

A Child's Dream
Licensed Child Placement Adoption Agency
WA BUS ID# 210756
P. O. Box 680, Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: 360-598-6533
Fax: 360-598-3454
e-mail: amadoptions@comcast.net

Dear Adoptive Parent(s):

Thank you for contacting our organization regarding private placement adoptions through A Child's Dream. We congratulate you on gathering as much information as possible, whether you are just now considering the option to adopt or have made the decision to adopt and are considering this your first step.

We are very excited to share with you information regarding the adoption process and the services our agency has to offer. We take great pride in our staff at A Child's Dream. The founder and director of A Child's Dream has helped in the placement of many children in adoptive homes throughout the U.S. Our agency is able to provide valuable insight and knowledge on the joys and realities of the adoption process. Our staff works on a one to one basis with adoptive parent(s) and birth parent(s), therefore our client base of prospective adoptive parent(s) is small. We differ from other adoption agencies in that we are personally involved with our clients and birth parent(s), giving special attention to matching your needs with those of the birth parent(s) and baby. At A Child's Dream, we work hard to provide you with that special service you require during this most critical process.

ABOUT OUR SERVICES

Although there is no set formula for the adoption process, there are particular services we offer that we have found to be crucial to the success of a private adoption. Again, our goal is to match the needs and wishes of the adoptive parent(s) as closely as possible with those of the birth parent(s) and baby. As prospective adoptive parent(s), we provide you with the following services:

1. Initial meeting to discuss the adoption process and answer your questions.
2. Separate meetings by agency personnel (personally or by telephone) with birth parent(s) to determine her commitment level and screen her (them).

Once we initiate contact between a birth parent(s) and the adoptive parent(s), other services we offer, include the following:

1. Referrals to caring counselors for the birth parent(s), if needed or requested.
2. Coordinating meetings between the adoptive parent(s) and the birth parent(s).
3. Obtaining medical authorizations from the birth parent(s).
4. Assistance in creating a hospital plan for the birth parent(s) and adoptive parent(s).
5. Coordination with hospital staff regarding the birth parent(s) stay, as well as the birth parent(s) and the child's release.

6. Assistance in gathering all medical and hospital records concerning the birth parent(s) and the child.
7. Gathering background information on the birth parent(s), including health, ethnic, and social history.
8. Upon request of the adoptive parent(s), assistance in arranging for drug and HIV screening of the birth parent(s).
9. Assisting the birth parent(s) with transportation to and from treating physicians and hospitals.
10. Meeting with the adoptive parent(s) and the birth parent(s) at the hospital after the child's birth (unless distance does not make this feasible).
11. Follow up telephone calls with the birth parent(s) and the adoptive parent(s).
12. All legal work needed for the adoption to be completed by the agency or attorney in your home state.
13. Processing and assisting in obtaining ICPC approval from the Interstate Compact.
14. Access to Federal tax information regarding adoption.
15. Coordination assistance between birth parent(s), attorney, agency, counselors, and adoptive parent(s).

We also provide assistance with the following:

1. Information about availability of children in particular localities, including the critical need for parent(s) for some of these children.
2. How to collect appropriate documentation.
3. Preparation of certain documents on behalf of clients.
4. Examination of all required documents for sufficiency.
5. Assistance with certain authentication procedures, as required by the child's home state.
6. Submissions of documents to appropriate authorities.
7. Keeping applicants informed on the progress of their applications.
8. Informing applicants of the child that has been proposed for adoption by the appropriate organization in the child's home state.
9. Providing advice about traveling to the child's home state.

THE ADOPTION PROCESS

The "Dear Birth Parent(s)" letter gives you an opportunity to portray who you are. The letter is filled with information on your personality, career, lifestyle, hobbies, religion, and dreams for the future. It is your opportunity to reach out to a birth parent(s) on a personal level and relay to her all the warmth and love you can offer a child. Please review the information entitled "Preparing a Family Profile" contained in this packet.

Our extensive outreach and advertising programs allow many birth parent(s) from different states access to our agency. Once we are contacted by a birth parent(s), our agency conducts a preliminary screening and obtains information from her regarding her personal and medical history. We discuss with the birth parent(s) what she would like in an adoptive couple and what environment she would like for her child. Based on this information, we allow the birth parent(s) to choose an adoptive couple through their "Dear Birth Parent(s)" letter, "Profile at a Glance" (included in this packet), and the life

book photo album each adoptive couple provides to our agency. The birth parent(s) carefully considers each couple presented to her and selects the adoptive parent(s) with whom she feels most comfortable. A Child's Dream then arranges for the birth parent(s) to meet with the adoptive parent(s).

Be sure to send us your home study as soon as it is available. We cannot actually match you with a birth parent(s) until you have a completed home study. However, if your home study is still in the process, go ahead and send in your completed application and profiles so our Child Placement Supervisor can begin reviewing your information.

FEES

The agency fee is guaranteed and is applied to another adoption if anything were to happen once you were matched with a birth parent(s). If your birth parent(s) decides to parent her child, or the child has a non-correctable medical condition, which is detected at birth, the only costs you will lose will be any approved living expenses you agreed to provide your birth parent(s) during her pregnancy and the social worker fees expended. When you are matched with a birth parent(s), you will be provided with a breakdown of any anticipated living expenses and social worker fees so you will know the total cost of your adoption. Other than an initial application fee of \$500.00, we do not require any additional prepaid fees until a birth parent(s) has chosen your profile.

FINALIZING YOUR ADOPTION

You must obtain legal counsel or use an agency in your home state to finalize your adoption. The Agency will provide the adoptive parent(s) with the birth parent(s) consent documents. Depending upon the law of the birth parent(s) state, termination of the birth father's rights should be available. Our agency will be happy to provide you with names of adoption professionals in your area upon request.

Through our work and efforts we experience the joys of helping adoptive parents' dreams come true and the contentment in a birth parent(s) decision knowing her child is cared for and loved so very much.

Deciding on adoption is never easy. Once you have contemplated and weighed your options, you may decide you would like more information on adoption and on our agency. We would appreciate the opportunity to provide you with additional information and to arrange a meeting with you. Please call us at 360-598-6533, or e-mail us at amadoptions@comcast.net. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

The Entire Staff at A Child's Dream

References available upon request.