



Home Study plus Adoption Services

HOME STUDY and PLACEMENT REPORTS

Quality assessment services provided by professional case workers in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. All home studies are valid in and out of state, with agencies, facilitators and private attorney-managed adoptions. Family adjustment and finalization reports provided as well.

INTERSTATE COMPACT ASSISTANCE

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. Without ICPC approval families cannot travel to their home state with their infants.

ADOPTION CONSULTATION

The dynamic landscape of domestic adoption and how to navigate the internet world of facilitators, private attorneys, and agencies outside MD, VA, and DC. 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.

TRACKING HOME STUDY AND CLEARANCE UPDATE REQUIREMENTS

Home studies are valid for one year from the date of approval. Each clearance—CPS, medical, DMV, state Police and FBI—will also have a one to two year validity date. You will be kept up to date on your clearance expiration dates and notified with a three-month window to complete the updated paperwork.

MANAGING ANNUAL UPDATES 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, our trained staff will arrange the logistics and attend to ensure mutually respectful meetings.

CO-PARENT/SECOND PARENT ADOPTION

Children adopted into families headed by partners who are of the same sex need the permanence and security provided by having two fully sanctioned and legally defined parents. Adoptions Together is ready to help you achieve your second-parent adoption and put your family on firmer ground.

VIRGINIA PARENTAL PLACEMENTS (Reports and Facilitated Meeting)

This unique private adoption placement in Virginia ensures that a birth family has met and selected the adoptive parents for their child. The home study requires a tailored format and the meeting is staffed by a case manager to comply with all aspects of Virginia law.

DOSSIER ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL ADOPTERS

Developing the dossier is a critical step in successful international adoption. Adoptive parents will receive assistance, guidance and a better understanding of the dossier process and the numerous forms and certification requirements.

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's best for them and their child. Families matched with the baby can visit while the baby is in care.

DOMESTIC INFANT PLACEMENT

Our infant placement program places 40-50 infants each year. Waiting parent services include education, support, home study updates, matching and advocacy.

SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN PLACEMENT

Our AdoptionWorks program trains and assesses parents for children in State foster care. Services include matching, placement, and ongoing support to the new family.

INTERNATIONAL PLACEMENT OF INFANTS, TODDLERS, AND CHILDREN

Our international program is Hague-accredited. We have long-standing programs in China and Russia and partnership programs in Eastern Europe, Latin America, and Asia. Wait times, criteria for referral, and costs vary.

ONGOING EDUCATION, TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR ADOPTING FAMILIES AND THEIR CHILDREN

Our *Center for Adoptive Families* offers a curriculum for adopters before placement and ongoing education and counseling services for families and children of all ages. Begin with the *ABC's of Adoption* to explore your choices; move on to the Parent Preparation curriculum for international and domestic adopters; then take advantage of *Talking to Your Child about Adoption* and groups for adoptive children as your child ages.

**Please see www.adoptionstogether.org/homestudy.asp
for more information.**