

A Michigan Family Forum Publication

Michigan Adoption Resource Guide



- 2nd Edition -

Dear Friend:

Thank you for your interest in adoption. Michigan Family Forum is pleased to provide you with this new, updated edition of the Michigan Adoption Resource Guide.

Promoting adoption is one way to ensure that more children get what every child needs - the love and support of a mom and a dad. In fact, studies regularly show that children in adoptive homes do better in every measurement of wellbeing when compared to those raised in unmarried or foster care environments.

Currently, Michigan has over 18,000 children in our foster care system. Many of these children are eligible for adoption including nearly 5,000 who have no legal parent and are simply waiting for an adoptive family. Furthermore, less than two percent of all children born to unwed mothers in Michigan are released into an adoptive home. Research has also revealed that young women and adoptive couples are often misinformed about the adoption process.

Clearly, we can do so much more to encourage adoption in Michigan. This resource guide is intended to help you become better informed about the adoption process and perhaps get personally involved. Whether you are a student, teacher, counselor, birthparent or one considering adoption, we hope this guide will be helpful.

We can all play a role in helping Michigan become a national leader in the promotion of adoption. Thank you for doing your part to be an advocate for Michigan's children.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to order additional copies of this guide. We look forward to working with you in the months ahead!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brad Snavely". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brad Snavely
Executive Director

Michigan Family Forum is a 510 (c) 3 based in Lansing, Michigan. This Second Edition was updated in January 2011

The painting shown on the cover of this publication is used with permission from artist Mackenzie Thorpe. To view other works by Mackenzie, or to purchase his work, visit his official website at www.mackenziethorpe.net.

Table of Contents

Adoption: One story among millions.....	2
Adoption Facts.....	3
Information for Adoptive Parents.....	4
Adoption Information for Birthparents.....	6
Raising Adoption Awareness.....	9
Adoption Resources.....	11
Michigan Adoption Agencies by County.....	12

Adoption: One Story Among Millions

Christiana

Christiana, adopted at birth, is now a vibrant 21-year old young woman. She learned to love children while growing up in a large family of 12 brothers and sisters. During her infant and younger years, she heard her brothers and sister play daily on various musical instruments. Today, Christiana is a licensed cosmetologist, serves handicapped children and plays the cello and the piano.

Linda, her birth mother, was a high school teacher and became pregnant in her late 20s. She knew that marriage with the father was not possible and that adoption would be the best choice for the baby. Linda's aunt helped her see the wisdom in finding a family and encouraged her during the difficult times. When they met the prospective adoptive parents there was a natural connection of family backgrounds and interests. Linda was very comfortable and grateful that her baby would be in a safe and secure home.

Just two years later, Christiana gained a baby sister. Christiana took care of her baby sister while having an older sister to model and love. Today, the three are best of friends and for a number of years they shared a bedroom, music, late night talks and the love of books. Eventually, her family expanded with further adoptions that included nine brothers and three sisters whom protect and love her today.

Christiana's family life is full of energy and experiences. Learning to play the cello and piano was a natural event. One of her older brothers, while working at a musical instrument shop, purchased and restored a cello for her. Eventually, the sisters joined an orchestra. Christiana also loves the game of soccer and competed with her younger sister a soccer team. After graduating from high school, she studied cosmetology and passed her state board exam within one year. Reading is one of her passions. It is not unusual for her to read two or three books at a time especially in the historical fiction themes.

Her life involves international travel and missions in the remote regions of the world. By all measures, Christiana enjoys life and is surrounded by friends and family whom she cares for and who care for her.

The gift of life that Linda offered Christiana ripples outward and will for this and many generations to come.

Adoption Facts

The concept of adoption was not legally recognized in the United States until the 1850's, with the inception of the first adoption laws. While transfers of children to substitute parents had occurred informally since American colonial times, adoption statutes legitimized the informal adoptive arrangements which previously existed.
www.destinyink.com/research/history.html

In 1851, Massachusetts became the first state to pass a law regulating the adoption of children. Institutions for parentless children were organized by religious and other charitable groups.
www.adoptionopen.com/historyofadoption.html

President Gerald R. Ford was adopted. President Andrew Jackson adopted his only son.
www.americanpresidents.org

Babe Ruth, Steve Jobs (co-founder of Apple) and Nat King Cole were all adopted.
<http://www.adoptionopen.com/famousadoptions.html>

