

Welcome to Heart to Heart Adoptions! We are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization committed to building families and a brighter future for birthmothers and children. As a full-service adoption agency, we offer services needed by members of the adoption triad; children, birthparents and adoptive families.

- In the process of working with birthparents and adoptive families, we hope to assure the best opportunity for the growth and development of the children.
- We provide birthmothers with housing, counseling, medical care, legal advisors, social workers, and a personable staff.
- We provide adoptive families with home studies, education on the adoption process, support and, most importantly, help them adopt the child they are looking for.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Review the Eligibility requirements and Fees then complete the **Application on line or print it out then mail or scan it us.** Application fee is \$500, paid by check or on line.

Heart to Heart Adoptions
9669 So 700 East
Sandy, Utah 84070
lisab@hearttoheartadopt.com
801-838-8007

2. Complete or send us a **current adoptive home study**, along with the supporting materials.
 - If you have a current home study, please ask the agency or individual who did the home study to e-mail or mail an official copy of it to us.
 - If you don't have a home study and live in Utah, one of our social workers can do it for you. Please call the Adoptive Family Support line at 866-712-3678 or the office at 801-838-8007.
 - Cost is \$750.00 for a complete home study and \$250 for an update.
 - Most home studies are good for a year. There is also a cost for post placement visits of \$150, so we offer an optional package deal of \$1000 that will include all post placements.
 - If you aren't in Utah, you will need to contact a social worker in your area to help you.

Along with your home study, we need copies of ALL of these documents to become active

- Background Criminal Investigation (BCI's) checks for anyone in the home over 18.
 - Child and Adult Abuse Checks for anyone in the home over 18.
 - Color Copy of Driver's License Front and Back
 - Copy of Medical Insurance Card
 - Medical Clearances for everyone in the home.
 - Birth Certificates for Adoptive parents (and children if available)
 - Marriage License, and any Divorce Decrees if applicable
 - 3 Letters of Reference- **1 relative** and 2 non-relatives.
 - Letter from your agency/social worker saying they will do post placement visits.
3. Profiles- Your profile is a compilation of pictures and information that help birthmothers get to know your family. We encourage you to do both of the following. a hard copy in the form of a book, and an electronic profile.
 - Please send us 2 hard copies and a pdf of your profile book.
 - An online profile for our website.

APPROVAL PROCESS

We start the approval process once we receive all your documents. It takes 2-4 weeks to complete.

1. Phone Call - Once we have reviewed your home study and application, we will call to interview you and discuss any of the concerns or questions you have for us or we have for you.
2. Training- There may be training (Orientation, books, classes, etc.) that we may recommend or require. See Adoptive Family Education Requirements.
3. Letter - We will send you a letter to let you know if you are approved with our agency.

MATCHING PROCESS

Once you are approved we give you the username and password for the Available Situations page. This will allow you to be aware of situations that come through our agency. On occasion we ask for you to contact us if you are interested in a situation, but we contact you. We recognize this is a difficult time because you seem to be waiting without a great deal of control. Please be patient.

Some of the following are things we consider when we match:

- Birth mother preferences- This is very important- (Because of these preferences, families that have many children, are comprised of a single mom, or are older may wait longer)
- Characteristics about you that match with the birth mother's situation.
- Your budget- (Most situations require legal and medical fees in addition to agency fees)
- Your openness to a variety of situations. (For example- if you want a girl it takes longer.)
- What state you live in. There are different state regulations.
- How long you have been active with us. We try to consider longevity when we match.
- If you have a failed adoption with us. These cases take top priority.
- Your expressed interest in the situation. (Please be aware that in many situations, we are not able to show all families that express an interest.)

When you are matched with a birthmother the initial payment of fees (half the agency fee) is due.

PLACEMENT OF A CHILD

The placement of your child occurs 24 to 72 hours after the child is born depending on your state's laws. You may be there for the delivery of the child and support the birthparents if that is what those involved want. Final payment of all fees is due at the time of placement.

FOLLOWING THE PLACEMENT

- Supervisory Visits: There is a supervisory period of generally six months before you can finalize the adoption. During that time a counselor can visit you on two or three occasions to support and confirm the success of the placement. Additional visits may be scheduled as needed.
- Birthfather: Unless the known birthfather gives consent for the adoption, the adoption is considered a "Legal Risk Adoption." It will become necessary to determine and then terminate his rights in accordance with the laws of all states involved with the adoption.
- Insurance: Notify your health insurance company of your new addition.

