

What Happens Next?

For First Time Applicants Interested in Domestic Adoption

You Should Know...

99% of children placed through Adoptions From The Heart are newborn babies

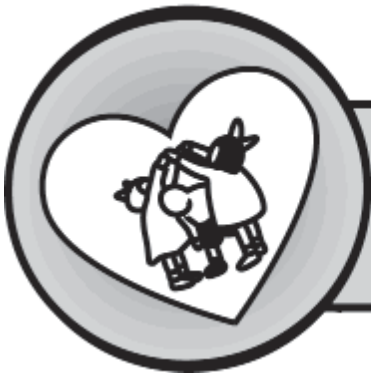
Many expecting mothers have Medical Assistance coverage, some have private insurance (on their own or through their parents), others are enrolled with a hospital clinic by Adoptions From The Heart. (Clinic enrollment reduces medical costs for the adoptive family.)

The more flexible a family is in terms of age and race of a child, the amount of openness they will be open to, and the amount of medical expenses they are willing to provide, the more placements they will be considered for.

The minimum amount of open adoption contact required by an adoptive family is to be on a first name only basis with each other, meet the expecting parent(s) and exchange letters and pictures of the child once a month for the first six months and once a year thereafter. This can be done through AFTH or privately, according to the preference of the adoptive family.

1. Complete your application. Read and sign each form including Description of Services for Fees Contract, and Agency Policies for Domestic Adoptions. Please return these forms to Adoptions From The Heart along with your application fee.
2. You will be contacted by an adoption counselor to schedule an individual adoption counseling session with you.
3. You will be invited to the next Educational Course about open adoption and losses in adoption. An interesting educational book will be supplied with more information on Open Adoption.
4. After completing the Ed Course, you will be included in a group home study. Other families will be discussing many topics including parenting, discipline, infertility, etc. You will also be given a list of the required paperwork to complete the home study report. When all of the paperwork is received, a visit will be made to your home to answer any of your questions and complete the report.
5. Following the home visit, you will be invited to attend a "Profile Meeting". The content of this meeting revolves around what happens when you are chosen by expecting parents and how to prepare a letter and pictures to share with expecting parents.
6. A video session with an AFTH videographer will be scheduled next and you will be given a script of what to cover in this 8 minute video. You will receive a copy of the video as well as all of the AFTH branch offices.
7. Families will then submit their written profile letters and pictures, profile information form and program fee to their local AFTH office.
8. Your written profile letters and pictures will then be included in all AFTH branch office profile books and it will be shown to any expecting parents that match the criterion you have given on your profile information form. At this time, you will also be given the opportunity to post your profile on our website.

CONTINUE...



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9. When you are selected by an expecting mother, you will attend a match meeting with your social worker to review the background information of the mother and the reason for her considering adoption.
10. Upon acceptance of the situation, you will be sent or given escrow forms and asked to submit your placement & miscellaneous fees which will be placed in an escrow account.
11. A pre-placement meeting between yourself and the expecting parent(s) will then be held.
12. When it is time for the baby to be born, you will either go through labor and delivery with the expecting mother or visit the baby in the hospital after birth.
13. Placement - Congratulations! You are now the new parents of a beautiful baby.