On any given day in North America, more than 500,000 children are in the foster care system, and nearly 145,000 of them are available for adoption.
www.davethomasfoundation.org

In 2009, Michigan had over 4,900 children in foster care waiting to be adopted, ranking Michigan #5 in the nation for the number of children who are eligible for adoption but remain in foster care.
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau

According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, 40.4% of all births in Michigan in 2008 were to unwed mothers (nearly 49,000). In 11 counties, over 50% of all births were to unwed mothers.
2008 Residential Birth Files, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Community Health

As many as 100 million Americans have adoption in their immediate family. Someone in the family was adopted, has adopted or has chosen to place her child for adoption.
www.adoptionfacts.org

78 percent of Americans think the country should be doing more to encourage adoption.
National Adoption Attitudes Survey, June 2002

A lower percentage of adopted children (12%) than biological children (18%) live below the poverty level nationwide.
US Census Bureau

There were 1,525,345 births to unmarried woman in 2005.
Births: Final Data for 2005; National Vital Statistics Report

From 1989 to 1995, less than 1% of unwed mothers chose adoption for their infants.
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ad/ad306.pdf>

Information for Adoptive Parents

DOMESTIC INFANT ADOPTION

In choosing adoption, prospective adoptive parents will generally begin by choosing an agency or an attorney (utilized in private adoption). Factors to consider in choosing an agency are:

- Mission statement/belief system
- Counseling provided
- Approximate time that parents wait at the agency for placement
(Note: Birthmothers choose adoptive parents based on their profile. They are not chosen according to time on a “wait list”.)
- Personal recommendations of others that have used the agency
- History of the agency

HOME STUDY

Prior to adopting a child, prospective parents must participate in a pre-placement assessment. This assessment involves interviews as well as a home visit. Information gathered during the assessment contributes to the family profile that birthmothers receive in order to choose adoptive parents. The profile of the family includes names, religion and other important information. There is a fee for the home study that varies with agency.

ADOPTION PLANS

Once a birthmother chooses a set of adoptive parents, the agency will recommend making an adoption plan. This plan determines the desired openness of the adoption. If the birthmother would like an open adoption, the chosen parents are included in the discussion about the plan which includes frequency of visits, letters and/or phone calls. An entirely confidential adoption is where there is no exchange of information. The adoption plan can fall anywhere between completely open and confidential. While the adoption is legally binding, the terms discussed concerning the openness of the adoption are not. The sincerity of the adoptive parents may influence the choice of the birthmother.

COUNSELING

Building a family through adoption involves unique challenges. Those touched by adoption experience issues and concerns which can be addressed through education, support, and problem solving. It is important to support adoptive families with ongoing services after the adoption is finalized to ensure not only a healthy beginning but also lifelong family wellness. In an effort to support families throughout the adoption experience, some services that may be offered include:

- Short-term counseling for the families, crisis response and a referral source for follow-up.
- Services offered to adopted persons and birthparents who need contact with each other.
- Workshops and seminars which address issues and concerns related to adoption and provide education and resources for families.
- Support groups of various kinds

FINANCING AND COST

The cost of adoption varies with fees for processing the paperwork and for the home assessments. Parents that are chosen may be responsible financially for their birthmother’s counseling, living expenses and legal fees unless the birthmother waives these services. Parents may be required to pay for the medical expenses of the pregnancy and birth as well. There are loan programs to assist with adoptions as well as significant tax credits given by both state and federal governments (<http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc607.html>). Qualifying expenses

include reasonable and necessary adoption fees, court costs, attorney fees, traveling expenses (including meals and lodging while away from home), and other expenses directly related to and for which the principal purpose is the legal adoption of a child.

COMPLETING THE ADOPTION AND POST-PLACEMENT VISITS

After the baby is born, the birthmother will then be able to sign the release papers, which finalizes the birthmother's role in the adoption. After signing the release, the birthparent(s) has 21 days to petition the court for a rehearing in the case of fraud or duress, but not a change of mind. The baby will often be able to go directly home with the adopting family. The agency will then conduct a series of visits at the home of the adopting family to monitor the family and the care of the child. The number of visits may vary, but they usually last from six months to a year. The purpose is to provide not only support for the adopting parents as they adjust, but also to gather information so that the caseworker can make a recommendation to the court for the best interest of the child. At this time, the court will finalize the adoption.