FINALIZATION OF THE ADOPTION

This is an exciting time and can take place after a successful supervisory period, generally 6 months. You are responsible for any legal fees associated with finalization. You are free to select independent counsel for all necessary adoption proceedings. In some areas we can make recommendations.



Heart to Heart Adoptions Eligibility and Fees

AF 2

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADOPTION

1. Couples should be married for **at least two years** and have a stable marriage. **Single parents** are welcome though we limit the number of single parents we accept because opportunities to place with them are fewer.
2. Individuals should **exhibit high moral standards, be emotionally stable, and have good parenting skills.**
3. Applicants should be between the age of **23 and 50** years old, be in **good physical health.**
4. Individuals should have **sufficient income** to care for their family as well as pay the adoption costs.
5. Individuals must **clear a criminal and child abuse** background screening.
6. Individuals must have a **favorable current adoptive home study.**
7. Adoptive families must have **health insurance** that will cover the child they hope to adopt.
8. Adoptive families **with more than four children** will have a harder time getting chosen by a birthmother.
9. Adoptive families **must be willing to have their children immunized.**
10. Additional items may be **required by other states** if you are living outside of Utah.

ADOPTION FEES

- **Agency Fees-** The total agency fee for a healthy infant is **\$46,000** excludes finalization and possible medical costs without an Adoption Grant. The agency fee **includes all living expenses and travel costs for the birthparents. An additional expense could be for medical if birthmother is not insured.** Some of the agency fee is at risk. If the placement fails, the agency fee minus 10% will be rolled over to a new situation. It has long been a mission of Heart to Heart to enable most families to adopt. Because \$46,000 is out of range for many middle-class families, we offer an Adoption Grant for adoptive families who qualify.
- **Application Fee-** We have a non-refundable application fee of **\$500.** Includes posting your profile on websites.
- **Knowledge of Fees-** Before you are presented on any situation, the estimated cost associated with that situation will be shared with you.
- **When Fees Are Due-** Half of the agency fee is due at the time you are matched with a potential birth mother. This portion is called matching fees. The remainder is due either before you travel, if the placement is out of Utah, or when the child is placed with you.
- **Risk Policy-** All but 10% of the agency fee will roll over to another situation if the adoption fails. Medical and legal fees may not refundable once they are paid to the provider unless the provider agrees to do so.
- **Post Placement Visits -** After the placement, we require at least two to three post placement visits at \$150 per visit, plus mileage. Heart to Heart Adoptions will do all post placement visits unless we are not licensed in your state.

LEGAL FEES

- In Utah, the legal paperwork of relinquishment by birth parents and placing with the adoptive family is done by the agency. In cases requiring legal assistance to terminate birthfather rights or possible Native American Tribe rights there will be additional legal fees.
- For non-Utah placements we will contract with an attorney or an agency. Legal fees are usually around \$6000.
- You will need to obtain legal counsel to finalize the adoption.

MEDICAL FEES

Medical expenses are the responsibility of the adoptive family. With the discount, in Utah, a normal delivery costs \$3,000 to \$10,000 if not covered by Medicaid or insurance. We have no arrangements with any hospitals outside of Utah, so all costs will need to be negotiated with the hospital if the birth mother and child are not on Medicaid or insurance.



ADOPTIVE PARENTS
APPLICATION FOR SERVICES

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Please complete the following questionnaire as thoroughly as possible. All information that you give us will be kept completely confidential. If you should require additional space, please attach separate pages as needed. Once completed, please mail it to 9669 South 700 East, Sandy, Utah 84070.

