

The Legacy Of An Adoption

Once there were two expectant mothers,
One carried and cared for you beneath her beating heart.
She became your Birthmother.
The other carried the hope of you within her,
She became your Mom.

As the days passed, and you grew bigger and stronger,
Your First Mom knew that she could not give you
All you needed after your birth.
Meanwhile, your Mom was ready and waiting for you.

One day your Birthmom and your Mom found each other.

They looked into each other's eyes and saw a friend.
Your birthmother saw the life your Mom could give you.
Your Mom saw how much your Birth Mother loved and cared for you.
They decided that what you needed was both kinds of love in your life.

So now you have two families, One by birth, the other by adoption!

And now you have a home where you can get
Your questions answered, your boo-boos bandaged,
Your heartaches soothed, and much needed hugs.

And a place where you can find
Answers to your questions, your image in the mirror,
A part of yourself, and much needed hugs.

Two different kinds of families.
Two different kinds of love.
Both a part of you.



Mother Goose
Adoptions



REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS FOR ADOPTIVE FAMILY



Dear Potential Adoptive Parent:

While domestic adoption is fraught with its own set of concerns, it remains the only method to adopt a newborn. Thus, making it the option of choice for many families. Last year, Creating Christian Families & Mother Goose Adoptions assisted with the adoption of almost 75 children, however with the addition of our national networking program, we hope to assist between 100-150 families build their dream of parenthood this year.

At Creating Christian Families & Mother Goose Adoptions, Inc., our programs are constantly growing and evolving. When we began, we offered domestic adoptions only. We later expanded our program to offer International adoptions. Our international programs are now on hold as the many challenges of Hague get worked through however, during this same period our domestic placements have increased. Currently we are working on implementing a foster care program and gestational surrogacy program.

Many people ask what the difference is between Creating Christian Families (CCF) and Mother Goose Adoptions (MGA). Our intention is that they will operate as two parts of a whole, with the CCF side handling the adoptive family process and the MGA side handling those women who come to us seeking assistance with unplanned pregnancies. We also offer opportunities that come to our attention through other agencies and attorneys and we are then able to send your family for consideration.

Families interested in harder to place children (full African American, partial African American, medically fragile, and older children) will find their dreams of becoming a family realized rather quickly – usually within 3-6 months of a completed home study. Others will find their wait to be longer, with most families successfully adopting within about 12-18 months. We recommend that you spend some time learning about transracial adoptions, as well as other issues in adoption like exposure to drugs and/or alcohol to the fetus. We are glad to discuss with you our experiences with these topics.

The key to domestic adoption is flexibility – things often change and it is very important that you are able to “go with the flow” in an effort to ensure a successful adoption (and your sanity); expect some bumps in the road and you will emotionally handle the inevitable issues that arise. The women who place their babies for adoption are not the birth moms of the 1950’s. Often they do not live their lives or carry out their pregnancy like you or I would. While these issues can be a challenge emotionally, they often do not impact the ultimate goal; a healthy child and building a family through adoption. *“Adoption is Amazing and Amazingly Hard”*

Our faith in the Lord has to come with during both the little and the big things in life and it is our guess that this journey to where you stand today has been fraught with heartbreak, fear and even anger. Please know that we foremost pray for the Lord’s wishes in your adoption journey and that we will do everything we can to make your dreams of parenthood come true.

“Pray As If It Depends on God and Work As If It Depends On You”

Please do not hesitate to call our office if you have questions or concerns,

Blessings,

Deb O’Kane
Executive Director

Mailing Address
Main Office
15029 N. Thompson Peak Pkwy.
Ste 111-514
Scottsdale, AZ 85260



DOMESTIC ADOPTION REGISTRATION FORM:

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill in this application form completely. We ask that you notify our office if you have adopted or are no longer interested in adoption. If we do not hear from you for an extended period of time, we reserve the right to close and destroy your file, as we will assume you either have adopted or are no longer interested in adoption.

Are you using Mother Goose Adoptions as your home study agency? Please check one: No Yes

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Last Name:	First Name:	DOB:
Spouse's Last Name:	Spouse's First Name:	DOB:
Home Phone:	Mom's Cell Phone:	Dad's Cell Phone:
Full Address: (street, city, state, zip)	Primary Email address:	Religion:
Mom's Occupation:	Mom's Employer:	Mom's Salary:
Dad's Occupation:	Dad's Employer:	Dad's Salary:
Mom's Medical Conditions:	Dad's Medical Conditions:	List any previous marriages, divorces or arrest on back or separate page
PREFERENCES: <small>Check all that apply</small>		
Max Budget:	Gender: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Either <input type="checkbox"/>	Adoption Type: Semi-open <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Open <input type="checkbox"/>
Racial Acceptance: <small>Circle all that apply</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Full Black <input type="checkbox"/> Full Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Full Native American <input type="checkbox"/> Full White	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Black <input type="checkbox"/> Black/Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native American/White <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Black/Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/White <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Native-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/White <input type="checkbox"/> Black/White
Health Issues:	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy alcohol use <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy drug use	<input type="checkbox"/> Light alcohol use <input type="checkbox"/> Light drug use <input type="checkbox"/> Major medical <input type="checkbox"/> Prematurity
Any additional comments?		
Submit (1) Registration Form, (2) Schedule of Fee agreements, (3) \$100 registration fee, (4) home study that is less than a year old, (5) FBI criminal, state criminal, and child abuse clearances that are less than a year old (copies of the actual clearances, not just a mention in study) (6) 5 profile booklets. Once you have received email approval, then please email us the following: (7) a single pdf file of your study and clearances (in same order as items 4-5 above) (8) a pdf file of your profile (less than 15 mb) and (9) a single jpg file to use as website cover photo. Please submit items 1-6 in <u>one complete, hard-copy</u> packet so items do not become separated. Items 7-8 can be emailed once approval into our program is received.		

Who can we thank for referring you to our agency?: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mother Goose Adoptions
 15029 N. Thompson Peak Pkwy. Ste 111-514
 Scottsdale, AZ 85260



Schedule of Fees: Domestic Adoption Program

Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions, Inc. are sensitive to the rising cost of adoptions and thus strive to keep fees as low as possible, while still offering a quality program. We are, however, an independent adoption agency that must remain financially solvent without sponsorship from religious, humanitarian or governmental organizations. By far our largest expense is outreach and advertising; however, this marketing is what reduces your wait time from years to months. To help families who struggle to afford adoption, we make available to our families a host of resources that include low cost adoption loans, internal grant programs, outside private grant programs (generally for adoption of children who are special needs or who are harder to place), information on the tax credit, as well as information on a variety of fund raising options and ideas. Please see our resources page on our website for details.

We offer four programs to help meet your needs.

- The first is our **Full Service Program**. In this program we provide full case management services throughout your adoption and placement. This program is for cases where the moms are contracted with and placing their child for adoption through Mother Goose Adoptions.
- The second program is our **Special Beginnings** program. This option is for harder to place children: full African American, medically fragile or those older than five years of age. These clients receive all of the services offered in our Full Service program with a grant of 50% off of the current agency fee which is funded by yearly fundraising events.
- The third program is our **National Networking Program**. We work with many agencies and attorneys who come to us seeking families for the pregnant mom or the children they are working with. We pass these adoption opportunities along to our clients. A family is automatically registered in this program and eligible to be presented, with the fee being due only if they are selected.
- The fourth option is an **a la carte program** for those families coming to us already working with a mom and merely seeking assistance to complete an Independent or Direct Parental Placement adoption. These contracts will be offered on an hourly basis, charged only for services rendered, and will be individualized for each case. Typical total fees will be in the \$3,000-\$5,000 range for case management and counseling.

Full Service Program: \$23,000

This fee is for our Full Service Program which runs an extensive national advertising initiative to help identify pregnant women seeking to make an adoption plan for their unborn child. In this program, we assist with the location and coordination of your adoption plan.

This fee includes, but is not limited to the following services:

- Review of home study
- Counseling (limited), support and education to our families
- Obtaining and reviewing proof of pregnancy, social/medical background information, and medical records
- Notification to hospital regarding adoption plan and inquiry on hospital adoption policies
- Identification of an attorney or agency local to birth family for execution of legal documents
- Coordination of legal plan (see addendum to schedule of fees for details on these services)
- Review of supervisory visits
- Mediation of ongoing contact with the biological family



This fee will not include, as applicable per specific case:

- Networking/advertising fee
- Local agency/attorney
- Birth mom living expenses
- Birth mom medical expenses
- Home study
- Counseling, extensive face to face – defined as beyond \$500
- Case Management
- Post placement supervision reports
- Travel expenses
- Interstate compact fee, if applicable
- Finalization fee

Please note an entire detailed contract that covers the agency fee, as well as the anticipated legal and other cost, will be presented at time of match.

Special Beginnings Program: Current Agency Fee minus a 50% agency grant

This program is designed to help obtain families for harder to place children: full African American, special needs and children over five years of age. Please note that in this program, your family receives all the services offered in the Full Service Program at a reduced cost. Please see above for details. Families in this program are granted 50% off of the agency fee to offset cost.

National Networking Program: \$2,000

This fee is charged anytime you are matched with an expectant mom through another agency or attorney in which we were the referring source. Please note that in addition to our networking fee, you will have an agency, legal, and living expense fees, per the specific case, as posted. Generally, but not always, the agencies we work with will waive any up-front cost to present your family. Please carefully review fee agreements and policies with a placing agency before signing contracts. We will gladly help you review such documents.

A-la-carte Program: Fees are assessed individually for each case

These contracts will be offered on an hourly basis, charged only for services rendered, and will be individualized for each case. Typical total fees will be in the \$5,000-\$6,000 range for case management and counseling and are applicable to identified adoptions when an agency or family comes to us already matched with a birth parent and needing local support services.

Refund Policy: Our Guarantee

In our Full Agency and Special Beginnings Programs, our promise to you is that we will continue to work with your family, at no additional agency fee, until you have adopted; this means you pay our fee one time and we will work with you as long as necessary for you to adopt. This offer is valid provided that you maintain a current home study and that your actions are not the cause of the disruption. If the adoption disrupts due to your actions, no portion of fees are refundable. This policy helps insure against unnecessary loss while pursuing your dreams. Any non-agency program fees (generally for legal work, case work, or living expenses) dispersed on the disrupted adoption will be documented and are the maximum you are at risk for financially in a disrupted adoption. If you decide to not pursue a new match with our agency, a cash refund of fifty percent (50%) of the total agency fee is refundable. Furthermore, if you opt out of the contract with a cash refund, any balance of unused living and legal expenses will be refunded as well. This refund must be board approved at a monthly meeting (they do not meet in July or December) and then will be paid out over several increments.

In our National Networking Program, the fee is not refundable but we will continue to assist you in your adoption efforts until you successfully adopt.



Registration Fee:

Our only upfront fee will be for the validation and review of your home study/clearances and the cost of managing your family profiles. This cost is \$100 per five profiles and is not refundable. The fee is due with each set of five profiles that you mail us.

Payment Schedule:

Fees are not due until family enters into an agreement to proceed toward adopting a specific child with a birth family identified through our efforts. If the expectant mom is a Mother Goose Adoptions client, a deposit of 50% of the contract (agency, case mgmt., and legal), plus full living expenses, are typically due at the time of match. The balance is due at 34 weeks of the expected mother's pregnancy. If the match incurs past the 34th week of pregnancy, then the full contract is due at match.

If the mom is working with one of our partner agencies, in our National Networking Program, they will provide you with contracts and payment schedules according to their policies. Our networking fee is due at match.

Other Possible Fees Detailed:

These costs are not fees retained by our agency but are fees that are common in many cases and are in addition to the agency fee.

Birth Family Living Expenses:

In many adoptions, birth families will request assistance with their living expenses from the adoptive family (as allowed by law). A portion of these expenses are "at-risk", if the adoption disrupts, and what is allowable varies in each state. Whenever possible, adoptive families will be informed, before a match, of any expected living expenses. Living expenses are escrowed at time of match and are estimated at match as closely as possible based on the circumstances at that time. Our agency request that living expenses be managed and paid to a sister organization named Seedlings, Inc. There is a 10% management fee to handle these expenses. This management fee is used not for administrative cost but goes directly to assist other women and children in crisis

Legal Assistance:

Each adoption is unique, as are the laws of each state. This makes the cost of legal fees for termination of parental rights, Interstate Compact work, etc. hard to predict. However, legal assistance can generally be obtained in an independent, direct parental placement, or agency adoption for approximately \$6,000-\$7,000, plus the cost of ICPC (average cost is \$1,500), if applicable. At the time of match, you will be presented a contract that incorporates the agency and estimated legal fee in one contract. This estimate of legal fee is for an uncomplicated and an uncontested adoption (typically defined as no more than two standard (no military personnel or Indian blood) biological parents). It does not include the cost of the finalization of your adoption which is generally done in your home state and is typically about \$1,500. Depending on your state's laws finalization will occur between 3-12 months after placement and we will provide all necessary documentation to your local attorney.

