

WAIT NO MORE



Finding Families for
Ohio's Waiting Kids



Frequently Asked Questions about Adoption¹

1. What is adoption?

Adoption is a legal process that creates a lifelong relationship between a parent and child who are not biologically related. Once the adoption of a child is approved by a court, the adoptive parents will receive an adoption decree and birth certificate, acknowledging that the child is a legal family member with all the rights and privileges of a birth child.

2. How do agency adoption, independent adoption, and intercountry adoption differ?

In an agency adoption, a licensed public or private adoption agency places the child with an adoptive family. The birth parent's parental rights are terminated either by court order or by the filing of a relinquishment. The adoption agency becomes legally responsible for the care, custody and control of the child. The agency studies and approves adoptive applicants before placing a child in their home for adoption, then supervises the placement for six or more months before the court approves the adoption.

NOTE: The following two types of adoption are not covered at *Wait No More*.

In an independent adoption, birth parents choose the prospective parents and place the child directly with them. When making this decision, a birth parent must have personal knowledge of certain facts about the adopting parents. The birth parent placing the child for adoption must receive an advisement of rights, responsibilities, and options from an Adoption Service Provider (ASP). The birth parent must also sign an Independent Adoption Placement Agreement (AD 924), which in 30 days automatically becomes an irrevocable consent to adoption unless revoked within that time.

In an intercountry adoption, prospective parents adopt foreign-born children for whom the federal law makes a special immigration entry visa available. Intercountry adoption includes completion of the adoption in the child's native country or in Ohio.

3. About the children!

Children in foster care of all ages are in the child welfare system awaiting permanent homes. The county selects permanent homes in which to make an adoptive placement. Potential adoptive parents are informed of special needs or significant problems which the child may have or encounter. Information provided by the child's caseworker depicts the child and describes the adjustments and challenges the child will have to overcome once placed with an adoptive family.

¹ All information adapted from <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cfsweb/PG1302.htm>, http://www.adoptflorida.org/adoption_faq.html and the Ohio Adoption Guide, A Handbook for Prospective Adoptive Families (<http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/interfind.asp?formnum=01675>).

4. How do I adopt a child from foster care?

- Contact your local licensed public or private adoption agency to speak with an agency representative about the process
- Attend an orientation
- Complete training, an application, background check, and other requirements
- Complete and submit a written application
- Discuss the type of child you wish to adopt and the children that are available through the public adoption agency with your caseworker
- Participate in a "family assessment," which consists of a thorough review of your criminal, medical, employment, emotional, marital, and life history and your home environment, as required by law (This process is a joint effort by the agency and the adoptive applicants. The agency evaluates and determines your ability to provide a stable, safe and permanent home to a child who is available for adoptive placement.)
- A child is matched with your family and adoption is finalized

5. What ages of children are available?

Children awaiting adoption in Ohio range from infants to teens and often include sibling groups with multiple ages.

6. How much will it cost to adopt?

When you adopt a child from the State of Ohio you will be charged minimal or no adoption fees related to pre-adoptive training, home studies or placement. There may be expenses related to attorney fees and court costs but these may be reimbursed by the state. Other one-time-only expenses that may be reimbursed are birth certificate fees and travel expenses for visiting the child.

7. Is there financial assistance provided once the adoption is final?

There may be several types of financial assistance available to adoptive families. For more information regarding any of these subsidies or benefits, please contact your county's public children services agency (PCSA), your adoption caseworker or a tax advisor.

Post Adoption Special Services Subsidy – The Post-Adoption Special Services Subsidy (PASSS) program is for all adoptive families in Ohio whose children may be experiencing adoption-related difficulties or issues that were preexisting, but were not apparent at the time of adoption. Such services are available to prevent the disruption of an adoption.

Title IV-E Adoption Subsidy – Title IV-E Federal Adoption Subsidy program provides federal financial support for children placed for adoption who meet the eligibility criteria. In addition to a monthly monetary payment, these children are eligible for medical coverage under Medicaid and may be eligible to receive assistance and services under the federal Title XX program. Applications for the Title IV-E subsidy must be completed by the adoptive family prior to adoption finalization. The amount of adoption assistance is determined by negotiation and mutual agreement between the adoptive parent(s) and the PCSA.

State Adoption Maintenance Subsidy Program – The State Adoption Maintenance Subsidy Program is a financial program that provides monthly maintenance subsidy payments to adoptive families adopting children who meet the special needs criteria that is defined in the Ohio Administrative Code rules and who are not eligible for Title IV-E Adoption Assistance. The family's income is taken into consideration when determining eligibility for the State Maintenance Subsidy. The child may also be eligible for medical coverage under Medicaid. Applications must be completed by the adoptive family prior to finalization.

Non-Recurring Adoption Expense Subsidy – The Non-Recurring Adoption Expense is designed to promote the adoption of special needs children by providing eligible families the opportunity for reimbursement of certain costs related to adopting a child with special needs. Non-recurring adoption expenses are those one-time expenses directly related to the legal adoption of a child with special needs. Applications and agreements for the Non-Recurring Adoption Expense Subsidy must be completed by the adoptive family prior to adoption finalization.

Adoption Tax Benefits – The federal government and the state of Ohio allow families who adopt to receive a non-refundable tax credit for the year in which the adoption was legalized. Many foster and adoptive parents are eligible for tax benefits. The adoptive parents should meet with a tax advisor to discuss tax benefits.

8. Who can adopt?

There are all kinds of adoptive families. The most important requirement for adoption is that the family can provide a loving, stable and secure family for a growing child. Adoptive parents:

- can be married, single, divorced or widowed
- may or may not have other children
- must be at least 18 years old
- can be renters or home owners
- can have a minimum yet stable income
- can have any level of education

9. Is adoption right for my family?

Adoption is a decision for the entire family. It requires all family members to talk about what adoption might be like and how adopting a child(ren) will affect the family's current structure. Since most of Ohio's waiting children are in foster care and are oftentimes adopted by their foster parents, your family may want to speak with others who have adopted children from the foster care system. Your family may also want to consider becoming foster parents. Families thinking about becoming an adoptive/foster family should also consider available community resources that may support their decision to adopt and/or foster a child.

10. How long will it take to adopt a child?

In an agency adoption, the process may be lengthy but well worth the wait. Depending on the workload of the agency selected, it will take anywhere from four to eight months to complete an adoption family assessment. Most adoptive placements occur one to several months after the family assessment has been approved (this depends on the type of child you are interested in adopting).

11. What is the difference between adoption and guardianship?

Adoption is the permanent legal assumption of all parental rights and responsibilities for a child. Adoptive parents have the same legal rights and responsibilities as parents whose children are born to them.

A guardian is someone appointed by the court to care for a child until he or she is 18. If you become a guardian, the court grants you the right to make most decisions regarding the child. A guardian is not a child's legal parent and may be subject to ongoing supervision of the court. Guardianship does not give all the legal rights and responsibilities of a parent to the guardian the way adoption does to an adoptive parent. The court can make a decision about guardianship whether or not the parent agrees.

The Adoption Process²

Attending Informational Meetings and Orientations

Agencies will generally invite people who have expressed an interest in adopting a child to an informational meeting and/or orientation. This meeting is designed to provide potential adoptive families with information about the homestudy process, pre-service training, general information about the pre-placement process and the finalization process. The agency may also discuss supportive services available in the county.

Pre-Service Training

You will be asked to participate in educational sessions in order to learn more about the children who are awaiting adoption, as well as to determine your strengths as an adoptive parent. These educational sessions will explore adoption from a child's point of view and describe the needs of children waiting in the foster care system. The training will help the adoptive applicant gain realistic expectations about adoption and gain confidence in the ability to parent a waiting child.

Topics discussed during pre-service include:

- The adoption process
- Child development
- Separation and loss that children experience
- Understanding behaviors and dealing with child behaviors and attachment
- Defining culture and diversity and cultural issues
- Adoption issues that relate to the child, birth family and extended family
- Community resources and the importance of advocating

The Home Study

The home study is a process of education and self-evaluation. It is a time for you and your caseworker to look at your readiness to adopt, as well as identify special parenting abilities that you may offer to a waiting child. The process allows the adoptive family to look at their family structure and their support system. During the home study, adoptive parents will also explore their beliefs, attitudes and coping skills. Your caseworker will meet with you and everyone living in your home to discuss the adoption process. Through a series of group and individual meetings, you will learn more about the kind of children you might best parent.

Topics discussed during the home study include:

- Motivation for wanting to adopt
- Your life experiences and history
- Your marriage or relationship with a significant other
- Your ability to support your family financially
- Your health
- Your support system

² All information adapted from the Ohio Adoption Guide, A Handbook for Prospective Adoptive Families, <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/interfind.asp?formnum=01675>.

When you complete the application for adoption, you will be assigned a caseworker who will work with your family to complete the home study process. The home study process can take up to six months to complete. However, many adoptive families may complete the home study process sooner.

During the home study process, certain documents are required to be viewed by your caseworker. Such documents include:

- Physical examination of applicants and medical statements for household members
- Financial statement
- Verification of marriage or divorce
- Verification of employment if you are employed
- Criminal background checks for household members over the age of 18
- Safety audit of the home

Families will receive notification when their home study has been completed and approved. In some cases, when the agency is not able to approve a home study, the family can meet with the caseworker and, if needed, the agency to discuss the reason why the family was not approved and possible alternative options.

Matching Children and Families

Your caseworker and agency will take into account the characteristics of children that you can best parent and the characteristics of children your home study approves you for when considering placement matches for your family. During a matching conference, adoption professionals consider the strengths, characteristics and needs of a waiting child, and compare those with the strengths and characteristics of waiting families. The length of time it takes to be matched with a child largely depends on the special characteristics of children that you are able to parent. A family who demonstrated the ability to parent a child with many special needs may not wait very long until a child is placed with them.

The Ohio Adoption Photo Listing Online

Prospective adoptive families are encouraged to regularly view the Ohio Adoption Photo Listing (OAPL) located online at the AdoptOHIO Kids Web site: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/oapl/>. The Web site contains pictures and descriptions of waiting children in the custody of the PCSAs throughout Ohio. The descriptions of the children are supplied by the children's social workers and are intentionally brief. Fuller descriptions of the children are available from the children's social workers to prospective adoptive families who have completed the home study process.

More than 2,000 children are listed on the OAPL website. Families interested in adoption are strongly encouraged to read the narratives and look at the pictures of children in order to gain an understanding of the types of children available for adoption in Ohio.

When Your Agency Matches a Child with Your Family

When your caseworker has identified a child for your family, you will be contacted and the caseworker will share detailed information about the child's background. Such background information will include all known, non-identifying information about the child, including:

- Birth parents and other relatives
- Medical, emotional and psychological history
- Past and current known developmental issues
- School history if applicable
- Placement history

Your caseworker will give you time to think about the information and will be able to assist you in making your decision to adopt the child. Your caseworker will also recommend that you discuss the child's information with your pediatrician or other professionals with whom you would like to connect. If you decide to proceed with the child, your caseworker will arrange a time for your family and the child to meet.

Prior to this meeting, the caseworker may share your *Introduction to Your Family Book* with the child if your agency has requested that your family complete this book.

This book, prepared by the prospective adoptive family, includes pictures and information about your family. Many adoptive families choose to include pictures of family members, family pets, the child's room, and extended family members and friends. The *Introduction to Your Family Book* helps in the preparation for the child's first meeting with their potential adoptive family.

Before the first meeting, your caseworker will also help prepare you and your family. The caseworker will give you and your family suggestions for who should be involved in the first meeting and what types of activities may be most comfortable for the child.

Following the first meeting, your caseworker will arrange for a series of additional pre-placement visits in order for you and the child and adoptive family to get to know one another. Pre-placement visits will be discussed with the foster parents or facility where the child resides in order to ensure the visitation schedule is acceptable to all involved parties. Prior to the placement, adoptive families will receive the *Child Study Inventory* which lists the child's interests, talents, traits, and social, medical and psychological history. After the pre-placement visits, the child will join your family in your home.

Placement of the Child into an Adoptive Home

Once the child is placed with your family, you become responsible for the child's care. Your social worker will continue to visit with your family for a period of time after the adoptive placement. These visits are designed to assist you in connecting your new family with services and to discuss potential issues that may arise. After a minimum period of six months, your family will become eligible to petition the court to finalize the adoption.

The Legalization of an Adoption

Legalizing an adoption involves a short hearing at a probate court, during which adoptive parents are granted permanent legal custody of their child (this legislative process finalizes the parent-child relationship that was created). Following the adoption hearing, adoptive parents will work with their caseworker and/or attorney to obtain the child's new birth certificate and final decree of adoption.

Post-Finalization Services

A variety of formal and informal services are available to members of the adoptive family, either as a group or as individuals. Support groups, counseling, respite care, medical services, educational resources and a variety of community resources may be available to help meet ongoing needs or new needs that may have surfaced after the adoption finalization. Although types and locations of adoption services vary over time, you may always contact your child placement agency or any other adoption agency for assistance in locating adoption services in your area.

Tips on How to Choose an Adoption Agency

Adoption is a life long process for parents and children, and it is important to choose an agency that can help you assess your readiness to adopt and has the expertise to help you through the process. Child placement agencies must meet the licensing standards for Child Placement Agencies to provide adoption services in Ohio. A personal evaluation prior to selection of an agency will generally lead to positive results for families. The following points may be helpful in choosing an agency:

1. Learn about adoption and the issues involved

- Read books and articles on adoption
- Attend an adoptive parents' group
- Talk to other adoptive parents
- Attend agency orientation and information meetings

2. Determine the type of child you are interested in adopting

- Infant or older child
- Domestic or International
- Special needs (emotional problems, mental or physical handicaps) or minimal problems.

3. Contact the agencies and learn about their programs.

- Ask about any requirements/restrictions on adoptive parents such as length of marriage, age, etc.
- Ask for brochures on their program
- Attend orientation/information meetings

4. Evaluate the agency's program


- Ask about the steps in the agency's process such as orientation, application, study, parenting classes and the estimated time frames involved. Make a list of special questions you want answered.
- Make sure the agency is licensed; ask when was the last time the agency was visited by a representative from the licensing unit.
- Find out if complaints have been filed against the agency and if so, how they were resolved.
- Find out the staffs' education, background and experience in adoption.
- Ask about the services the agency gives to birth parents and evaluate the completeness and sensitivity of this work.
- Learn the costs involved for the screening, orientation meeting, home study, supervisory visits, court reports, educational groups, services to and expenses in connection with birth parents in designated adoptions, extra work in connection with interstate placement and other possible expenses. Obtain written detailed information on all costs involved including the agency's policy on refunds.

- Ask about any support groups the agency facilitates and any post finalization services they might offer.
- If possible, talk to other adoptive parents about their experience with the agency.

5. After you have chosen the agency

- Keep in regular contact with the agency but be realistic with the staff's time.
- If you have a complaint or are dissatisfied, talk honestly to the person with whom you are working and, if this is unsatisfactory, then talk to the director.

Agency and Ministry Overview

Bair Foundation	
	<p>The Bair Foundation is a non-profit Christian foster care and adoption organization that has successfully provided care for children, teens and families for over 40 years. We have four offices in Ohio and are working to serve children and families in eight different states. The Bair Foundation strives to offer more children and teens safe and permanent homes where they can thrive and grow to love the Lord and be productive adults.</p>
<p>Contact Information: <i>Kristina Hudson – Ohio State Director</i> 3077 Kettering Blvd. Moraine, OH 45439 (937) 424-0210 (614) 975-9344 Fax: (937) 424-0216 khudson@bair.org www.bair.org</p>	<p>The Bair Foundation serves abused, neglected and delinquent children from birth to 18, who are hard to place, emotionally disturbed, developmentally delayed or medically-fragile and who require the care of a specially trained foster/adoptive family. Each child’s treatment needs are carefully evaluated; dedicated, professional case managers ensure that each service plan is followed and adjusted as necessary. To provide a foundation of support for our unique children, we believe in developing an individualized program of support and services to specifically meet the unique needs of each child or teen in our care. The Bair Foundation remains committed to children and teens, to their success and to providing the highest quality of treatment available. The Bair Foundation continually develops and seeks new techniques in the delivery of treatment options as well as family support services.</p> <p>Service Area: Butler, