

# Private Adoption



*Private Adoption simply cannot be done alone. There are many legal requirements and emotional needs to be met for all involved. That is where Adoptions From The Heart comes in. Services are provided to birth mothers who have chosen a family for their child or to families who have identified their own birth parents. In addition to the many services provided, legal assistance and a home study are just a small part of what we do to build beautiful families. These services are meant to enhance and not compete with the private adoption process. Together with adoptive families and attorneys, AFTH facilitates successful private adoptions.*

## Home Study

A home study is a written report about you and your family that is required by law and must be initiated and completed prior to adoption placement. One of our experienced adoption counselors will meet with you to assist with the required paperwork, provide insight into the adoption process, and help you to complete your home study. AFTH is a licensed private, non-profit agency and can prepare home studies for families in PA, NJ, DE, NY, CT and VA.

## Counseling

Dedicated counselors are available to provide adoptive parents the guidance they need prior to and after placement has been completed. Designed to ensure a smooth transition, pre and post adoption counseling is an invaluable resource. Birth parents are legally entitled to counseling services and funding is available in the state of PA.

## Legal Assistance

AFTH obtains and also prepares the paperwork required for the adoption and forwards these to the family's attorney and/or the Court. The legal forms include birth parent surrenders, interstate compact processing, home studies, court reports, etc. in all of the states where the agency is licensed.

## Inter-State Compact Preparation

For families in PA, NJ, DE, NY, CT, and VA, AFTH is able to prepare Inter-State paperwork for families adopting across state lines.

## Post-Placement Visits & Reports

These reports are required by the court in private adoptions, international adoptions and/or adoptions taking place across state lines and are available to families in PA, NJ, DE, NY, CT, and VA.

## Identified Adoption Services

Identified Adoption Services are available to adoptive parents who have independently identified a potential birth mother, without the agency's assistance. All pre and post-placement services for both adoptive and birth parents are provided. In Delaware, although private adoptions are illegal, a pre-arranged match between adoptive and birth parents can be processed as an agency adoption when the agency provides all mandated services. AFTH can obtain 72 hour surrender of parental rights for NJ birth parents placing their child for adoption.

## Intermediary Adoption Services

Intermediary adoptions services are provided to either the prospective adoptive or the birth family when the other is working with another agency or private attorney. AFTH can provide a home study, counseling and post placement supervisory reports and reports to the court for the prospective adoptive family OR counseling, obtaining social and medical backgrounds and legal paperwork for the termination of parental rights to the birth family.



Adoptions From The Heart®



## New Jersey Adoption Complaint Investigation (A.C.I.)

For private adoption cases, AFTH can assist in completing the home study, providing the required investigation into the circumstances of the adoption, filing the required reports to the court and providing the required supervision of the placement. Most private adoption cases require a Preliminary Hearing, which cannot be held until the home study is completed, six months of supervision, with a minimum of 4 post-placement visits, after the Preliminary Hearing, and a Final Hearing. AFTH can also provide birth parent counseling and obtain 72 hour Surrender of Parental Rights for New Jersey birth parents.

## Virginia Designated Adoption Versus Parental Placement

In the state of VA, adoptive parents and birth parents who have located each other without the assistance of an agency may choose between Designated Adoption (an agency is enlisted to assist in all aspects of the adoption process including taking parental entrustment and assuming custody) and Parental Placement (an agency is enlisted to do the required home study, birth parent counseling and simultaneous meeting while the adoptive and birth parents handle all the other adoption arrangements with the assistance of an attorney who is responsible for termination of parental rights. The agency does not take custody).