APPLICATION DATE

Application Date: _____

HOW YOU FOUND US

How did you learn about Heart to Heart Adoptions: Referred by: _____

Phone book: _____ Internet: _____ Other: _____

DEMOGRAPHICS

Please Provide Your Full Names

Husband: _____

Wife: _____ Maiden: _____

Home Address: _____

Street

Home Telephone: () City County State Zip Code

Cell Phone: Husband: () Wife: ()

Work Phone: Husband: () Wife: ()

Email addresses: Husband: Wife: Fax #: _____

Emergency Contact & Telephone _____

Date of Birth: Husband: Place: Wife: Place: _____

EDUCATION

Husband: Highest Level Attained: Field of Study: _____

Name of School(s): Year Graduated: _____

Wife: Highest Level Attained: Field of Study: _____

Name of School(s): Year Graduated: _____

MARITAL STATUS

Date & Place of Marriage: _____

Please describe your relationship with one another? _____

Other Marriages (if applicable):

Husband's: _____

Wife's: _____

WORK HISTORY

Husband's Occupation: _____

Name of Present Employer: _____ Length of employment: _____

Address of Present Employer: _____

Previous Employer: _____ Length of employment: _____

Military Service: _____ Date of Discharge: _____

Wife's Occupation: _____

Name of Present Employer: _____ Length of employment: _____

Address of Present Employer: _____

Previous Employer: _____ Length of employment: _____

Military Service: _____ Date of Discharge: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

Husband:

Religion: _____ Do you actively participate? _____

Nationality: _____ Race: _____

Wife:

Religion: _____ Do you actively participate? _____

Nationality: _____ Race: _____

CHILDREN

Please list all the children in your family.

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____ Adopted: Y N Race: _____ Currently live with you: Y N

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____ Adopted: Y N Race: _____ Currently live with you: Y N

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____ Adopted: Y N Race: _____ Currently live with you: Y N

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____ Adopted: Y N Race: _____ Currently live with you: Y N

Name of Child: _____ Age: _____ Adopted: Y N Race: _____ Currently live with you: Y N

Please list any children who have died: _____

List any physical or mental disabilities: _____

REFERENCES

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Known How Long: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Telephone: () _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Known How Long: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Telephone: () _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Known How Long: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Telephone: () _____

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Average Annual Net Income (All Sources): Husband: _____ Wife: _____ Total: _____

Family Savings and Securities:

Current Home(s) Value: _____ Total: _____

Currently Owe on Home(s): _____ Total: _____

Overall Debt not including Home: _____ Total: _____

Life Insurance: Husband: _____ Wife: _____ Total: _____

Health Insurance Provider & Policy # _____

Adoption Budget:

Amount you have ready for your adoption. \$ _____ Source of Funds. _____

Can you access funds within a week? _____ Do you plan to apply for an Adoption Fee Subsidy? _____

Contact Lisa for more information to apply for the Fee Subsidy provided by Heart to Heart Adoptions. Lisa- 801-838-8007

ADOPTION PREFERENCES

Gender preference _____ Either _____ Male _____ Female _____

What is your racial preference _____
 _____ Full Caucasian (CC)
 _____ Any biracial excluding African American
 (i.e. CC/Asian; CC/Hispanic; Hispanic/Asian; Native American/CC)
 _____ African American- Full AA or biracial with AA
 _____ Open to all races

Would you accept a child who is disabled? Mentally: Mild ___ Moderate ___ Severe ___ It Will Depend ___

Physically: Mild ___ Moderate ___ Severe ___ It Will Depend ___

Would you accept a child who is: Drug Exposed: Mild ___ Moderate ___ Severe ___ It Will Depend ___

Alcohol Exposed: Mild ___ Moderate ___ Severe ___ It Will Depend ___

Birth mom smokes: Mild ___ Moderate ___ Severe ___ It Will Depend ___

What age would you prefer or be open to? Newborn _____ < 1 year _____ 1 year? _____

2 years _____ 3-5 years _____ > 5 years _____

Would you accept: Twins? _____ Open to Sibling groups? _____

Please describe briefly your reasons for wanting to adopt: _____

Contact with Birthparents

Type of Contact	Before Delivery:		After Placement:		Explanation:
	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Meet with birth parents?	Yes	No	Yes	No	_____
Exchange pictures and letters	Yes	No	Yes	No	_____
Phone calls with Birth parents?	Yes	No	Yes	No	_____
Set up an email to communicate?	Yes	No	Yes	No	_____
Face to face visits?	Yes	No	Yes	No	_____
Be in the delivery room?	Yes	No			_____

AFFIRMATION

We affirm that, to the best of our knowledge and recollection, the above information is complete, true and correct.

