

The Legacy Of An Adoption

Once there were two expectant mothers,
One carried and cared for you beneath her beating heart.
She became your Birthmother.
The other carried the hope of you within her,
She became your Mom.

As the days passed, and you grew bigger and stronger,
Your First Mom knew that she could not give you
All you needed after your birth.
Meanwhile, your Mom was ready and waiting for you.

One day your Birthmom and your Mom found each other.

They looked into each other's eyes and saw a friend.
Your birthmother saw the life your Mom could give you.
Your Mom saw how much your Birth Mother loved and cared for you.

They decided that what you needed was both kinds of love in your life.

So now you have two families, One by birth, the other by adoption!

And now you have a home where you can get
Your questions answered, your boo-boos bandaged,
Your heartaches soothed, and much needed hugs.

And a place where you can find
Answers to your questions, your image in the mirror,
A part of yourself, and much needed hugs.

Two different kinds of families.
Two different kinds of love.
Both a part of you.





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Registration Documents for Adoptive Parents

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Registration Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Schedule of Fees (return the entire document) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Five copies of your profile book (please be sure there is no identifying information included in your book- last names, email, website, etc.) * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100 fee (You may pay by check or PayPal. If using the PayPal option (deb@mothergooseadoptions.com), please check "friends and family" to avoid the additional 3% surcharge) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Current Home Study (include a copy of the agency license) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Post Placement Supervision Letter (from your home study agency) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | FBI Criminal Clearances (one per adult in household) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | State Criminal Clearances (one per adult in household) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Child Abuse Clearances (include all adults in household) |

*See samples of profile books on our website www.mothergooseadoptions.com

All clearances need to be full copies of the actual clearances, not just referenced in the home study.

Once we have reviewed your information and approved your clearances and home study, we will email you a welcome letter and ask that you then email the following items:

1. An electronic .pdf of your profile (less than 15 mb). Name the file with your first names only (example: Mickey and Minnie profile).
2. A single .jpg file to use as a cover photo for the website. Name the file your full name, followed by cover photo (example: Mickey and Minnie Mouse cover photo).

Note: Typical turn around for registration approval is one week from receipt of complete packet. Expect delays in December and July. We cannot print documents or profiles

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GETTING STARTED

Simply put, we LOVE adoption! Working in child placement is not just a job for us but a mission to love on the women and families we work with. While domestic adoption can be challenging, it is also rewarding. Domestic adoption also remains the only method to adopt a newborn. Thus, making it the option of choice for many families. Last year, we assisted with the adoption of almost 100 children and expect to exceed that number this year.

Families interested in harder to place children (full African American, medically fragile, and older children) will find their dreams of becoming a family realized rather quickly – usually within 3-6 months of a completed home study. Others may find their wait to be longer. Most families successfully adopt within about 12 months but wait times are impossible to predict. We recommend that you spend some time learning about trans-racial adoptions, as well as other issues like exposure of drugs and alcohol to the newborn.

The key to domestic adoption is flexibility – things often change and it is very important that you are able to “go with the flow” in an effort to ensure a successful adoption. The women who consider placing their children for adoption do not live their lives and carry out their pregnancy like you or I would. While these issues can be a challenge emotionally, they often do not impact the ultimate goal- a healthy child and building a family through adoption. They just require some patience and a degree of humor.

In order to start the adoption process, you will need to have a completed home study evaluation. If you are in Arizona, Florida, or Utah, we can complete this process for you. If you are in another state, we can help you identify another agency qualified to complete the home study. Local families can call our office and let us know you would like to begin the home study process. The agency will then assign a social worker to your case and he/she will contact you to schedule your first appointment. The social worker will need to meet with your family a minimum of twice if you live in Arizona, once if you live in Florida, and once if you live in Utah; at least one meeting must be in your home. Our office needs back all required paperwork before your meeting can be scheduled. For families who have a completed home study and wish to register in our domestic adoption program, please mail the completed packet to our main office in Arizona.

At Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions our programs are constantly growing and evolving. Our hope is that it allows every family to fulfill their dreams of becoming parents.