Medical Expenses:

Adoptive parents are expected to cover medical expenses, including any applicable deductible, incurred as a result of the birth of their child, unless otherwise covered by Medicaid, or birthmother's insurance. Whenever possible, the adoptive family will be informed, in advance, if there is limited or no coverage. Please note that the majority of birth moms are eligible for Medicaid under the Medicaid Act of 2003. However, there are often delays, or even denials, to being approved for Medicaid due to the complicated paper process that is required. We provide as much assistance as possible to the birth mom but it is a process that only she can do by law; we can't do it for her. The child's hospital stay is typically covered under the adoptive parent's health insurance as long as placement documents are signed on the date of birth.

Agency Travel Assistance:

An additional fee will be assessed if family wishes to have an agency representative travel to assist the family at birth or to pick up their child, where appropriate. This fee covers not only the extra time but transportation, hotel etc.



Agreements, Warranties, Guarantees, & Indemnification

This Agreement is governed by the law of Arizona, regardless of conflicts of law. All disputes concerning this Agreement or the relationships of the parties must be litigated solely in the Courts of Arizona, and all parties agree to the personal jurisdiction of the Courts of Arizona. In the event of legal action, which is ruled in favor of the agency, Clients shall pay Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose's attorney fees, court cost and any other associated expenses for defense. Clients shall pay Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose's attorney fees, court cost and any other associated expenses for collection or arbitration. The only exception to this policy is if a subsequent agreement is reached and ratified by all parties

At the sole and exclusive option of Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions, any controversy or claims arising out of this agreement, or any breach thereof, or arising out of the services provided by the agency shall be settled in accordance with the Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association, before an arbitrator and judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be final and may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. No putative or non-compensatory damages shall be awarded. Cost of arbitration will be paid for by the party seeking arbitration. Arbitration will be held in location of Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions choice.

If we refer a family to an outside agency or attorney and there is a misunderstanding or grievance, family understands that such issues are solely between the family and the "placing" agency or attorney. Neither Creating Christian Families, nor Mother Goose Adoptions, can be held liable for errors on the part of placing agency or attorney nor any disputes between the family and the placing agency or attorney. The family agrees that Creating Christian Families and Mother Goose Adoptions, as well as its employees, contractors, Board, heirs, executors, successors or assignees are released and forever discharged, for any, and every claim, demand, right, or cause of action arising between the actions of the family and this agency or the agency or attorney they were referred to.

The undersigned acknowledge and understand the above fee schedule. Each family will be presented with an individualized contract at time of match for adoption with a specific case. The individualized contract is the document of precedence regarding conflict, disputes, fees and fee structures. If no contract is issued, the family understands that fees are still assessed and due based on guidelines laid out in this agreement.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Spouse

Date

Please send us the following to our main office:

1. Registration Form and Schedule of Fee agreements (all pages)
2. Five copies of your profile book (no identifying information, last names, emails, websites etc.) (see the MGA website for samples)
3. \$100 application fee
4. Current home study, FBI criminal checks, state criminal checks and child abuse checks (all needs to be less than a year old at placement). Clearances need to be full copies of the actual clearances, not just be referenced in the study.

EMAIL items 4-6 AFTER you have received agency acceptance via email

5. An electronic file of your study and clearances (in one file in the same order as #4)
6. An electronic .pdf of your profile (less than 15 mb.) so we can have on hand for "rush" cases and to put on our Waiting Families page
7. A single .jpg file to use as a cover photo for the website

Please send the documents listed in #1-4 above in one complete hard-copy packet to prevent loss or misplacement of documents. The files in #4-6 can be emailed once you receive agency acceptance and welcome letter.

Note: Typical turn around for registration approval is one week from receipt of complete packet. Expect delays in December and July.
We do not print documents or profiles

Mail to:

Creating Christian Families
Mother Goose Adoptions
15029 N Thompson Peak Pkwy
Ste 111-514
Scottsdale, AZ 85260