

Every Child, Every Family,  
Every Step of the Way

# ADOPTIONS TOGETHER

## Home Study Plus Services

“ We had a wonderful experience with our home study social worker. She was remarkably flexible and generous with her time and made us feel comfortable throughout each step of the process. Our meetings were always fun and informative, and she answered our every question with kindness and patience. She made our home study a truly enjoyable experience and we were never stressed or anxious. We always felt that she wanted our family to succeed in our adoption plans.



Adoptions Together offers home study services for families adopting domestically, internationally, and/or independently in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. You do not have to work with our placement programs to have a home study performed by Adoptions Together.

### Why Choose Adoptions Together for your home study related services?

- 95% of our home study clients rank our document instructions as *outstanding or good*.
- 90% of our home study clients rank our phone/email communications as *outstanding or good*.
- We have been performing high-quality adoption home studies for 20 years.
- Our home study social workers are competent, knowledgeable, and respectful.
- We track your home study and clearance requirements to ensure they don't expire.
- You can obtain all required training through our agency before placement.
- We are Hague accredited.
- Your involvement with our agency can extend well beyond the home study...we offer ongoing education and support as your family's needs evolve.

### Our Services

Whether you are adopting locally or out of state, we can help you navigate the dynamic landscape of adoption and the internet world of facilitators and private attorneys. If you are matched with expectant parents in this area, we can assist you with in-home counseling for birth parents before and after placement, open adoption agreements, hospital advocacy and discharge, and interstate compact compliance.



#### Find out more:

Visit us at [www.adoptionstogether.org](http://www.adoptionstogether.org)

Or call us at 301.439.2900

Maryland | Virginia | DC

HAGUE ACCREDITED



## Our Services

- Quality Assessment Services**—Our home studies and post-placement reports for Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia residents are valid for courts, agencies, facilitators, and private adoption attorneys. Adoptions Together is Hague accredited and complies with USCIS and foreign country standards.
- Tracking Home Study and Clearance Updates**—Keeping track of the expiration of your home study and the clearances that are required to complete an adoption can be complicated. We can help by notifying you in advance when a critical clearance will expire.
- Virginia Parental Placements**—If you are adopting privately in Virginia, we can help you comply with the unique aspects of Virginia law to ensure that necessary meetings and information disclosure between birth and adoptive parents has occurred.
- Interstate Compact Assistance (ICPC)**—Each state requires the submission of complete information to the Interstate Office with details about the adopters, the baby, and the birth family. Packets include clearances, home study, and the legal termination of rights.
- Adoption Consultation**— Our staff can assist you with negotiating the dynamic landscape of domestic adoption and how to navigate the internet world of facilitators, private attorneys, and agencies outside Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Ongoing specific match consultation is available.
- Birth parent Counseling and Support**—Our counselors meet with birth parents and provide them a variety of legal and social work services required in the state where the birth or adoptive parents live. Spanish speaking assistance available in licensed areas.
- Assistance to Adopters from Other States**—Once you are connected to birth parents or their representatives, we can assist you in finding attorneys or agency staff to assist with your legal work, ICPC, and finalization.
- Managing Annual Update and More for Birth Parents**—We collect and transmit annual (or more frequent) updates for you and your child’s birth parents. We act as an ongoing liaison to record address changes and vital medical updates.
- Facilitating Meetings with Birth Parents**—If your adoption includes an annual or more regular meeting with birth parents, our trained staff will arrange the logistics and attend to ensure mutually respectful meetings.
- Interim Care for Infants During Legal At-Risk Period**—Adoptions Together has a team of home studied, licensed families who care for infants from discharge to placement, especially when birth parents need time to decide what is best for them and their child. Families matched with the baby can visit while the baby is in care.
- Co-Parent/Second Parent Adoption**—Our staff and home study workers are sensitive to the emotional and legal issues facing same sex adoptive parents.
- Ongoing Education, Training, and Support**—We offer a curriculum for adopters before placement and

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### Mission:

***Adoptions Together builds healthy lifelong connections for every child and advocates for continuous improvement of systems that promote the well being of children.***

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