

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## INTRODUCTION LETTER

Dear Adoptive Parent,

Thank you so much for your adoption inquiry. I hope that the following will help answer some of your questions and give you an overview of our services. Our goal is to educate and support you through the entire adoption process and help you adopt quickly and safely.

I know first hand that adoption can be confusing and overwhelming. During the adoption of my daughter, McKenna, I realized how important wise advice and guidance was. Because we were educated and informed, we adopted in less than 6 months and saved thousands of dollars.

In order to make your adoption experience as wonderful as mine was, I have established a team of adoption professionals, consultants and social workers to assist you. Strong relationships have been built with reputable, licensed agencies and private attorneys to give you more opportunities and selection of adoption situations. Our services are bundled to give you inclusive care throughout your adoption journey.

Our services include:

- **Adoption Education, Support and Guidance** - We advise and support you throughout the entire adoption process, guiding you every step of the way.
- **Home Study Guidance and Agency Referral** –We refer you to an affordable home study agency that can expedite to finish in half the time. We will prepare you for the home study process and educate you on the paperwork needed so you know what to expect. For our couples in Georgia we can complete your home study for you through our non-profit, licensed adoption agency, Hope for Adoption.
- **Agency Match and Placement** – We help you adopt quickly by networking with numerous licensed agencies. You will not just sit on a waiting list, but your family profile will be presented to multiple birth mothers at various agencies that meet your specific requirements. This not only ensures you a faster adoption, but saves you money. Our agencies waive the upfront application fees to our clients, so you are not wasting your money paying an application fee for an agency you never match with.
- **Family Profile and Dear Birth Mother Letter** – We create your Family Profile for you. We know what agencies and birth mothers are looking for, we write a custom narrative and design a unique, professional, creative, yet caring profile to showcase your family. This service also includes professional picture selection, color printing, binding and shipping and a keepsake copy for your family.
- **Financial Education** – Our financial packet includes information on the Federal Tax Credit, Dependency Exemption, Pending Adoption Tax ID number, Grants (Contact information including: Organization Name, Phone #, Web Address, Application Information), Adoption Fundraisers & Creative Financing, Adoption Support Organizations, Employer Benefits and Adoption Loans.
- **Explanation of Adoption Costs** – We explain typical agency fee breakdowns, average adoption costs, and how to lower agency fees.
- **Education on Birth mother warning signs and Birth father situations** – We help our clients reduce the risk associated with adoption by matching with specific birth mothers and steering clear of birth mothers and birth fathers that exhibit common warning signs. Our agencies disclose a full social and medical history for the birth mother and frequently test for drugs and alcohol exposure.
- **Travel Advice and Tips** – Our travel advice and tips include airline and hotel discounts and a packing list for baby.
- **Family Counseling and Training** – Our social workers offer family counseling and parenting classes for our couples that are interested.
- **Finalization referral and guidance** – We inform you on finalization in-state vs. out-of-state, finalization fees and attorney referrals, and why you shouldn't pay a retainer fee.

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As you can see, we have tried to cover every aspect of your adoption experience to ensure that you have a pleasant, stress-free adoption. Providing a high level of integrity and customer service is crucial for our business. We are committed to limiting our unmatched families; so that we can provide each couple with the attention they need and deserve to complete their adoption in a timely manner. We feel that each couple deserves personal attention and support.

We typically work in states that are considered "safe states" for adoptive parents in which the laws are in favor of the adoptive couple rather than the birth parents. The birth mother usually signs consent within 24-48 hours after birth and she can not revoke her consent after she signs. This is a wonderful comfort to adoptive families because you do not have to be concerned with a waiting period in which she could change her mind and decide to parent.

We require family profiles for our couples. We offer a service to professionally write and design your family profile. This is a benefit to our couples, and enables us to utilize the knowledge that we have acquired to help couples match in a much shorter time frame. We offer several profile packages and options to customize.

Thank you again for your interest in Christian Adoption Consultants. We pray that God will answer your prayers and provide a child for you in the near future. We look forward to working with you soon.

Sincerely,

Amy Young  
Owner, Christian Adoption Consultants  
[www.ChristianAdoptionConsultants.com](http://www.ChristianAdoptionConsultants.com)  
1-888-833-1114

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## SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

"Pray without ceasing . . ." 1Thessalonians 5:17. As you prayerfully consider your adoption, the following verses may help you. We know that all good things happen in God's time to those who trust in him. May God grant you His grace as you travel along the path He sets out for you. "We prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted what we asked of Him." 1 Samuel 1:27.