INDEPENDENT ADOPTION

Independent adoptions by an attorney have a similar process to that of an agency. An adopting family must still have an agency do a pre-placement assessment. Independent adoptions are generally done through a private practice attorney because the adopting parents are either relatives or someone that the birthmother already knows. Instead of the baby being released into the custody of a private agency, the baby goes directly home with the family.

INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION

Adopting children internationally will differ in the openness aspect and is more costly. However, federal and state tax credits and loans still apply. There are also organizations that promote international adoption by offering grants and other financial support. International adoptions may involve traveling and can take several weeks to a year or more.

SPECIAL NEEDS AND FOSTER CARE ADOPTIONS

There are more than 100,000 children around the country waiting to be adopted. Although there is an abundance of families that seek infants, there are many children that are waiting and need families because they fit into one of the following categories:

- Children who have been neglected or abused
- Children who are older (especially ages 10 - 16)
- Children of racial minorities
- Siblings who must be placed together
- Children who have physical, emotional, behavioral, or mental challenges

Special needs adoptions are usually state-funded, and the adoptive parents pay no agency fee. Medical subsidies and financial assistance are often available until the child reaches 18 years of age, regardless of the adoptive family's income. Families are prepared for these adoptions by being provided:

- Full disclosure of information about the child(ren)
- Information about neglect, abuse, and the child welfare system
- Education about the child's needs and the special parenting skills required
- Visits which allow the family to adjust to its new family member(s)

See www.mare.org for a list of Michigan children waiting for an adoptive family.

Adoption Information for Birthparents

Going through an unexpected pregnancy can be one of the hardest times in a birthparent's life. Deciding to place the baby for adoption is not an easy choice; however, it is often a wise and loving option. Through adoption, birthparents are choosing to transfer their parental rights to two parents who are able to provide financially and emotionally for the child. This is not abandoning the baby; the birthparents have made an important decision to put their child's welfare first. Below are some of the common questions birthparents have about adoption.

COUNSELING

Adoption is an extraordinary choice that offers a child a great future, though it is not an easy process. The birthparent has faced many obstacles along this path to adoption, and perhaps the most difficult time may be yet to come — the separation from their child and the grieving process that follows. Counseling services are available to help birthparents work through this time and help them understand how both they and their baby can benefit from this decision. Adoption agencies will offer this counseling, though parents are not required to accept it.

FINANCIAL HELP

The birthmother is allowed to have the expenses of her pregnancy paid for by the adoptive family. These expenses might include medical, hospital, nursing and medication expenses. She may also have her living expenses paid for during the pregnancy and up to six weeks after the pregnancy. While there are many expenses that may be covered, the adoptive parents cannot pay the birthmother for her child.

CHOOSING ADOPTIVE PARENTS

Birthparents can choose the adoptive parents based on information an agency has been given from the adoptive parents themselves. Information that is provided includes first names, religion and other important information. Adoptive parents go through a careful screening and receive special training to parent adopted children. A social worker visits their home several times. In order to be licensed for adopting, the social worker and the agency must be confident that they would be good parents.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

After the baby is born, the birthmother will sign release forms to terminate all parental rights of the child. Legally, she is no longer responsible in any way for the child. If the birthmother is a minor, she must have the consent of her parent/guardian in order to choose adoption. If the birthfather is not part of the process, the birthmother is required to give the judge as much information as possible about how to contact him. The court will notify him of the hearing in which he may attempt to attain rights to the child. After signing the release, the baby's parents have 21 days to petition the court for a rehearing in the case of fraud or duress, but not a change of mind.

AFTER THE ADOPTION

Birthmothers are encouraged to make adoption plans. This plan will determine what the adoption will look like, including how often the mother will interact with the adoptive parents and her child. The birthmother can choose an open adoption, where she might have contact with the adoptive parents, a confidential adoption, where they never meet, or anywhere between. While the adoption is legally binding, the adoption plan is not, so it is important to choose sincere adoptive parents.