Best wishes in your adoption journey,

Blessings,

Deb O'Kane
Executive Director



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DOMESTIC ADOPTION REGISTRATION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill in this registration form completely. We ask that you notify our office if you have adopted or are no longer interested in adoption. If we do not hear from you for an extended period of time (defined as 3 months), we reserve the right to close and destroy your file.

Are you using Mother Goose Adoptions as your home study agency? Please check one: No Yes

APPLICANT INFORMATION

| | | |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Last Name: | First Name: | DOB: |
| Spouse's Last Name: | Spouse's First Name: | DOB: |
| Home Phone: | Mom's Cell Phone: | Dad's Cell Phone: |
| Full Address: (street, city, state, zip) | Primary Email address: | Religion: |
| FaceBook ID: | Instagram ID: | List any previous marriages, divorces or arrests on back or separate page |
| Mom's Occupation: | Mom's Employer: | Mom's Salary: |
| Dad's Occupation: | Dad's Employer: | Dad's Salary: |

PREFERENCES: Check all that apply

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Max Budget: | Gender: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Either <input type="checkbox"/> | Adoption Type: Semi-open <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Open <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Racial Acceptance: <input type="checkbox"/> Full Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Black <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/White <input type="checkbox"/> Full Black <input type="checkbox"/> Black/Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Black/Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Black/White <input type="checkbox"/> Full Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/White <input type="checkbox"/> Full Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native-American/White <input type="checkbox"/> Full White | | |
| Health Issues: <input type="checkbox"/> Light alcohol use <input type="checkbox"/> Light Drug Use <input type="checkbox"/> Prematurity <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy alcohol use <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Drug Use <input type="checkbox"/> Major Medical | | |
| Additional comments? | | |

Who can we thank for referring you to our agency?: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Last Revised 05/23/2018

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SCHEDULE OF FEES: DOMESTIC ADOPTION PROGRAM

Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions, Inc. are sensitive to the cost of adoption and thus, strive to keep fees as low as possible while still offering a quality program which allows most adoptive parents to adopt in less than a year. These rapid placement times are directly tied to our extensive national outreach and advertising program, but also what contributes to the largest portion of our agency cost. It is also important to note that we are an independent adoption agency that must remain financially solvent without sponsorship from religious, humanitarian or governmental organizations. To help families who struggle to afford adoption, we make available to our families a host of resources that include low cost adoption loans, internal grant programs, outside private grant programs, information on the tax credit, as well as information on a variety of fund-raising options and ideas.

We offer four programs to help meet your needs.

- The first is our **Full- Service Program**. In this program, we provide full case management services throughout your adoption and placement. This program is for cases where the moms are contracted with and placing their child for adoption through Mother Goose Adoptions.
- The second program is our **Special Beginnings** program. This option offers a grant to encourage adoption of harder to place children: full African American, medically fragile or those older than five years of age. These clients receive all of the services offered in our Full-Service program with an in-house grant, which is funded by annual fundraising events and generous donations.
- The third program is our **National Networking Program**. We work with many agencies and attorneys who come to us seeking families for the expectant moms or children they are working with. We pass these adoption opportunities along to our clients. A family is automatically registered in this program and eligible to be presented, with the fee being due only if they are selected.
- The fourth option is a **Designated Adoption Program** for those families coming to us already matched with a mom and merely seeking assistance to complete an Independent or Direct Parental Placement adoption. There are several options in this program with fees ranging from \$2,000-\$10,000. Please contact our office for details.

Full Service Program: \$28,000

This fee is for our Full-Service Program which runs an extensive national advertising initiative to help identify expectant women seeking to make an adoption plan for their unborn child.

This fee includes, but is not limited to the following services, as applicable:

- Review of home study
- Counseling (limited), support and education to our families
- Obtaining and reviewing proof of pregnancy, social/medical background information, and medical records
- Notification to hospital regarding adoption plan and inquiry on hospital adoption policies
- Identification of an attorney or agency local to birth family for legal services
- Coordination of legal plan, if necessary
- Review of supervisory visits
- Mediation of ongoing contact with the biological family



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This fee may not include:

- Networking/advertising fee
- Local agency/attorney
- Birth mom living expenses
- Birth mom medical expenses
- Home study
- Counseling, extensive face to face – defined as beyond \$500
- Case Management
- Post placement supervision reports
- Travel expenses
- Interstate compact fee, if applicable
- Finalization fee

Please note an entire detailed contract that covers the agency fee, as well as the anticipated legal and other cost, will be presented at time of match.

