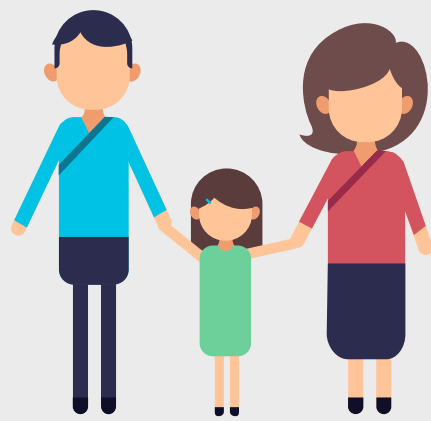# The Adoption Process

*Our use of the terms "putting up" or "giving up" does **not** reflect how we feel about adoptive placement. These terms remain the most widely used search terms for those who are considering adoption for their baby, and we wish to reach all who seek this important information.*
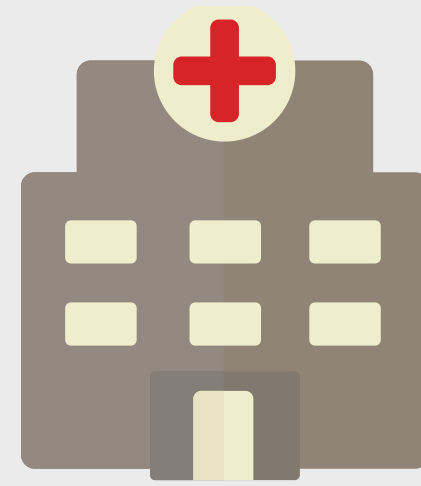
Step 1: Contact an Adoption Professional

Our adoption professionals will go over what the adoption process would look like for you as well as whether an adoption plan is the best option for you.

Step 2: Adoption Plan

An Adoption Advisor professional can help you figure out what type of adoption would be the best for you. What degree of openness do you want? Open, semi-open or closed? What qualities do you want your child's adoptive parent(s) to have? How do you envision your hospital experience?

Step 3: Choose an Adoptive Family

What type of family do you imagine for your baby? The adoption process creates an opportunity to make that vision a reality by providing you with the opportunity to select the family you want for your baby.

Step 4: Birth of Your Baby

Making a hospital plan is a very important step in the adoption process. While nothing can completely prepare you for this emotional experience, having an adoption hospital birth plan in place before you go into labor tells your Adoption Advisor, the adoptive family, and the hospital staff exactly what you want your hospital time to be like so that your only focus is on you and the baby.

Step 5: Relinquishment/Consent

Relinquishment/Consent is when parents sign documents legalizing the adoption plan. While what the documents say differs from state to state, the purpose of them is to transfer the physical care and legal custody of a baby for whom adoption is planned from that of the biological parents to the adoptive family. Birth mothers usually cannot relinquish until after the child is born, and in some states, must wait several days after giving birth before consent may legally be given.

Adoption Network

We can help you sort through your feelings and help you get answers.

Call 1-866-942-3678 or visit AdoptionNetwork.com today.