Toll Free Adoption Help-Line

1-800-589-MARE

10 COMMON ADOPTION QUESTIONS

- Is counseling available during and after this process? Do I have to participate?
- Can my baby's father be involved in the adoption process? Does he have to be?
- Can my parents be involved in the process? Do they have to?
- Is there any financial help available for me? What about help with medical bills?
- How much will I know about the adoptive parents? Is it possible to meet them or know information about them? What if I don't want to know?
- How do you screen adoptive parents to make sure they are good people?
- What information do you provide the adoptive family about me?
- In the future, will I be able to have contact with my child if I want to?
- Will my child be able to contact me when he/she is older?
- What if I change my mind about adoption?

Toll Free Paternity Line

1-866-540-0008

A Department of Human Services Specialist will answer questions like these:

- She says I'm not the father, but what if I am?
- Can I visit my baby?
- How is paternity established if we're not married?
- Can I get tested to make sure I'm the father?
- Where can I be tested?
- Who pays for the test?
- Will I have to pay for this child if it turns out I am the father?
- What if I don't want to establish that I'm the father? Do I have to?

Establishing paternity provides the child with a legal father. Both fathers and mothers have a right to know about their child and they have a responsibility to care for their child even if they are not married to each other. Children who have a dad in their life have fewer behavioral problems, do better in school, and have higher self-esteem than those without fathers in their lives.

Safe Delivery Program

Michigan law gives a woman in a crisis pregnancy the right to give her newborn baby (not more than 72 hours old) to a uniformed or identified emergency service provider on duty at a hospital, fire station or police station. This law allows a woman to do so without it being considered neglect or abandonment. The best place for the delivery of a child is in a hospital or hospital-based birthing center. The birthparent has a right to provide as much or as little information as she would like to the service provider, and all information given will remain confidential.

Safe Delivery Program Procedures:

- The emergency service provider (ESP) will accept the newborn and transfer the newborn to a hospital if the provider is not a hospital.
- The ESP will make a reasonable attempt to provide the parent with pertinent information.
- The ESP will give the birthparent the following information:
 - *By surrendering the newborn, the parent is releasing the newborn to a child placing agency for adoption
 - *The parent has 28 days to petition the court to regain custody
 - *After 28 days, there will be a hearing to terminate parental rights
 - *There will be a public notice of the hearing, which will not contain names
 - *The parent can receive confidential counseling or medical attention
 - *The state is required to reasonably attempt to identify both parents
 - *The parent may sign a release for the newborn which will be used at the parental rights termination hearing
- The ESP will ask for relevant family and medical information
- At the hospital, the newborn will be examined by a physician.
- If the physician comes to a reasonable belief that the newborn was abused or neglected or is not a newborn, the physician is required to report it to the proper authorities.
- Otherwise, the hospital will notify a child placing agency that the hospital has a newborn in temporary protective custody.

Toll Free Emergency Line

1-866-733-7733

The emergency line provides:

- Information on prenatal care and the delivery of a newborn
- Information on adoption options and services
- The legal and procedural requirements related to surrendering a child and the legal consequences for endangering a child
- Health agencies and resources for counseling and assistance with crisis management

**For actual language of the Michigan Law regarding the Safe Delivery Program see Michigan Compiled Laws 712.5, 712.17, 712.20, 712.3*

Raising Adoption Awareness

INFANT ADOPTION AWARENESS TRAINING PROGRAMS (IAATP)

In “Adoption Awareness” legislation passed in 2000, the United States Congress encouraged the consideration of infant adoption as a positive option for women and teens facing unplanned pregnancies. The act promotes counselors in health clinics and other settings to be trained in providing women with complete and accurate information on adoption.

“All women facing unintended pregnancies should have complete and accurate information on infant adoption along with information on resources available to them and their unborn children.”

-U.S. Representative Jim DeMint
Co-Sponsor, Adoption Awareness Act

The U.S. Congress and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services enacted the Adoption Awareness Act based on findings reported in “The Orientations of Pregnancy Counselors Toward Adoption” by Professor Edmund Mech, which found that:

40% of “pregnancy counselors” did not even raise the issue of adoption with pregnant clients. And of the 60% who did raise the issue, 40% of those counselors provided inaccurate or incomplete information.