**Psalms 139:13-16** Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother's womb. I thank you, High God – you're breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration – What a creation! You know me inside and out; you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you, the days of my life all prepared before I'd even lived one day.

**Ecclesiastes 11:5** Just as you'll never understand the mystery of life forming in a pregnant woman; so you'll never understand the mystery at work in all that God does.

**Isaiah 44:2** God who made you has something to say to you; the God who formed you in the womb wants to help you.

**Jeremiah 1:4-5** Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you.

**Psalms 113:9** He gives childless couples a family, gives them joy as the parents of children. Hallelujah!

**Psalms 127:3-5** Don't you see that children are God's best gift? The fruit of the womb his generous legacy? Like a warrior's fistful of arrows are the children of a vigorous youth. Oh, how blessed are you parents, with your quivers full of children!

**Psalms 128:2-4** Enjoy the blessing! Revel in the goodness! Your wife will bear children as a vine bears grapes, your household lush as a vineyard, the children around your table as fresh and promising as young olive shoots. Stand in awe of God's Yes. Oh, how he blesses the one who fears God!

**Luke 18:15-17** People brought babies to Jesus, hoping he would touch them...Don't get between me and them. These children are the kingdoms pride and joy.

**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding, but in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths.

**Psalms 28:7** Now I'm jumping for joy, and shouting and singing my thanks to him.

**Philippians 4:6-8** Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praise shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life. Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious, -the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse.

**Psalms 115:1-2** Not for our sake, God, no, not for our sake, but for your name's sake, show your glory. Do it on account of your merciful love, do it on account of your faithful ways.

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**Psalm 69:16** Now answer me, God, because you love me: Let me see your great mercy full-face.

**Psalm 115:14-15** Oh, let God enlarge your families -- giving growth to you, growth to your children. May you be blessed by God, by God, who made heaven and earth.

**Psalm 116:5, 7** God is gracious – it is he who makes things right, our most compassionate God... I said to my self, "Relax and rest. God has showered you with blessings.

**James 1:27** Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

**Matthew 18:5** And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.

**Isaiah 1:17** ...learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

**Psalm 68:5-6a** A Father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families...

**Psalm 82:3** Vindicate the weak and the fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and destitute.

**Matthew 25:35-36, 40** I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes, I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me... Then the King will say, "I'm telling the solemn truth: whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me – you did it to me."

**Romans 8:15** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

**James 1:22** Be doers of the word, and not hearers only...

**Proverbs 16:9** A man makes a plan in his heart, but God directs his path.

**Proverbs 3:27** Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

**1 John 4:18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear...

**Jeremiah 29:11** "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

**Ephesians 3:20** Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work in us, to Him be the glory.

**Isaiah 43:5** Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## PAPERWORK CHECKLIST

Dear Adoptive Parent,

Thank you for allowing us to help and assist you through your adoption journey. We consider it an honor to play a small role in the plans God has for your family. In hopes to make your adoption experience as wonderful as it can be, we've put together a checklist of the paperwork that is needed and the steps of adoption. We look forward to working with you!

### STEP 1

Client receives initial paperwork

#### Introduction Packet Includes:

- Signed Application
- Signed Client Agreement
- Profile Overview and Questionnaire
- Pictures for your Profile (printed and cd format)
- Payment (cash, check, credit card)

### STEP 2

Client wants to start process

#### To Get Started - We Need:

- Introduction Letter
- Scripture References
- About Us (staff)
- Paperwork Checklist
- Application
- Adoption Costs
- Financing Adoption (general information)
- Client Agreement
- Profile Overview & Questionnaire

### STEP 3

Schedule 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting or Conference Call

#### 1st meeting or conference call:

- Basic Adoption Information
- Financing Adoption (Grant Information included)
- Home Study Advice and Referral
- Travel Tips and Advice
- Next Steps and What to Expect
- Agency List and Applications
- Home Study
- Birthparent Information
- Pre-Match Questionnaire

### Steps of Adoption

- Completion of Family Profile & Home Study
- Contact is made with Adoption Agencies/Attorneys (through delivery of agency application, home study & family profile)
- Family Profiles are Presented (to potential situations that match adoptive couples preferences)
- Match with Situation (birth mother or waiting child) (during this step you will receive a social/medical history of the birthmother and/or child and agency contract)
- Placement of Child (with temporary custody), Post placement visits (with home study agency) and Finalization

