charities also provides lifetime support to families who come together through adoption. In independent adoptions, adopting parents typically do not receive information and training about adoption and adoption issues before the child is placed in their home. Independent adoptions, though legal, do not provide pre or post adoption services to adoptive families or birth families

Providing Support After the Adoption

Catholic Charities provides post placement service to birth parents, adoptive parents, and children. Adoptive families and their children are visited three times in the first six months to ensure everyone is receiving the support they need. Adoption agency counselors also provide support to birthparents after the adoption. Help after the placement is as important as before placement. An experienced agency counselor will prepare birthparents for the feelings of grief and loss after the placement. They are there to provide support whenever the need arises. They can also put birthparents in touch with other birthparents that have made a plan of adoption for their child. Independents rarely spend time with the birthparents after the adoption takes place.

Catholic Charities provides lifetime support to everyone involved in the adoption process, birth parents, adoptive parents, and children.

Keeping in Touch

Catholic Charities promotes openness in adoption. We are here to help when you want to communicate with members of the adoption triad. Agencies are required by law to keep adoption records indefinitely. Catholic Charities has maintained adoption records since 1928.