Recipients of these federal grants have one-, two-, or three-day training sessions which address:

- Adoption as a time-honored and necessary social institution that protects children
- The effects of adoption on women and their children
- Understanding the needs and rights of people directly involved with the pregnant woman
- Correcting misconceptions about adoption
- Other issues in the client’s life
- Current state and federal laws related to adoption, placement decisions and procedures
- Current practices and policies in adoption, by agencies and attorneys
- Understanding and assessing the client’s interest in adoption
- Ways to provide information and support that enable the woman to make a fully-informed decision about her future and the future of the child
- Special issues in counseling teens
- The language of adoption and conventional communication styles
- How miscommunication and misunderstanding have unintended negative results
- Networking and collaboration with professionals

Recommended participants to be trained include:

- Health clinic workers in federally funded centers and community health centers
- Public and private pregnancy and options counselors
- Nursing staff
- Educators
- Members of helping professions who come into contact with pregnant clients and patients

A pregnancy counselor who is trained and certified through one of these programs has the ability to train other counselors within the clinic. A counselor will be equipped to share the materials from the training thereby increasing the overall awareness of infant adoption among staff and clients.

ORGANIZATIONS WITH INFANT ADOPTION AWARENESS TRAINING PROGRAMS

Together, the National Council for Adoption and Spaulding for Children have trained over 80,000 professionals, parents and policy makers in the best practices in adoption and adoption services. The groups develop training curricula, publications and videos to improve adoption methods and practices in order to ensure that adoption remains a viable option for pregnant women and their babies.

National Council For Adoption

225 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3561
(866) 21-ADOPT
www.adoptioncouncil.org

Spaulding for Children

16250 Northland Drive
Suite 100
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 443-7080
www.spaulding.org

RESOLUTIONS

Each year, the Governor of Michigan declares November as Adoption Month in Michigan, coinciding with National Adoption Month.

Michigan also celebrates “Michigan Adoption Day.” Each November, the Michigan Supreme Court declares a Saturday in which they take the entire day to finalize adoptions. In so doing, they draw attention to the need for permanent homes for thousands of foster children.

SUGGESTIONS FOR AGENCIES AND SCHOOLS

- Provide training for pregnancy counselors to be educated on adoption
- Create an agency brochure to be distributed, especially during November (Adoption Month)
- Obtain Adoption Awareness Kits that are available from various organizations
- Contact media outlets to run Public Service Announcements that are available
- Provide accurate adoption information in sex education classes (A State of Michigan requirement for schools)

Mass media campaigns encourage adoption of children in need of homes and promote adoption as a healthy option for pregnant women and their babies.

Public Service Announcements for radio and television as well as for magazines and newspapers are available. National Council for Adoption announcements simply say:

“To all those who gave birth to, homes to, or just give thought to people adopted as infants, thanks for considering adoption.”

Adoption Resources

NATIONAL RESOURCES

National Council for Adoption

225 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3561
(866) 21-ADOPT
www.adoptioncouncil.org

Child Welfare Information Gateway

1250 Maryland Avenue, SW
Eighth Floor
Washington, DC 20024
(800) 394-3366
www.childwelfare.gov

Adoption Network Law Center

1-800-367-2367
www.adoptionnetwork.com

Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

4150 Tuller Road, Suite 204
Dublin, OH 43017
800-275-3832
www.davethomasfoundationforadoption.org

Adoption Exchange Association

8015 Corporate Drive, Suite C
Baltimore, MD 21236
(888) 200-4005
www.adoptUSKids.org

Adoption.com

459 N. Gilbert Rd., Suite C-100
Gilbert, AZ 85234
(480) 446-0500
www.adoption.com

Loving and Caring

219A Witmer Road
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 293-3230
www.lovingandcaring.org

MICHIGAN RESOURCES

Bethany Christian Services

901 Eastern Avenue NE, PO Box 294
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294
Phone: (616) 224-7617
www.bethany.org

Christian Advocates for Adoption

P.O. Box 364
Hudsonville, MI 49426
(616) 669-0655
www.cafadopt.org

Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange

330 W. Michigan Ave.
P.O. Box 6128
Jackson, MI 49204
(800) 589-6273
www.mare.org

Michigan Federation for Children and Families

309 N. Washington Square, Suite 011
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 485-8552
www.michfed.org

Spaulding for Children

16250 Northland Drive, Suite 100
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 443-7080
www.spaulding.org

INTERNATIONAL SPECIFIC ADOPTION

Shaohannah's Hope

44180 Riverside Parkway
Lansdowne, VA 20176
members.shaohannahshope.org

Children's Hope International

11780 Borman Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146
(314) 890-0086
www.childrenshopeint.org

MI Adoption Agencies by County

ALLEGAN COUNTY

Bethany Christian Services

12048 James Street
Holland, MI 49424-9556
Phone: (616) 396-0623
www.bethany.org/holland

Pathways, Michigan

412 Century Lane
Holland, MI 49023
Phone: (616) 396-2301
www.pathwaysmi.org

ALPENA COUNTY

Child and Family Services of Northeast Michigan

1044 US-23 North
Alpena, MI 49707
Phone: (989) 356-4567
www.cfsnemi.org

Catholic Human Services, Inc.