CLIENT	CONSULTANT
<b>Profile</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Submit Pictures and Completed Profile Questionnaire	<input type="checkbox"/> Create Profile, Prepare Copies, and Ship to Client
<b>Home Study</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make Contact, Start & Complete Home Study <input type="checkbox"/> Send CAC a <b>copy</b> of completed Home Study including: Copy of supporting documents(reference letters, background checks, physical reports, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Give Client Home Study referral, guidance and advice <input type="checkbox"/> File Client's Home Study
<b>Contact with Agencies</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request Applications from Suggested Agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Ship Applications, Family Profiles and Home Study copies to agencies (don't forget to keep a copy of your applications) <input type="checkbox"/> Regularly check Agencies websites for available situations and follow-up with Agencies on situations that interest you	<input type="checkbox"/> Network with Agencies/Attorneys, contact client and/or agency on situations that match clients preferences <input type="checkbox"/> Regularly check Agencies websites for available situations and follow-up with Clients/Agencies on situations that match clients preferences
<b>Match</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Review Social and Medical History <input type="checkbox"/> Make contact with agency (Social Worker) <input type="checkbox"/> Possible phone conference with birth mother and social worker <input type="checkbox"/> Review, sign and return contract and fees due to agency <input type="checkbox"/> Stay in contact with agency's social worker & work with agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Advise client and give overview including agency contact information and next steps <input type="checkbox"/> Review client contract and advise <input type="checkbox"/> Advise client on contract terms and fees <input type="checkbox"/> Support and advise client
<b>Placement, Post Placement, Finalization</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel to state when baby is born or child is ready to be placed <input type="checkbox"/> Take temporary custody of child and stay in adoption state until Interstate Compact Paperwork is approved <input type="checkbox"/> Schedule Post Placement Visit with Home Study agency <input type="checkbox"/> Work with Agency on Finalization (out-of-state finalization) OR <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Attorney (in-state) for Finalization <input type="checkbox"/> Receive new birth certificate and file for SS number	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain contact with client <input type="checkbox"/> Be available for questions or guidance <input type="checkbox"/> Request pictures of baby <input type="checkbox"/> Refer Attorney for finalization (if needed) <input type="checkbox"/> Rejoice in another successful adoption!

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## ADOPTION COSTS

Christian Adoption Consultants charge a counseling fee to educate and direct couples through the process of adoption. Part of the education includes common adoption costs, such as agency fees, which are paid directly to the adoption agency. Christian Adoption Consultants also provides financial guidance, fundraising and financing options to make adoption affordable. The information below is provided to give couples a realistic view of the typical costs involved in adoption.

### **Average Adoption Costs**

Adoption costs vary on each individual situation, but in most cases there are general ranges that agencies adoption fees fall within. We believe that every child, regardless of ethnicity, is a gift from God. Agencies have to lower fees on certain children because they are harder to place based on their ethnic background. Typically, couples that are adopting in the US are primarily Caucasian and they request Caucasian children. There are twice as many Caucasian couples trying to adopt as any other ethnicity. Therefore the demand is greater for Caucasian children. There is a great need for couples open to African American or Bi-Racial children. Again, we feel that every child is valuable and a precious gift from God.

Caucasian	African American	Hispanic	Bi-Racial	American Indian	Asian
\$28-\$35K	\$18-22K	\$26-32K	\$22-26K	\$26-\$32K	\$26-\$32K

### **Agency Fees**

Typical agency fees include the following expenses:

- Application fee due upfront, prior to match
- Birth mother's living expenses (rent, utilities, basic toiletries, maternity clothes, travel expenses, groceries, and basic linens)
- Social service fees (birth mother's counseling, transporting the birth mother, etc.)
- Birth mother's medical expenses (this is not required in cases where the birth mother is covered by Medicaid)
- The baby's medical expenses (consult your health insurance company- many plans cover adopted children from birth) \*make sure to acquire your temporary custody order from the agency
- Legal fees
- Administration and advertising fees
- Interstate compact fees
- Finalization fees (in most cases- check with your agency to find out if finalization is included)

You will receive a written estimate of fees from your agency at time of contract and a complete fee discloser at finalization.