Husband's Name (Please Print)

Signature

Wife's Name (Please Print)

Signature



Adoptive Family Information

To be given to Birthparents if Requested

AF 4

INFORMATION

	<u>Husband</u>	<u>Wife</u>
Birth Year		
Racial/ethnic background		
Education/ Degree		
Occupation		
Interests/ Hobbies		
Personality		
Health		
Relationship with Extended family		
Community Activity		
Describe Marital Relationship		
Parenting Philosophy/ Values and Goals		
Present/Future Child Care		
Lifestyle/Extended Family Involvement		
Openness with Birth Parents after placement		
Exchanging pictures and letters _____ Phone calls _____ Open to visits _____		



Adoptive Family Release of Information

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RELEASE OF INFORMATION

We do hereby give permission to the following agency to complete an Adoptive Home Study or obtain our Adoptive Home Study from another source.

HEART TO HEART ADOPTIONS, INC.
9669 South 700 East
Sandy, Utah 84070
Phone: 801-563-1000
Email: lisab@hearttoheartadopt.com

Our Home Study was done by: Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Contact: _____
Email: _____
Date Completed: _____

- We give our permission to release the findings of this study, including opinions, medical histories, backgrounds, assessments and other data to **other agencies** or individuals that are working directly with Heart to Heart Adoptions in an effort to locate and procure a child or children in our behalf.
- We also agree that Heart to Heart Adoptions may release information relating to our adoption to the Utah Department of Human Services/Division of Family Services or its counterpart in other states in the case of an **interstate compact placement**. They may also give adoption related information to the **courts** of the State of Utah if the adoption is contested and at the time of finalization.
- We understand that Heart to Heart Adoptions must release information concerning us to **potential birthparents** interested in us.
- We understand that Heart to Heart Adoptions must involve witnesses or a **notary public** at the time of placement. We agree that we may be introduced, and those individuals may view any legal forms which we sign.
- We also give permission to Heart to Heart Adoptions to share information about us and our adoption with the nursing staff, billing office and others in the **medical community** that have a need to know.
- We release Heart to Heart Adoptions from any **liability**, damages, actions or suits arising from the release or exchange of the information given in the Home Study or related to an adoption done through Heart to Heart Adoptions.

Date: _____

Husband's Name (Please Print)

Signature

Wife's Name (Please Print)

Signature

APPLICATION OR ACTIVATION FEE: \$500

There are no additional fees due until you are matched with a birthmother.

HOME STUDY FEE: (FUNDS ARE PAID AT THE TIME OF SERVICE AND ARE NON-REFUNDABLE)

- Home Study- We do home studies anywhere in Utah for \$750. The fee should be paid prior to the initial home visit or given to the Social Worker at the time of the visit. If travel is greater than 50 miles, mileage will be added.
- Home Studies from other Agencies- If your home study is current, and meets all Heart to Heart Adoption standards, we accept it from other agencies. All supporting documents are needed including BCI and references.
- If the home study is out of date but less than 2 years old, we will update it for \$250.
- If the home study is more than 2 years old, we will redo it for \$450.
- Post placement visits- We do post placement visits for \$150 per visit. We require 2-3 post placement visits on all placements done through the agency. We will do post placements visits for all in state placements. Families living more than 50 miles from the agency will be asked to assist in travel expenses.

TOTAL AGENCY FEES: \$46,000 without an Adoption Grant. This is a flat fee that covers all services provided by Heart to Heart Adoptions including services and costs related to caring for the birthmother. Following is a list of those services. This is not an inclusive list of all services provided. In addition, not all services are provided to in each situation.

BIRTH PARENTS SERVICES:

Covers the services that may be provided to Birth Parents. Including but not limited to:

- Advertising, attainment of birthparents.
- Continuously available phone support, adoption planning, and coordination.
- Education support, grief counseling, and life skills classes.
- Counseling, adoption related and life counseling, mental health therapy.
- Assistance with public services when available and appropriate.
- Housing, utilities, phone services, maintenance, security, furniture, cleaning.
- Food, clothing, entertainment.
- Travel and out of state or interstate transportation.
- Case-manager support, medical coordination, and in state transportation.
- Support and financial assistance during post placement confinement period.