154 South Ripley Boulevard
Alpena, MI 49707
Phone: (989) 356-6385
www.catholichumanservices.org

BARAGA COUNTY

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency

107 Beartown Road
Baraga, MI 49908
Phone: (906) 353-4204

BAY COUNTY

Catholic Family Services

915 Columbus Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708
Phone: (989) 892-2504
www.cfssite.org

Lutheran Adoption Service

6019 West Side Saginaw Road
Bay City, MI 48707
Phone: (989) 686-3170
www.lssm.org/service/adoption

CALHOUN COUNTY

Family and Children Services

535 Emmett Street East
Battle Creek, MI 49017
Phone: (269) 965-3247
www.fcsources.org

CHIPPEWA COUNTY

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency - Anishnabek Community Family Services

2218 Shunk Rd.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Phone: (906) 632-5250
www.saulttribe.com

DELTA COUNTY

Catholic Social Services of the Upper Peninsula

1100 Ludington, Suite 401
Escanaba, MI 49829
Phone: (906) 786-7212
www.cssup.org

DICKINSON COUNTY

Catholic Social Services of the Upper Peninsula

427 South Stephenson, Suite 215
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
Phone: (906) 774-3323
www.cssup.org

ADOPTION AGENCIES BY COUNTY - CONTINUED

GENESEE COUNTY

Alternatives for Children and Families

2065 S. Center Rd.
PO Box 190238
Burton, MI 48519
(810) 250-3800
www.acfinc.org

Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genessee Counties

901 Chippewa Street
Flint, MI 48503
Phone: (810) 232-9950
www.catholiccharitiessg.org

Ennis Center for Children

129 E. Third St.
Flint, MI 48502
(810) 233-4031
www.enniscenter.org

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Bethany Christian Services

1055 Carriage Hill Dr., Ste. 2
Traverse City, MI 49686
Phone: (231) 995-0870
www.bethany.org/traverse

Child and Family Services of Northwestern MI

3785 Veterans Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684
Phone: (231) 946-8975
www.cfsnwmi.org

Catholic Human Services

1000 Hastings Street
Traverse City, MI 49686
Phone: (231) 947-8110
www.catholichumanservices.org

HOUGHTON COUNTY

Good Will Farm

1701 MacInnes Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-0520
www.goodwillfarm.com

INGHAM COUNTY

Child and Family Services, Capital Area

4287 Five Oaks Dr.
Lansing, MI 48911
(517) 882-4000
www.childandfamily.org

Lutheran Adoption Service

801 South Waverly, Suite 103
Lansing, MI 48917
Phone: (517) 886-1380
www.lssm.org/service/adoption

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency

6425 South Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 3
Lansing, MI 48911
Phone: (517) 393-3256

St. Vincent Catholic Charities

2800 W. Willow St.
Lansing, MI 48917
(517) 323-4734
www.stvcc.org

Bethany Christian Services

612 W. Lake Lansing Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 336-0191
www.bethany.org/eastlansing

Adoption Associates

800 Thomas L. Parkway, Suite 1
Lansing, MI 48917
Phone: (517) 327-1388
Toll Free: (877) 869-4196
www.adoptassoc.com

JACKSON COUNTY

Family Service and Children's Aid

PO Box 6128
330 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: (517) 787-7920
www.strong-families.org

ADOPTION AGENCIES BY COUNTY - CONTINUED

KALAMAZOO COUNTY

Bethany Christian Services

6687 Seeco Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-5968
Phone: (269) 372-8800
www.bethany.org/kalamazoo

Lutheran Adoption Service

1803 Whites Rd., Suite 5
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
Phone: (269) 345-5776
www.lssm.org

Family and Children Services

1608 Lake Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
Phone: (269) 344-0202
www.fcsource.org

Family Adoption Consultants

421 W. Crosstown Pkwy.
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 343-3316
www.facadopt.org

KENT COUNTY

Bethany Christian Services

901 Eastern Avenue NE, PO Box 294
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294
Toll Free: (800) 238-4269
www.bethany.org/grandrapids