### **Additional Fees**

Additional fees to be considered include:

- Travel expenses  
You should plan on an approximate stay, in the state, for 7-10 days for the Interstate Compact paperwork to be approved. This will allow you to cross state lines to travel home. The approximate stay may be longer if the child is born over a weekend.
- Home Study fees and post placement fees  
Check with your home study agency for a schedule of fees due before and after placement. In most cases, you will need between 1-6 or more post placement visits which are not likely included in your initial home study.
- Finalization (if not included in agency fee)  
Make sure to check with the agency, in regards to finalization and post placement visits. You will need to know if they will finalize your adoption, and how many post placement visits are required. If the agency does not finalize for you, you will need to finalize in your home state. Attorney fees for finalization can range from \$750 - \$3,000.

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## FINANCING OVERVIEW

### Tax Credit and Exemptions

#### **Adoption Tax Credit**

The Adoption Tax Credit grants adoptive families an income tax credit of \$11,390 (for the 2007 tax year) to cover adoption expenses, as well as for expenses incurred in domestic adoptions of children with special needs. The amount increases slightly every year. "Tax Benefits for Adoption" is available by calling 800-829-3676 or by checking the IRS website at [http://www.irs.gov/irb/2004-50\\_IRB/ar14.html](http://www.irs.gov/irb/2004-50_IRB/ar14.html) . Please check with your accountant concerning the specifics regarding your adoption.

#### **Dependency Exemption**

Adoptive parents may take the same dependency exemption on their income taxes for their adoptive children, and children placed with them for adoption but not yet finalized, as they would for their biological children. The exemption reduces taxable income. The amount of the dependent exemption is adjusted annually to reflect the cost of living.

### Adoption Loans

#### **National Adoption Foundation**

This organization has established a \$9 million revolving bank loan to provide unsecured loans to adoptive families. Your payments and interest then help other adoptive parents. NAF also offers fixed-rate MBNA Home Equity Loans. Both loan programs are financed through MBNA. The foundation has a limited program to provide grants from \$500 to \$4000 to assist families with adoption costs. You can call the foundation to request that an application packet be sent to you. For grant information, call 800-258-4207 or visit [www.nafadopt.org](http://www.nafadopt.org) . For loan information through the National Adoption Foundation, call MBNA bank at 800-626-2760 (unsecured loans) or 800-841-1982 (secured loans).

#### **MBNA**

This organization offers unsecured loans specifically designed for adoptive parents. MBNA Gold Option Adoption Loan offers a loan for adoption with competitive interest rates, up to \$20,000. For more information, contact a representative at 800-626-2760. MBNA Adoption Foundation Credit Card offers a credit card with a fixed competitive interest rate, up to \$20,000. If you are interested in more information, please call 800-932-2775 code AF2R or visit [www.credit-card-applications-center.com](http://www.credit-card-applications-center.com). The Credit Card Application Center helps you easily compare different credit cards.

#### **National Adoption Foundation Loan Program**

This program provides secured and unsecured loans available for adoption related costs. For more information, visit [www.nafadopt.org](http://www.nafadopt.org) or call 800-626-2760 or 800-841-1982.

#### **APFUSA, A Loan Processing Company**

The APFUSA offers loan location programs for Medical, Legal, and Adoption Expenses. To apply, visit <http://apfusa.com> .

#### **ABBA Fund**

The ABBA Fund helps unite families through interest free, covenant loans for adoption. For more information, visit [www.abbafund.org](http://www.abbafund.org) .

#### **National Council for Adoption (NCFA)**

NCFA desires to financially assist families with adoption. In conjunction with Bank of America, NCFA offers an Adoption Line of Credit. It is a reliable, renewable source of funding. For more information, visit [www.adoptioncouncil.org/finance.html](http://www.adoptioncouncil.org/finance.html) or call 888-628-7700.

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## FINANCING OVERVIEW

### Creative Financing

Adoptive families have financed their adoptions through some or all of the following activities: benefit dinners, online auctions, bake sales, car washes, bowl-a-thons, grandparent or family member financial assistance, using their own or donated frequent flyer miles for travel, negotiating a second home study from the same social worker at a reduced rate, adopting via an agency that offers a sliding scale for fees, tapping into 401Ks or home equity.

### Other

#### **Military Adoption Reimbursement Program**

The military will reimburse active duty personnel for most one time adoption costs up to \$2000 per child. Travel costs, foreign or domestic, are not covered. There is a maximum of \$5000 in a given year. Reimbursement is made only after the adoption is finalized and only if the adoption was done through a state adoption agency or a non-profit private agency. Eligible personnel should complete form DD2673 (Reimbursement for Adoption Expense). For more information concerning this program contact the adoption exchange association at 800-260-0218 or visit [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org) and search adoption benefits.

