

ADOPTION

You are in control.

YOUR OPTIONS

THE BEST DECISION IS AN INFORMED DECISION

What if I want to meet my baby in the future?

It is important for you to know that you can choose the openness level of the adoption at the time of placement. Any contact with your child will depend on the type of adoption plan you choose.



Open Adoption

An open adoption with your child will allow you to always know and have contact with your child. Open plans allow for a relationship between the birth mother and the adoptive family.



Semi-Open Adoption

The degree of openness varies and can range from simply exchanging written information and photos to regularly scheduled visits.



Closed Adoption

A closed adoption plan maintains confidentiality for both the birth mother and the adopting family. Agencies will maintain records so that if a reunion is desired at some point in the future, the agencies will be able to assist in that reunion based on state laws.

*Please know, if you work with an agency, they will have a legal obligation to protect the privacy of the adoptive family, just as they will protect your privacy if you select a confidential adoption plan. Some agencies may offer post-adoption counseling.

CONCERNS

How can I be sure my baby will have a good home?

Adoptive parents are extensively evaluated through a lengthy process. High standards that are set by the state and agency must be met before a family is allowed to adopt. Additionally, many agencies make post-adoption visits to check on the well-being of your child. It is important to remember, you are in control throughout the adoption process. Agencies can provide you with information about prospective adoptive families.

How will I know my child is safe?

If you choose either an open or semi-open plan, you will be able to meet and begin a relationship with the adoptive parents before your child's birth. After your child is born and placed with the family, you will be able to continue this relationship and know your child is safe.

Is Adoption Expensive?

Many agencies provide services to you at no cost. Assistance with medical and living expenses is often available. If costs are involved, they may be covered by the adopting family.

Does the Baby's Father Need to Know?

The birth father's rights vary from state to state. An agency can help you determine his rights if you disagree about adoption.

Questions?

If you have specific questions, contact an adoption agency and schedule a meeting. As you make the best plan for your child and yourself, they will provide you with advice and support.

DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet is designed to be an informational tool only. It is not intended to provide medical or legal advice or replace care from a qualified medical practitioner.

ADOPTION REFERRALS:

- Lifetime Adoption: 24/7 Hotline | Call or Text: 1-800-923-6784
www.lifetimeadoption.com
- Nightlight Christian Adoption: | Call or Text: 502-423-5780
www.nightlight.org
- Lifeline Pregnancy Counseling
www.planmyadoption.org | www.optionsinadoption.com