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency

1345 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 220
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Phone: (616) 454-9221

Catholic Charities of West Michigan

40 Jefferson SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Phone: (616) 456-1443
www.ccwestmi.org

Lutheran Adoption Services

1715 Sutherland Dr., SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
(616) 281-4706
www.lssm.org

Greater Hopes Family Services

1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Suite 246
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Phone: (616) 451-0245
www.greaterhopes.org

D.A. Blodgett - St. John's

805 Leonard Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-1184
Phone: (616) 451-2021
www.dablodgett.org

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Judson Center

2810 W. Grand River Ave., #700
Howell, MI 48843
(517) 545-0540
www.judsoncenter.org

LENAWEE COUNTY

Family Counseling and Children's Services of Lenewee County

220 North Main Street
Adrian, MI 49221
Phone: (517) 265-5352
www.fccservices.org

Catholic Charities

199 N. Broad St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-2191
www.catholiccharitiesjacksonlenaweehillsdale.org

MACOMB COUNTY

Catholic Services of Macomb

15945 Canal Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038
Phone: (586) 416-2300
www.csmacomb.org

Family Adoption Consultants

45100 Sterritt, Ste. 204
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 726-2988
www.facadopt.org

ADOPTION AGENCIES BY COUNTY - CONTINUED

MARQUETTE COUNTY

Catholic Social Services of the Upper Peninsula

347 Rock Street
Marquette, MI 49855
Phone: (906) 227-9119
www.cssup.org

Child and Family Svcs. of the Upper Peninsula

706 Chippewa Sq., Ste. 200
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 228-4050
www.cfsup.org

Lutheran Social Svcs. of Upper Michigan

1029 N. Third Street
Marquette, MI 49855
(877) 994-8344
www.lssadopt.org

Teaching Family Homes of Upper Michigan

1000 Silver Creek Rd.
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 249-5437
www.teachingfamilyhomes.org

MENOMINEE COUNTY

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency

N14911 Hannahville B1 Road
Wilson, MI 49896
Phone: (906) 466-9221

MIDLAND COUNTY

Adoption Option Inc.

4008 W. Wackerly
Midland, MI 48641
(989) 839-0534
www.adoptionoptioninc.org

MUSKEGON COUNTY

Bethany Christian Services

1848 E. Sherman Blvd., Ste 1
Muskegon, MI 49444
(231) 733-1618
www.bethany.org/muskegon

Catholic Charities West Michigan

1095 Third Street, Suite 125
Muskegon, MI 49441
Phone: (231) 726-4735
www.ccwestmi.org

NEWAYGO COUNTY

Bethany Christian Services

6995 West 48th Street
Fremont, MI 49412-0173
Phone: (231) 924-9506
www.bethany.org/fremont_mi

OAKLAND COUNTY

Spectrum Human Services

23077 Greenfield, Ste. 500
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 552-8020
www.spectrumhuman.org

Spaulding for Children

16250 Northland Drive, Suite 100
Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: (248) 443-7080
www.spaulding.org

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency

24001 Southfield Road, Suite 204
Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: (248) 552-1142

Christian Family Services

17105 West 12 Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48076
Phone: (248) 557-8390
www.cfs-michigan.org

Morning Star Adoption Center

15635 West Twelve Mile Road, Suite 100
Southfield, MI 48076
Phone: (248) 483-5484
www.morningstaradoption.org

Catholic Social Services of Oakland County - St. Francis Family Center

17500 West 8 Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: (248) 552-0750
www.cssoc.org

ADOPTION AGENCIES BY COUNTY - CONTINUED

OAKLAND COUNTY - CONTINUED

Child and Parent Services

30600 Telegraph Road, Suite 2215
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
Phone: (248) 646-7790
Toll Free: (800) 248-0106
www.childandparentservices.com

Lutheran Adoption Services

21700 Northwestern Hwy., Ste 1490
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 423-2770
www.lssm.org

Orchards Children's Services

30215 Southfield Rd.
Southfield, MI 48076
(248) 258-0440
www.orchards.org

Adoption Associates

26105 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 301
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Phone: (248) 474-0990
Toll Free: (877) 257-3591
www.adoptassoc.com