#### **Employer Adoption Benefits**

Some employers will help with costs of adoption through reimbursing expenses. A list of employers offering benefits can be found at [www.adopt.org/datacenter/faces/emplist.html](http://www.adopt.org/datacenter/faces/emplist.html). If your employer does not have this benefit, call Adoption and the Workplace at the National Adoption Center at 800-862-3678 for materials to guide you in requesting adoption assistance from your employer. In addition, if you are employed by an organization with more than 50 employees, you should also qualify for parental leave under the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) program. Other websites that help assist in Employee Benefits are [www.adopt.org/workplace](http://www.adopt.org/workplace).

#### **The National Adoption Foundation Credit Card**

Through a special arrangement with MBNA America Bank, the National Adoption Foundation receives a contribution to the Foundation, all at no additional cost to you. You'll receive an introductory 3.9% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) on balance transfers and cash advance checks and No Annual Fee. For further information, call 800-932-2775 (mention priority code AF2R) or visit [www.nafadopt.org/Naf-credit-card/Naf-credit-card/shtml](http://www.nafadopt.org/Naf-credit-card/Naf-credit-card/shtml).

#### **Adoption Assurance**

Adoption Assurance allows you to protect yourself financially in the event the birthparents change their minds and decide not to place their child up for adoption. For more information, visit [www.adoptionassurance.com/home.aspx](http://www.adoptionassurance.com/home.aspx) or call 707-781-7381.

#### **Celebrating Adoption**

A nationwide program where high-end photographers donate their session fee and usually a free 8 X 10 for families who have adopted in the past 12 months. For more information, visit [www.celebratingadoption.org](http://www.celebratingadoption.org).

#### **Christian Advocates for Adoption, Inc. (CAFA)**

This organization works with Christian couples. They start with a home study and application that is reviewed by CAFA board members. Then they send funding packets to clients who contact friends, family and acquaintances requesting help with the costs of the pending adoption. As a 501 (c) 3 ministry donations to CAFA are tax deductible. Money is then distributed to our clients for use in paying for the adoption. For more information, visit [www.cafadopt.org](http://www.cafadopt.org) or call 616-669-0655.

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## FINANCING OVERVIEW

### Adoption Grants

Christian Adoption Consultants provides clients with a detail list of grant organizations including their phone number, website and contact information. The list includes over 10 grant organizations as well as a Christian financing and fundraising organization.

Christian Adoption Consultants clients have raised thousands of dollars for their adoptions and are happy to talk to new clients about their experiences. In addition, Christian Adoption Consultants provide individual guidance to each couple based on their needs. Lack of money should never stand in the way of an adoption.

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## FAMILY PROFILE

A Family Profile is a creative way to tell a birth mother about your family, your thoughts on adoption, and your plans for the future. Over the years we've noticed that certain profiles stand out from the rest. Our goal is to create the best profile possible. Our goal is to be warm and comforting to a birth mom and yet still be creative and professional. We offer 3 types of family profiles:

Family Profile Book

DVD Profile

Digital Profile (Online/Email)

Regardless of which profile option you choose, we will need between 80 – 100 pictures or more to select the very best shots. The following list will help you decide what type of pictures we are looking for:

- Husband and Wife: 8 or more pictures of husband and wife posed or un-posed in a nice setting.
- Husband and Wife: 15 or more active pictures. For example: riding bikes, playing tennis, opening Christmas presents, wedding pictures or dancing/cutting cake, on picnics, at the beach, on vacation, etc.
- Husband and Wife with Children: 4 or more pictures of you and your husband with children.
- Husband with Children: 4 or more pictures of husband with children (this does not have to be your children).
- Wife with Children: 4 or more pictures of wife with children (this does not have to be your children).
- Husband: 10 or more pictures of husband alone, with friends, at Christmas, at sporting event, etc.
- Wife: 10 or more pictures of wife alone, with friends, at family gathering, cooking, swimming, etc.
- Family (Husband, Wife, and children – if applicable): 8 family pictures posed, active, and candid.
- Children (if applicable): 8 or more pictures of your children. Active and posed pictures are fine. Most recent pictures are best.
- Extended Family: 8 or more pictures of your family (grandparents, aunts, cousins, etc. during family get-togethers, birthday parties and holidays and/or vacations).
- House and Community: 5 or more pictures of your house. At least 1 picture of the front of the house and back yard if you have a swing set or playhouse. Inside pictures are great but not required. Pictures of community or near by playground, swimming pool, tennis courts are also nice to include if applicable.

