

Classes Designed for Adoptive Parents

Birth parent panels can be invaluable for adoptive parents. If you have not had the opportunity to listen to birth parents sharing their stories, we strongly recommend attending one of our upcoming panels.



Birth Parent Panel: Future Contact (Delaware) \$10/person, \$15/couple

This will be panel discussion of 3-5 previously placed birth parents sharing their stories about openness and their future contact with their child(ren). The goal of this discussion is to hear directly from the women why they chose open adoption. We also are looking at having this educate families on the importance of their commitment and consistency of continuing their obligations regardless of contact from the birth family.

May 9th from 10:30-Noon
Library in New Castle County (TBD)
Register at least 1 week prior.

Birth Parent Panel (Connecticut) \$10/person, \$15/couple

Join us for an informative Birth Parent Panel with several birth mothers and a birth father who will share their experiences with open adoption, and respond to questions about maintaining healthy relationships between birth and adoptive families.

April 21st from 6:30-8:00pm
Welles Turner Library
Register at least 1 week prior.

Register Online at
www.afth.org/calendar

Birth Parent Panel (Virginia) \$10/person, \$15/couple

The Birth Parent Panel includes birth parents of different ages, backgrounds, and adoption stories. Come hear about why they chose adoption, how they picked an adoptive family, their hospital experiences, and the different levels of openness in their adoptions. A waiting adoptive parent support group will be available following the panel. Please email Nicole at NicoleF@afth.org to sign up for the support group after you have registered for the class.

March 28th from 1:00-3:00pm
AFTH Chesapeake Office
Register at least 1 week prior.

WEBINAR -Prenatal Drug & Alcohol Exposure - \$35/family

AFTH wants families to make informed decisions when completing their profile keys. Dr. Erin Meyer is an Internal Medicine and Pediatric Hospitalist who worked in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. She is also an adoptive mom, and can speak from both professional and personal angles. She will be discussing the effects of drug and alcohol use during pregnancy on the newborn as well as withdrawal symptoms and short and long term effects of exposure. There will be of time for questions. Each family has to decide what situations are right for them. Many families came away from this class feeling comfortable opening their key.

Online Webinar

March 3rd at 7pm
May 21st at 7pm
July 11th at 10am
September 8th at 7pm
November 14th at 10am

Link emailed 1-2 business days after registering

Infant and Child Care (Central PA)
\$25/person, \$35/couple

This infant care class especially for adoptive families will cover the basics of infant and child care including: newborn appearance, newborn behaviors, diapering and dressing, feeding, umbilical cord care, newborn health and safety basics, when to call your pediatrician as well as other changes that may come with new parenthood. This class is exclusively for prospective adoptive parents and allows them to learn in a non-medical environment without a focus on pregnancy and childbirth. There will be plenty of time for questions and for AFTH families, this class will count toward the agency's childcare requirement.

**Location: Giant Community Center
in Harrisburg, PA**
Time: 6:30-8:30pm

Upcoming Dates:

May 11th, July 27th, September 21st and
December 14th

Register at least 1 week prior to class.

PA Adoption Laws (Central PA)
\$10/person, \$15/couple

Attorney Glick with Kling & Deibler, LLP will present the adoption laws that most families may experience as they go through the adoption process in Pennsylvania. There will be plenty of time for all your questions to be addressed.

April 30th from 6:30-8:00pm
Giant Community Center in Harrisburg
Register at least 1 week prior to class.

**Telling Your Child Their Difficult
History (New Jersey)****\$10/person, \$15/couple**

Sharing painful or sensitive information about a child's history or birth family can be challenging for adoptive parents. This workshop will help you develop the skills to competently tell your children difficult information and help them process it. This course is sponsored by the New Jersey Resource Clearing House (NJ ARCH)- the one-stop resource for those touched by adoption - and is being presented by Rebecca Gallese, a Consultant for the Quality Improvement Center for Adoption and Guardianship (QIC-AG)

April 21st from 6:30-8:00pm
AFTH Cherry Hill Office
Register at least 1 week prior to class.

Financing an Adoption (Bethlehem)
\$10/person, \$15/couple

Domestic infant private adoption costs can range from \$10,000 to more than \$50,000. With these fees, many ask how are families budgeting and financing their adoptions. In this educational series Mary E. Lisicky a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ will be discussing budgeting, financing strategies, adoption loans, adoption grants, adoption tax credit and additional post placement advice for you and your child's future. Attorney Dorota Gasienica-Kozak, Esq will also be present to answer any questions on adoption legal proceedings and fees associated.

April 25th from 10:30-Noon
King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Paul
Law Office in Bethlehem, Pa
Register at least 1 week prior to class.

**AFTH Waiting Adoptive Families Will Receive Required Continuing
Education Credits for Attending These Classes!**