LDS Family Services - Farmington Hills

37634 Enterprise Court
Farmington Hills, MI 48331
Phone: (248) 553-0902
www.ldsfamilyservices.org

Forever Families

42400 West Grand River Avenue, Suite 111
Novi, MI 48375
Phone: (248) 344-9606
www.forever-families.org

Oakland Family Services

114 Orchard Lake Road
Pontiac, MI 48341
Phone: (248) 858-7766
www.oaklandfamilyservices.org

OAKLAND COUNTY - CONTINUED

Adoption Options Worldwide

5745 West Maple Road, Suite 214
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Phone: (248) 855-2813
www.adoptionoptionsworldwide.com

Jewish Family Service Alliance for Adoption

6555 West Maple Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Phone: (248) 592-2345
www.jfsdetroit.org

Bethany Christian Services

30685 Barrington St./ Ste. 140
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Phone: (248) 414-4080
www.bethany.org/madisonheights

OSCEOLA COUNTY

Eagle Village

4507 170th Ave.
Hersey, MI 49639
(231) 832-2234
www.eaglevillage.org

OTTAWA COUNTY

Adoption Associates

1338 Baldwin Street
Jenison, MI 49428
Phone: (616) 667-0677
Toll Free: (800) 677-2367
www.adoptassoc.com

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genessee Counties

120 West Exchange Street, Suite 300
Owosso, MI 48867
Phone: (989) 723-8239
www.catholiccharitiessg.org

ADOPTION AGENCIES BY COUNTY - CONTINUED

WASHTENAW COUNTY

Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County

4925 Packard Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48108-1521
Phone: (734) 971-9781
www.csswashtenaw.org/adoption

Hands Across the Water

2890 Carpenter Road, Suite 600
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Phone: (734) 477-0135
www.hatw.org

Lutheran Adoption Service

2770 Carpenter Rd., Suite 200
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Phone: (734) 971-1944
www.lssm.org

Judson Center

3840 Packard St., #170
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(734) 528-1692
www.judsoncenter.org

WAYNE COUNTY

Keane Center for Adoption

930 Mason St.
Dearborn, MI 48124
Phone: (313) 277-4664
Toll Free: (800) 905-6789
www.keaneadoption.org

Catholic Social Services of Wayne County

9851 Hamilton Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202
Phone: (313) 883-2100
www.csswayne.org

The Children's Center of Wayne County

79 Alexandrine West
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 831-5535
www.thechildrenscenter.com

Christ Child House

15751 Joy Road
Detroit, MI 48228
(313) 584-6077
www.christchildhouse.org

Ennis Center for Children

20100 Greenfield Rd.
Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 342-2699
www.enniscenter.org

Homes for Black Children

511 E. Larned
Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 961-4777
www.homesforblackchildren.org

Judson Center

12723 Telegraph Rd., #2
Redford, MI 48239
(313) 794-5653
www.judsoncenter.org

Methodist Children's Home Society

26645 W. Six Mile Rd.
Redford, MI 48240
(313) 531-4060
www.mchsmi.com

ABOUT MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM

OUR CORE VALUES

- The family is the fundamental institution in a civil society.
- Healthy, lifelong marriages are beneficial to adults and offer the best environment in which to raise children and care for elders.
- The involvement of responsible fathers is essential to the economic, emotional, and social health of children.
- Children need the protection of stable families and a healthy understanding of human sexuality.
- Elders deserve to have security and care provided by loving family members in a comfortable home environment.

OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Family Health Indicators: A Survey of Michigan Counties
- Forum Online, a free weekly electronic newsletter
Subscribe at www.michiganfamily.org
- What Every Child Needs: The Unique Contributions of Fathers and Mothers
- Sex Education: Rights and Responsibilities in Michigan Law
- Infant Adoption in Michigan: Reviving a vanishing phenomenon
- Policy Briefs
Research briefs on marriage, out-of-wedlock sexual activity and fatherhood
- Natural Law and Marriage
- Sex Education and Michigan Law: Evaluating Our Schools

All resources are available by contacting us or by visiting our website:

WWW.MICHIGANFAMILY.ORG

PO Box 15216
Lansing, MI 48901
517.374.1171