AGENCY FEE AND ADOPTIVE FAMILY SERVICES:

Covers agency overhead and business-related costs as well as the services that may be provided to adoptive parents.

- Adoptive family application and file set-up.
- Adoptive family education and support.
- Presentation to and match with birthparents, support of match.
- Support of adoptive family in hospital and coordination with medical services.
- Relinquishment of parental rights and placement with adoptive parents.
- Notification of birth father/husband if needed, paternity search(s).
- Completion of Interstate Compact for Placement of Children, as needed for interstate placements.
- Monitoring of post placement supervision.
- Reduction of financial risk.
- Court order of Determination of Parental rights when using Utah law.
- Coordination with adoptive family legal advisor.
- Representation at finalization (Utah) or agency consent for finalization (out of state).
- Coordination between adoptive parents and birthparents for exchange of information.
- This includes all overhead and business-related costs and those services listed below. It is occasionally necessary to subcontract some of these services to other providers.

Adoption Grants

Families with limited funds may apply for an agency grant to offset the cost of their adoption. Grants will be awarded based on need and availability of funds. We strongly encourage families with adequate funds for their adoption to contribute to the grant fund, particularly after they have adopted. These contributions will assist other families with less resources to adopt.

Third Party Expenses

MEDICAL EXPENSES: (Funds may be at risk)

Medical expenses are the responsibility of the adoptive family. About 60% of our birthparents require help with their medical expenses. When appropriate, the agency will assist birthmothers to enroll in Medicaid or private insurance but cannot guarantee it will apply.

If the delivery is in Utah, the agency has arranged for discounts from most medical providers if Medicaid or private insurance are not available. All medical expenses must be paid at the time of placement to receive the medical discount. With the discount, in Utah, a normal delivery costs \$3,000 to \$10,000. We have no arrangements with any hospitals outside of Utah, so all cost will need to be negotiated with the hospital by the adoptive family if the birth mother and child are not on Medicaid or private insurance.

LEGAL EXPENSES: (Funds will be at risk)

In Utah the legal paperwork is done by the agency with, the exception of terminating the birthfather rights. Part of that process may require that an attorney obtain a "Determination of Paternal Rights". If this is required, there will be an addition cost of about \$800-1500.

For out of state placements we will contract with an attorney or an agency that can assist with that process. Legal expenses are the responsibility of the adoptive family. In some states we are licensed or can take relinquishment ourselves. We still we charge a legal fee to cover the cost of travel expenses as legal fees.

You will also need legal counsel to finalize the adoption. Utah laws allow families from other states to finalize in Utah with an FBI clearance if either the child was born here, or the adoptive family is a resident of Utah. If you are interested in finalizing here please let us know.

ICWA – Indian Child Welfare Act. In some cases where the birth mother and or father are part Native American or Alaskan Village tribe additional court costs of about \$4,500 will be incurred. The birth mother must appear before a judge ten day after the birth.

FAILED PLACEMENT POLICY: 10% OF FUNDS ARE AT RISK

- 1. Heart to Heart Adoptions, Inc. does not offer refunds.**
- 2. If, before the time of relinquishment and placement, either the birthparents or the adoptive family choose not to move forward with the adoption, 10% of the total fee will be used to help cover expenses incurred by the agency. The remaining 90% of the total fee may be applied or rolled over to a new situation with Heart to Heart Adoptions, Inc.**
- 3. If the child is placed in your home, and later removed, no fees will be refunded or rolled over.**

We have read the above payment agreement and failed placement policy. We understand that we will be required to sign an Adoption Services Financial Contract at the time a family match is completed in consideration for services rendered by Heart to Heart Adoptions.

ADOPTIVE FATHER: _____ **DATE:** _____

ADOPTIVE MOTHER: _____ **DATE:** _____



Laws Governing Biological Parents Rights

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Biological (birth) parents and legal parents must be considered when assessing and addressing who has the right to receive notice about a potential adoption and/or give consent to that adoption.

We follow the laws of the state in which birth occurred. However, some states allow the laws of another state to govern the adoption process as long as there is a "Voluntary Jurisdiction Waiver" in place.

Laws to Consider

1. Time required prior to allowing the birth mother's Relinquishment. This can range from no time to 72 hours. Utah law requires a birth mother to wait 24 after birth before she can voluntarily relinquish her rights to a child.
2. Revocation period. This refers to the amount of time that a birth mother can revoke or undo the relinquishment. In most states the relinquishment is irrevocable, (cannot be undone) but a few states allow anywhere from 48 hours to 30 days for the birth mother to revoke her relinquishment.
3. Laws concerning the rights of the Birth Father.
 1. Supportive father - In most states the birth father wishing to support the adoption may relinquish his rights any time before or after the child is born. With only a very few exceptions, that relinquishment is irrevocable.
 2. Legal father – Married to birthmother at the time of birth or conception – He is presumed to be birth father whether or not he is and must be given notice of the adoption proceeding.
 3. Unmarried father - In many states, unmarried birth fathers are required to make a timely and full commitment to the responsibilities of parenthood in order for them to have the right to receive notice of the adoption or the right to give or withhold their consent.
To show this commitment, the birthfather must do the following in Utah and many other states.
 1. File with the Putative Father Registry (Paternity Registry) indicating that he is ready and able to take responsibility for the child.
 2. Support the birth mother and child by offering or paying a fair and reasonable amount of expenses.

What We Do

1. We try to use the law that allows the birthmother to relinquish as soon as she wishes.
2. We try to avoid using laws that allow for a revocation period.
3. Concerning the birthfather
 - a. We try to contact him whenever possible and involve him in the process.
 - b. When she is married we must contact her husband whether or not he is the birth father.
 - c. We appropriate, we honor the birth mother's right to privacy in cases where she is not married.
 - d. With unmarried birthfathers who don't want to be involved, whenever possible, we give legal notice and allow them 30 days to respond.
 - e. When necessary, we obtain a Determination of Parental Rights (DPR) also considered a Termination of Parental Rights (TPR). If this is required, there will be an addition cost of about \$850.

Every adoption has legal risks! We cannot completely avoid them.

We have read the above statement of risks associated with adoption. We agree that it is a risk worth taking and wish to proceed with the process. We agree not to hold Heart to Heart Adoptions liable for the risks of a failed adoption.

Adoptive Father: _____ Date: _____

Adoptive Mother: _____ Date: _____



Adoptive Family Education Requirements

AF 8

Research shows that adoptions are much more successful when parents are prepared for the adoption experience and their expectations and the reality of the situation are consistent. If you have training and education completed through your home study provider or through a consultant, please list out what classes or type of training was completed.

We require the you complete the Heart to Heart Orientation and 10 hours of adoption education.

Heart to Heart Adoption Orientation

Found at - [Hearttoheartadopt.com](http://hearttoheartadopt.com) - Hoping to adopt – Orientation or cut and paste the link below.
<https://heart-to-heart-adoption-academy.teachable.com/p/adoptive-family-orientation>

Online Courses

We highly recommend any of the following Online Courses we have listed below. If you have questions, please give us a call. **Plases print out the certificate once completed.** * found at www.adoptionlearningpartners.org

Online Courses and Books- General Adoption Education

Please choose FOUR of the following materials: (Or another approved resource)

- | | |
|--|---|
| Let’s Talk Adoption* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| The Journey of Attachment* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| Find the Missing Pieces* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>The Open Adoption Handbook</u> By: Lois Melina & Sharon Kaplan Roszia | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>Wounded Children Healing Homes</u> By: Schooler, Smalley, & Callahan | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>Adoption Parenting</u> Edited by: Jean McLeod | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |

What did you Learn: _____

Transracial Adoption

If adopting a race other than your own, please read TWO of the following materials:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Conspicuous Families* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| Beyond Culture Camp Webinar* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>I’m Chocolate, You’re Vanilla</u> By: Marguerite A. Wright | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>In Their Own Voices</u> By: Rita J. Simon & Rhonda M. Roosda | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |

What did you Learn: _____

Older Child Adoption

If open to adopting a child more than six months old, please read TWO of the following materials:

- | | |
|---|---|
| With Eyes Wide Open* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| Adopting the Older Child* (Online) | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>Toddler Adoption</u> By: Mary Hopkins | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |
| <u>Raising Adopted Children</u> By: Lois Melina | <input type="checkbox"/> Date Completed _____ |

What did you Learn: _____

Input from Other Adoptive Families

We find the best education comes from talking with other adoptive families. Please list at least 3 adoptive families you have talked with.

First Name	Why did you talk with this AP	What you learned from talking to this adoptive parent

Additional Education

If you have completed other education, please list the books, online course, workshop or agency training below, or fill out on a separate piece of paper.

Name of Material	What you learned from this material

The completed form and attached documents will show that you have completed the education requirements for adoptive parent raining. Your signature below verifies that you completed the education thoroughly and to the best of your ability.

Adoptive Father: _____

Date: _____

Adoptive Mother: _____

Date: _____



Adoptive Family Rights and Responsibilities

AF 9

The following pages outline your rights and responsibilities in working with the agency. The agency will assure that all your rights are protected and invite you to work as closely and openly with us.

It is your right that we read these pages out loud to you, so we give you a choice.
Please select one of the following:

_____ 1. Before I continue working with Heart to Heart, I would like my rights and responsibilities read out load to me as indicated on the following form.

If you select this option, please call the agency before sending in your packet.

_____ 2. I waive my right to have this document describing my rights and responsibilities read out loud to me at this time. I am able to read it myself and ask for clarification as needed.

If you select this option, please read the following document and Initial as follows

Page 2 – Initial

Page 3 – Initial again then Print and sign your name where it says,
“Adoptive Parent Name or Adoptive Parent Signature”.

Please mark any statement where you have a concern or question. Call us or write your concerns or questions below.

SIGNATURES

We/I, _____ recognize that it is my/our right to select from the options above.

_____ Adoptive Mother Name _____ Adoptive Mother Signature
Date

_____ Adoptive Father Name _____ Adoptive Father Signature
Date

Adoption Orientation Form for Adoptive Parents

This form is based on Child Placing Adoption Rule R501-7 located are accessed here: <https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r501/r501-07.htm> or on the Office of Licensing Website: hslic.utah.gov

Rule and statute citations are listed where applicable on each line of this form for your information

This form shall be reviewed and signed by prospective adoptive parents upon initial application and prior to payment of any fees in excess of \$500.00.

This form does not constitute legal advice and is not required for public child welfare agency adoptions.

❖ **In addition to general client rights outlined in 501-1-12, as an adoptive parent in Utah you have the right to:**

1. Make decisions free from fraud, duress or undue influence. 501-7-4-1(d) and 62A-2-106
2. Determine the extent which your identifying information is shared with the birth parents through a release of information. 501-7-2-9(k)
3. Expect agency transparency regarding what other personal information is shared with the birthparents 501-7-11-2(h) and 501-7-2-9
4. Be provided the Adoption Orientation Form for Pre-existing Parents and have any questions answered regarding the rights and responsibilities of pre-existing parents. 501-7-9-c(i)
5. Seek medical, emotional, legal and social work advice from independent resources prior to becoming matched or accepting placement. 501-7-4-1.d(v)
6. Be notified of what services will be provided by your Child Placing Adoption Agency, including but not limited to: pre-adoption counseling, training, home study, birth parent services, matching and placement services, post placement support groups and visit(s). 501-7-6-1&6 and 501-7-9-2(b)
7. Ask to participate in an open or closed adoption and ask to meet birthparents prior to placement with the understanding that any agreements regarding post placement contact are not enforceable under Utah Law. 501-7-11-2.r(i)&(2)
8. Meet in-person (including video/telephonic contact) privately for an agency representative to read aloud and explain this orientation form prior to match or payment of any fees exceeding \$500.00 501-7-9-2(a)
9. Be informed by the agency prior to being matched and ongoing through the adoption process regarding the legal status of any known potential father and any efforts regarding the notification process. 501-7-9-2(c) and 501-7-11-3(d)
10. Retain legal counsel 501-7-4-1.d(v)