**\*Please include 2-3 portrait quality pictures of husband and wife individually and of immediate family members and 4-5 portrait quality pictures of the couple together. These do not have to be professionally done, just portrait quality.**

All pictures should be relatively recent, clear and bright. Dark or blurry pictures don't copy or show up well on the profiles. The more pictures you send, the better the profile. The number of pictures listed above is bare minimum for us to create a profile. If you have a face-to-face meeting in our office, bring your photos with you and we can select which ones we need.

Please provide all pictures in a printed and CD format. We can typically complete your profile in 2 – 3 weeks once we have received the completed profile questionnaire and pictures. We will ship your copies of the profile once we have completed the profile. Remember some pictures may be altered or cropped so make copies of any picture you wish to keep.

Client Name/Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## FAMILY PROFILE

Client Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The following questionnaire will help us write your narrative for your profile. We will creatively re-write your narrative for your profile. Don't worry about grammar or punctuation. We are just looking for the facts to create a warm, caring, descriptive narrative. This questionnaire is used solely for our purposes to create the narrative for your family profile. When finished please email to [info@christianadoptionconsultants.com](mailto:info@christianadoptionconsultants.com). Please call us at 800-807-0848 if you have any questions.

1. What would you like to tell the birth mother that is looking at your profile and considering you as the adoptive parents of her child?
2. Briefly describe your reasons for adoption.
3. Briefly describe any infertility issues.
4. How did you meet?
5. How long did you date?
6. Tell us about your marriage proposal.
7. How long have you been married?
8. Describe your wedding.
9. Tell us about your children including their names and ages (if applicable).
10. Briefly describe your children's personalities and interests.
11. What are your family's favorite activities?
12. If you have previously adopted, please briefly describe your experience with the adoption.
13. Describe the personality traits that you admire about your husband.
14. Describe your husband's interaction with children.
15. What is your husband's occupation?
16. Describe the personality traits that you admire about your wife.
17. Describe your wife's interaction with children.
18. What is your wife's occupation?
19. Describe your extended family. Be sure to include grandparents and number of aunts/uncles. Point out specific family members that are adopted.
20. Describe family holiday traditions.
21. Describe your home (# bed/baths, back yard, historic home, new home, etc.).
22. Describe your community (diverse, good school district, pool, tennis, playground).
23. Describe your plans for the future.
24. Do you plan to raise your children according to your Christian faith?
25. Do you plan to send your children to private school or home school?
26. Do you plan to send your children to college?
27. Is there anything else you would like for us to include in your profile?

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## HOME STUDY

Each adoptive family is required to complete an adoption home study. This process is usually a 4-6 week period in which a licensed social worker is assigned to meet with the prospective family to determine their readiness to become adoptive parents. This can be an intimidating and stressful experience. Our goal is to relieve some of the anxiety by connecting clients with a social worker or home study agency that meets their needs in regards to individual situations.

The home study usually consists of the following: A meeting with the husband and wife together, a meeting with the husband and the wife individually, and a visit to the prospective adoptive parent's home.

Be prepared to discuss:

- Reason for infertility/reason for adoption
- Childhood experiences (how you were disciplined, relationship with siblings, etc)
- Current marriage, previous marriage(s) and reason for divorce (if applicable)
- How you discipline or plan to discipline your children
- How you solve conflict in your home
- Extended family's attitude towards adoption
- Trans-racial adoption (if you are open to other ethnic groups)

**Typical Paperwork:** (most social workers/home study agencies require the following)

- Marriage license and divorce decrees (if applicable)
- Birth certificates
- Copy of Drivers License
- Recent pay stubs and Employment Verification
- Proof of health insurance will be required (They will most likely want a copy of the card)
- Physical examinations for all individuals over the age of 18 (You will need to obtain the form from the social worker before going to the doctor)
- Tax forms for the previous year
- Immunization records and letter of good health from pediatrician for children residing in the home
- Immunization records for any family pets
- 3-4 reference letters from non-family members that you have known for at least one year (The letters need to state why they think that you will be a good candidate for adoption. They should also provide their phone numbers, and will most likely be contacted for a short telephone interview)
- Georgia criminal record check for anyone over the age of 18 living in the home (You can go to the police department and tell them that you need a criminal record check for the purpose of adoption)
- Fingerprint cards (State and some times Federal fingerprint checks are required)
- Fire Arm Statement (if you have fire arms they are properly stored and locked for safety)
- Swimming Pool Statement (if you have a pool, proper safety precautions have been taken)
- Reference letters from the prospective adoptive grandparents are usually needed (The letters need to state how they feel about having an adoptive grandchild, and how they plan to treat the child)
- If you have a septic tank, they will require that you have it inspected

Paperwork is the most time consuming part of the home study process. By collecting your paperwork before your first visit, you will be able to speed up the process. This will be helpful if a placement is found for you in a short time frame.

