

Information for Birth Parents Thinking About Adoption

Being faced with unexpected pregnancy can be very scary. You may be confused, upset, embarrassed and feel overwhelmed by the decisions you have to make.

Many women in an unplanned pregnancy are not aware of the choices they have, or do not consider the outcomes of their decisions.

Adoption is one of the choices that you have. It is not an easy choice, but it is a loving choice for your baby when you are not able or ready to parent at this time in your life.

Adoption is much different then it was in the past. You can choose the family for your child and decide on how open you want the relationship to be with your child and the adoptive family. You can have the opportunity to meet the adoptive family, see your child and/or to have pictures and letters shared between you, your child, and the adoptive family.

There are many families who are not able to have children for many different reasons, but very much want to be parents and provide a child with love, guidance, and a stable, secure future. For these couples, their dreams of being parents and raising a child become reality when a young woman in an unplanned pregnancy who values the life and future of her child chooses adoption.

You have more choices and support than you might think.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I be pressured to place my baby for adoption?

You will not be pressured in any way to make any decisions about you or your baby. Catholic Services of Macomb's Pregnancy Counselor will work with you and provide counseling and referrals so that you will have the information you need to make the best decisions for you and your baby.

When do I have to decide?

Birth parents can choose adoption at any point during pregnancy and after the baby is born. Some birth mothers decide early in their pregnancy while others decide after the birth of their baby. Many birth parents have found that making a commitment to adoption before the birth makes it easier to choose an adoptive couple and find a home for their baby.

Will I be able to choose the couple who will parent my baby?

Yes. There are many couples who want to raise and love a child. Catholic Services of Macomb has a number of approved couples with diverse backgrounds, stories and ages. Some already have children, while others are waiting for their first child. There are enough waiting couples for you to be able to find the one with whom you will feel the most comfortable.

Will I be able to meet the couple and have contact with my baby after adoption?

You have the choice of whether or not you want to meet the couple, and what level of openness you want to have with the couple and your baby after the adoption. You will have the opportunity to meet the couple after you have chosen them, if you so choose. Usually, the couple and the birth parent(s) agree on the level of openness when they meet at the Catholic Services of Macomb.

Will I receive counseling and other services through the Catholic Services of Macomb?

Yes, a Pregnancy Counselor will help you work through your decision as well as the feelings and emotions that result in the decisions you are making. The Pregnancy Counselor can also assist you in obtaining prenatal care, housing, continuing education, financial assistance, and referrals to other community resources as needed. The Pregnancy Counselor will also guide you through the legal process of adoption and help you complete required paperwork.

What happens when I give birth to my baby?

Your Pregnancy Counselor will come to the hospital to see you. Prior to giving birth, you and your Pregnancy Counselor will make a hospital care plan which will include notifying the hospital of your wishes and plans for adoption. You determine what will happen at the hospital. Some birth parents want the couple involved in the delivery while others don't want the couple at the hospital until the baby is ready to be discharged. Some birth parents want to spend time with the baby at the hospital, while others choose not to see the baby after birth. The decision is yours to make, and your Pregnancy Counselor can help you decide what you want to do. When the baby is ready for discharge and if your plan is adoption, the adoptive couple will then be able to take the baby home.

Will I have to go to court?

Yes, you will have to go to court to release your baby for adoption.

What about my baby's father?

There are different requirements for birth fathers depending upon circumstances. Catholic Services of Macomb's Pregnancy Counselor can provide you with information regarding birth fathers and answer any questions you have.

Will I be able to receive services from Catholic Services of Macomb after the adoption of my baby?

Yes. Your Pregnancy Counselor will continue to provide counseling and other services to you after the adoption of your baby, if you choose. You probably have many more questions that we have presented here. If you would like to learn more about adoption or would like to talk to a Pregnancy Counselor, please contact Catholic Services of Macomb toll free any time at 1-888-4-Baby-Due.

**For additional information, click on Contact Us,
or call 1.586.416.2300**