[See Complete Fee Schedule Below...](#)



# Adoptions From The Heart®

## SUPPLEMENTAL FEE SCHEDULE (All fees once earned are non-refundable)

Please ask for current fee schedule when contracting for a service  
Adoption Assistance Services

Application Fee .....	\$200
Adoption Home Study*	
<u>For Independent Domestic Home Study Only Clients</u>	
Home Study .....	\$1,600
Home Study Update .....	\$650
Ed Course I Domestic .....	\$300
Ed Course II Domestic .....	\$150
Transracial Ed Course .....	\$300
<u>For International Families</u>	
Home Study .....	\$2,500
Home Study update .....	\$1,200
Home Study for second parent adoption (if partner had original home study done by AFTH) .....	\$500
Emergency Home study .....	\$400/extra
Addendum (for moves, etc.) .....	\$300
Co-Parent adoption study (CT only) .....	\$1,100
VA required 6-month pre-placement home visits .....	\$175/each
Home visit required for home studies good for over 1 year .....	\$150/each
Conversion of an AFTH home study of a couple to a single applicant .....	\$150
International & Domestic Adoption Assistance Fee .....	\$500
Intermediary Family Assistance for Child in Foster Care .....	\$3,000
Transfer client files to another agency or attorney .....	\$200
NY Surrender Witnessing Fee .....	\$500
Post adoption Individual or Family Counseling* .....	\$125/hour
Expectant/Birth Parent Counseling .....	\$125/hour
Placement Fee for Out of Area Expectant Parents (\$3,000 less than current placement fee) .....	\$19,000
Discount does not apply in any state, or section of state, where in-person birth parent counseling is given	
Parental Placements* (state of VA)	
(\$1900 includes home study and meeting between PAP & EP	
(\$2050 includes 2 post-placement visits in office, 1 in home and final court report) .....	\$1,900 + \$2,050 = \$3,950
(Charge for addition of expectant father is \$300)	
Initial Expectant parent assessment before Identified adoption services .....	\$500
(includes 1 hour travel)	
Identified /Designated Adoption .....	\$4,000/\$3,000/\$3,000= \$10,000
Post-placement fee* (if needed) .....	\$2,000
NJ 72-hr Surrender of Parental Rights & Consent to Adopt (only for Identified AFTH adoptions) .....	\$2,000

Intermediary Services Fee* (no custody)	
Prospective Adoptive Family only (includes post placement reports).....	\$3,500/\$2,000 = \$5,500
(Total for NJ families is \$3,500/\$2,500=\$6,000)	
Intermediary Services Fee* (no custody)	
Expectant Family as Client .....	\$3,000/\$4,500 = \$7,500
CT Surrender of Parental Rights (including filing fee) .....	\$2,225
CT Finalization fee (including filing fee).....	\$2,225
NJ Private Adoption (Adoption Complaint Investigation)	
Clearances Only (no application fee) .....	\$100
ACI & Report to the Court.....	\$750
Home study .....	\$1,400
Supervisory Reports (4) and Final Court Report.....	\$2,150
DE Order of Reference (Home study/Social Study for Finalization) *	\$1,650
DE Order of Reference (Services for Termination) .....	\$1,000/\$1,000 = \$2,000
Interstate Compact Processing. ** .....	\$1,600
Post-Placement Supervisory Reports (1-1/2 fee for 2 children if they can be done in one visit and report) * ..	\$350/each
Review of Three (3) Post Placement Supervisory Reports if done by another agency .....	\$450
Post Adoption Visitation between Birth and Adoptive Parents * .....	\$100/hour
Court Report for non-AFTH placements.....	\$750
Preliminary Court Report.....	\$250
Report for International Adoption Re-finalizations .....	\$400
Attendance of social worker at Court Hearing for finalization (when necessary) * .....	\$400
Copy of Adoptive Family's file when they request it.....	\$50
Search Fees –	
Non-agency search fee – preliminary charge/hourly charge .....	\$150/\$75
AFTH placement search fees – preliminary charge/hourly charge.....	\$50/\$150
Affidavit of Fees for client not in domestic program .....	\$25

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*\*Travel Time: The charge is \$45/half hour*

*\*\* Military families are exempt from paying this fee twice if required to move or deployed to another area.*