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## HOME STUDY

### Common Concerns

- Previous marriages are not a reason to be concerned.
- Bad credit. They will not conduct a credit check. The only thing that they are concerned about is that you will have the finances available to care for your adopted child.
- Home owners vs. renters. They do not require that prospective parents are home owners.
- Child Support. Please advise us if you pay child support so that we can find an agency that does not regard that as an issue. Most do not, but there are exceptions.
- Having children from a previous marriage is not a problem; however, they may request a phone call with the children to discuss their feelings regarding adoption. If this is a problem, please discuss openly and be prepared to give legitimate reasons why it is not possible.
- Previous criminal background will not necessarily be cause for disapproval, but may lead to extra meetings, evaluations or required post placement visits. ***Please advise us of any arrests so that we may consider when making the selection of the home study and adoption agency you should use.***
- Finances. Adoptive parents don't have to be rich, just able to provide adequate care for the child.

If you have a concern about the home study process, please let us know. We will be happy to advise you and put your mind at ease prior to the home study process. The main thing to remember is to be completely honest during the entire home study process. It is better to have everything out in the open, rather than for them to discover that you have not been truthful.

### Helpful Hints

- When the social worker visits your home do not clean to the point that your house seems antiseptic. They are not there to conduct a white glove test and they want to know that you will be all right with toys and other typical baby clutter.
- It is nice to offer some simple refreshments when they are at your home.
- Do not be too chatty or joke too much. They are there to conduct a very serious job.
- Make sure that any firearms are locked away in a safe place that is not accessible to children. They will most likely want to see where you store your firearms.
- It is not necessary to have your nursery set up, but they will want to see the room that you intend to use for your baby.
- Know where your smoke alarms and fire extinguishers are located and that they are working properly.
- Keep your Home Study appointments with your social worker. Don't reschedule or push back appointments because it could delay your process.
- Make sure your Home Study agency will release the home study to you after the process is complete. We need 1 copy of the Home Study including supporting documents (such as reference letters, criminal background checks, physician reports, etc.) for our records.
- Be honest about how you plan to discipline. Be aware that some home study agencies will not approve you for your Home Study if you plan on spanking your children. We encourage creative ways of discipline such as time-out or reward systems.
- Don't forget to call your home study agency after arriving home with your new baby to schedule your post placement visits. In most cases, these post placement visits are required before finalization can occur. During a post placement visit a social worker will come back to your home to visit you and your new baby. They will make sure you and the baby are adjusting and doing well.

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## APPLICATION

WIFE		HUSBAND				
Last Name:	First Name:	Last Name:	First Name:			
Age:		Age:				
Occupation:		Occupation:				
Highest Grade Level:		Highest Grade Level:				
Work Phone:		Work Phone:				
Cell Phone:		Cell Phone:				
Do you have a criminal history? Y or N If yes, please explain:		Do you have a criminal history? Y or N If yes, please explain:				
FAMILY						
Home Address:		City:	State:	Zip:		
Home Phone:		Fax:				
Email:		Years of Marriage:	Annual Household Income:			
Alternate Contact's Name:		Phone Number(s):				
CHILDREN						
Child's Name:		Age:	Biological or Adopted?			
Child's Name:		Age:	Biological or Adopted?			
Information obtained is kept confidential and needed to provide the correct guidance and support throughout your adoption process.						
Religious Affiliation:		Church Name:				
Are you a member of your church? Y or N Do you attend church regularly? Y or N		Are you Bi-Lingual? Y or N If, so what language(s) do you speak?				
Is anyone living in your home other than your children? Y or N Do you plan on immunizing your children? Y or N		Have you adopted before? Y or N If so, which agency did you use?				
Have you completed your Home Study? Y or N If so, what agency did you use?		How did you hear about Christian Adoption Consultants? Referral Seminar Internet Other:				
-- Circle all that apply --		PREFERENCES			-- Circle all that apply --	
Sex: Male Female No Preference	Age: Newborn 0-12 months 1-3 years	# of Children: Single Birth Twins Sibling Group				
Type of Adoption: Open Closed *Semi-private (*preferred)		Are you open to a Special Needs adoption? Y N Would Consider				
Special Situations: Drug Exposure- Y N Would Consider    History of Mental Illness- Y N Would Consider    Alcohol Exposure- Y N Would Consider						
Ethnicity & Average adoption agency cost: Please circle and/or list all ethnicities that you would consider below. Caucasian African American Hispanic Bi-Racial American Indian Asian Other Ethnicities: \$28-35K    \$18-22K    \$26-32K    \$22-26K    \$26-\$32K    \$26-\$32K						
*Maximum Amount for Adoption: \$		*This does not include home study, consulting or travel costs			Date:	
Signature:			Signature:			
*Office Use ONLY* Home Study Agency:		Received:	Match:	Placement:	Comments:	