11. Be provided sufficient information prior to accepting a match 501-7-8-1(c) and 501-7-8-4(c)
12. Be informed of what a “match” means to the agency you are working with. 501-7-4-2(k) and 501-7-8-3
13. Receive a fee disclosure statement prior to entering into any agreements that outlines all agency fees and the agency’s policy of charging either fixed (estimated) or actual adoption related expenses. If providing an estimated range of fees, the agency shall additionally provide average costs for the past 2 years of each itemized fee or expense and the refund policy 501-7-6-6
14. Obtain a copy of any home study or pre-placement evaluation you have purchased from the agency, recognizing that such a copy is for personal use and not necessarily valid to provide to other agencies or the court for future use. 501-7-6-1(j) and (k)
15. Receive in writing non-identifying information (if known) concerning the child and his or her birth family. 501-7-9-10(e) and 501-7-2-10
16. File and work to resolve any grievance directly with the agency. If there is a question or complaint regarding a Licensing rule violation you may contact the office via email:licensingconcerns@utah.gov or by calling 801-538-4242. 501-1-9-2(b)
17. Understand that your child will have an original birth certificate retained at the Office of Vital Records with their birth name on it as given at the time of delivery.
18. Request identifying information from birth parents. 501-7-9-4(a)
19. Be informed that your child has special needs if they are between the ages of 5-18 with known evidence of a physical, emotional or developmental disability or is the member of a sibling group placed for adoption. The agency is required to provide additional training to you in regard to special needs children. 501-7-8.d(i)&(ii) and e
20. Be informed that your child might qualify as a “high needs” child if they have an attachment or trauma-related disorder, suffered from prenatal exposure to alcohol or drugs, are subject of an intercountry adoption or was previously in foster care. 62A-4a-609
21. Receive training on all adoption related issues including additional training regarding special or high needs children if applicable. 501-7-8-1-E(v) and 501-7-8-2(b)
22. Be informed of legal risks of a placement as known to the agency at the time of placement or as they arise 501-7-9-10(c)
23. Be informed that Utah has a voluntary Mutual Consent Registry that can connect adoptees and birth parents after the adoptee is 18 years old if both parties have registered. 501-7-11-2(x) and 501-7-11-3(p)

I/We have read all 23 items above and had all questions answered by an agency representative to my/our satisfaction.

Initials: _____ **Initials:** _____

❖ **As an Adoptive Parent you have the responsibility to:**

1. Obtain the necessary approved home study and documentation in order to adopt under Utah Law. 78B-6-128
2. Not coerce or pressure a pre-existing parent to make a plan of adoption. 76-7-203
3. Pay all contracted service fees and adoption related expenses in a timely manner.
4. Cooperate in obtaining the necessary training on adoption related issues. 62A-4a-609
5. Cooperate with post-placement monitoring and support. 78B-6-129
6. Keep your agency informed of new relevant information about your family.
7. Follow-through on good faith commitments made regarding post-placement contact.
8. Provide for the care, maintenance and support of any child placed in your home. 78B-6-134
9. Be forthcoming and honest with accurate and thorough information.

I/we understand my/our responsibilities and agree to abide by them.

Initials: _____ **Initials:** _____

❖ **Signatures**

Verify that you have read this 3-page form in its entirety. Only sign once you have had the opportunity to ask clarifying questions and had all questions answered to your satisfaction.

Adoptive Parent Printed Name

Adoptive Parent Signature

Date

Adoptive Parent Printed Name

Adoptive Parent Signature

Date

Agency Representative Printed Name and Credentials

Agency Representative Signature

Date

Types of Adoption

Agency - Using an agency like Heart to Heart Adoptions

Direct – Usually done with the help of an attorney.
Birth parents relinquish directly to the adoptive family.

Foster Care – The child is in the custody of the Division of the Human Services who can place with a foster family as a temporary or permanent placement.

There are many children in Foster Care. We encourage you to consider that as an adoption option.

There Are No Fees

For adopting Children who live in Foster Care

To learn more about Foster Care in Utah- please go to this link for details

WWW.UTAHADOPT.ORG/CONSIDERING-ADOPTION



UTAH'S ADOPTION CONNECTION
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

Utah department of
human services
Child and Family Services

THERE ARE OVER
400 Children
IN FOSTER CARE IN
WHO NEED /
ADOPTIVE FA

THERE ARE
NO FEES
FOR ADOPTING CHILDREN WHO LIVE IN
FOSTER CARE
WHEN A PARENT RELINQUISHES TO THE STATE OF UTAH

WWW.UTAHADOPT.ORG/CONSIDERING-ADOPTION