Special Beginnings Program: \$8,000 grant

This program offers potential adoptive families a grant of \$8,000 off of the full agency fee and is designed to help obtain families for harder to place children: full African American, special needs and children over five years of age. Please note that in this program, your family receives all the services offered in the Full-Service Program at a reduced cost. Please see above for details.

National Networking Program: \$2,000

This fee is assessed when our agency networks on your behalf with other agencies, attorneys etc. This fee is only due if we provide this service. Please note that in addition to our networking fee, you will also pay case specific fees to the other attorney or agency, as posted. Generally, but not always, the agencies we work with will waive any up-front cost to present your family. Please carefully review fee agreements and policies with a placing agency before signing contracts. We will gladly help you review such documents.

Designated Adoption Program: Fees are assessed individually for each case

These contracts will be individualized for each case. Typical total fees will be in the \$2,000-\$10,000 range for case management and counseling and are applicable only to identified adoptions when an agency or family comes to us already matched with a birth parent and needing local support services.

Refund Policy: *Our Guarantee*

In our Full-Service and Special Beginnings Programs, our promise to you is that we will continue to work with your family, at no additional agency fee, until you have adopted. This offer is valid provided: (1) that you maintain a current home study and (2) that your actions are not the cause of the disruption. If the adoption disrupts due to your actions, no portion of fees are refundable. This policy helps ensure against unnecessary loss while pursuing your dreams. Any non-agency fees (legal work, case work, or living expenses, etc.) dispersed on a disrupted adoption will be documented and are the maximum you are at risk for financially. If you decide to not pursue a new match with our agency, a cash refund of fifty percent (50%) of the agency fee is refundable. Furthermore, if you opt out of the contract with a cash refund, any balance of unused living and legal expenses will be refunded. This refund must be board approved at a monthly meeting (they do not meet in July or December) and the agency reserves the right to pay out the refund in installments.

In our National Networking Program, the \$2,000 referral fee is not refundable, however, we will continue to assist you in your adoption efforts until you successfully adopt.



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Registration Fee:

Our only upfront fee is for the validation and review of your home study/clearances and the cost of managing your family profiles. This cost is \$100 per five profiles and is not refundable. The fee is due with each set of five profiles that you provide us.

Payment Schedule:

Fees are not due until the family enters into an agreement to proceed toward adopting a specific child. If the expectant mom is a Mother Goose Adoptions client, a deposit of 50% of the contract (agency, case mgmt., and legal), plus full living expenses are due at the time of match. The balance is due at 34 weeks of the expected mother's pregnancy. If the match occurs past the 34th week of pregnancy, then the full contract is due at match.

If the mom is working with one of our partner agencies, in our National Networking Program, that entity will provide you with contracts and payment schedules according to their policies. Our networking fee is due at the time of match.

Other Possible Fees Detailed:

These costs are not fees retained by our agency but are fees that are common in many cases and are in addition to the agency fee. We do our best to post all anticipated fees at the time we present the case to you but adoption is fluid and those fees can change if the original parameters of the adoption changes (change in birth father cooperation, additional birth fathers, delays in anticipated delivery dates etc.).

Birth Family Living Expenses:

In many adoptions, birth families will request assistance with their living expenses (as allowed by law). A portion of these expenses are "at-risk" if the adoption disrupts. Whenever possible, adoptive families will be informed, before a match, of any expected living expenses. Living expenses are escrowed at the time of match with an expectant mom and are estimated as closely as possible based on the circumstances at that time. Our agency requests that living expenses be managed and paid to a sister organization named Seedlings, Inc. There is a 10% management fee to handle these expenses. This management fee is used not for administrative costs, but goes directly to assist women and children in crisis.

Legal Assistance:

Each adoption is unique, as are the laws of each state. This makes the cost of legal fees for termination of parental rights, Interstate Compact work, etc. hard to predict. However, legal assistance can generally be obtained in an independent, direct parental placement, or agency adoption for approximately \$6,000-\$7,000, plus the cost of ICPC (average cost is \$1,500), if applicable. At the time of match, you will be presented a contract that incorporates the estimated legal fee in one contract. This estimate of legal fee is for an uncomplicated and uncontested adoption (typically defined as no more than two standard [no military personnel or Indian blood] biological parents). It does not include the cost of the finalization for your adoption which is generally done in your home state and averages \$2,000. Depending on the applicable state's laws, finalization will occur between 3-12 months after placement and we will provide all necessary documentation to the finalizing attorney.

Medical Expenses:

Adoptive parents are expected to cover medical expenses, including any applicable deductible incurred as a result of the birth of their child, unless otherwise covered by Medicaid or birthmother's insurance. Whenever possible, the adoptive family will be informed, in advance, if there is limited or no coverage. Please note that the majority of birth moms are eligible for Medicaid under the Medicaid Act of 2003. However, there are often delays, or even denials, to being approved for Medicaid due to the complicated paper process that is required. We provide as much assistance as possible to the birth mom but it is a process that only she can complete (by law); we can't do it for her. The child's hospital stay is typically covered under the adoptive parent's health insurance.

Agency Travel Assistance:

An additional fee will be assessed if family wishes to have an agency representative travel to assist the family at birth or to pick up their child, where appropriate. This fee covers not only the extra time but transportation, hotel etc.



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Advertising Expense:

It occasionally becomes necessary for the agency to assess an advertising surcharge. If this is the case, families will be informed before presentation on a case.

Case Management:

The agency will assess a fee for management of each case as necessary. These fees will be disclosed prior to presentation.

Agreements, Warranties, Guarantees, & Indemnification

This Agreement is governed by the law of Arizona, regardless of conflicts of law. All disputes concerning this Agreement or the relationships of the parties must be litigated solely in the Courts of Arizona, and all parties agree to the personal jurisdiction of the Courts of Arizona. In the event of legal action, which is ruled in favor of the agency, clients shall pay Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoption's attorney fees, court costs and any other associated expenses for defense. The only exception to this policy is if a subsequent agreement is reached and ratified by all parties.

At the sole and exclusive option of Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions, any controversy or claims arising out of this agreement, or any breach thereof, or arising out of the services provided by the agency shall be settled in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association, before an arbitrator and judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be final and may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. No putative or non-compensatory damages shall be awarded. Clients shall pay Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoption's attorney fees, court costs and other associated expenses for collection or arbitration. Arbitration will be held in location of Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoption's choice.

If we refer a family to an outside agency or attorney and there is a misunderstanding or grievance, family understands that such issues are solely between the family and the "placing" agency or attorney. Neither Creating Christian Families, nor Mother Goose Adoptions, can be held liable for errors on the part of placing agency or attorney nor any disputes between the family and the placing agency or attorney. The family agrees that Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions, as well as its employees, contractors, Board, heirs, executors, successors or assignees are released and forever discharged, for any, and every claim, demand, right, or cause of action arising between the actions of the family and this agency or the agency or attorney they were referred to.

Clients give permission for Mother Goose Adoptions to show their letters and photos to expectant parents and other professionals working on our behalf in order to connect clients with a birth mother who wishes to relinquish her child for adoption. Clients give Mother Goose Adoptions permission to display photos of the baby and/or family, with use of first names only, on various agency platforms for marketing purposes. Clients further agree to share their adoption story with Mother Goose Adoptions within 14 days of placement, with non-disclosing information, and 3-4 photos of the baby and their family to be used for marketing purposes, including on social media. At no time will identifying information be used.

The undersigned acknowledge and understand the above fee schedule. Each family will be presented with an individualized contract at time of match for adoption with a specific case. The individualized contract is the document of precedence regarding conflict, disputes, fees and fee structures. If no contract is issued, the family understands that fees are still assessed and due based on guidelines laid out in this agreement.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Spouse

Date

Mail to:
Creating Christian Families
Mother Goose Adoptions
15029 N Thompson Peak Pkwy
Ste B111-514
Scottsdale, AZ 85260