# CHRISTIAN ADOPTION *Consultants*

## CLIENT AGREEMENT

### Consulting and Profile Packages

- \$3,950.00  **Consulting, Paperwork Preparation & Upgraded Profile Package**  
(includes consulting, family profile service with 5 copies, 10 DVD profiles, digital PDF profile for email, and paperwork preparation service)
- \$2,850.00  **Consulting & Upgraded Profile Package** (includes consulting, family profile service w/ 5 copies, 5 DVD profiles, & a digital PDF profile)
- \$2,500.00  **Consulting & Basic Profile Package** (includes consulting, family profile service with 5 copies)
- \$1,950.00  **Adoption Consulting Service** (includes consulting and adoptive parent packet)
- \$1,100.00  **Do It Yourself - Consulting Packet** (includes adoptive parent packet with agency list with passwords and financing adoption grant info)
- \$650.00  **Family Profile Service** (includes creative layout, design, picture selection, and written narrative - original & 5 copies professionally bound)
- \$125.00  **Expedited Profile Service** (includes priority shipping)
- \$100.00  **Adoption Consultation** (1½ hour phone or face-to-face consultation only) applied to total package price if services are started within 30 days

I understand that Christian Adoption Consultants LLC (referred to as CAC) is operating as an adoption guidance, education and consulting service, and in no way, claims to be an adoption placement agency, attorney or facilitator. I also understand that CAC does not work directly with birth mothers but licensed agencies and adoption attorneys. CAC can not guarantee any specific placement or situation. The birth mother, in most cases, selects the family from a choice of profiles. Adoption is a risk. CAC is only responsible for services rendered and is not responsible for placement of a child. I understand that the birth mother could at any time change her mind and back out of the adoption. I also understand that information in regards to adoption is time sensitive and CAC can not be held liable for changes to adoption laws and/or agency policy/rules and fees.

CAC agrees to offer one - 1 hour consultation to be held at our office or a phone conference, adoption guidance and agency recommendations based on client's preferences given on CAC's application. CAC also agrees to provide to all clients (with the exception of clients that choose the "Do It Yourself" Consulting Packet and/or the Family Profile service) a follow-up phone conference, email support until match and recommendations for finalization if not finalizing in the adoption state.

CAC Fees are non-refundable and due up-front, when client agreement is received. Personal client information and preferences are used for the purposes of guidance in regards to the adoption, home study and/or agency recommendations.

The Family Profile Service (if chosen) will include: layout, creative design, picture selection, written narrative, binding, and 5 copies. The profile will consist of 5 or more full color pages. I will receive a pdf copy of the profile and 5 copies. I will be responsible for mailing the copied profiles to the appropriate agencies. I will be responsible for creating any additional copies. CAC will not be responsible for any additional copies. I will supply CAC with pictures via CD and information necessary to complete my profile. I also understand that it may be necessary for my pictures to be altered or modified. I understand it is my responsibility to make copies of my pictures and supply CAC with a CD of pictures. I also understand that I can not ask CAC to make changes to the profile once it is complete.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) I agree that all the information that I obtain from CAC is a paid service and confidential only to paying clients and can be used only for the sole purpose of our personal adoption and CAC Fees are non-refundable.

### Payment

<b>Total: \$</b>	<b>Credit Card Information:</b>	
<b>Payment Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check # <span style="float: right; font-size: small;">Returned Check Fee: \$47.00</span> <input type="checkbox"/> Visa or MasterCard	Card #:	Expiration Date:
	Name as it appears on card:	
	Billing Address (if different from home):	
<b>Client Signature:</b>	<b>Printed Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Client Signature:</b>	<b>Printed Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>CAC Authorized Signature:</b>	<b>Printed Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>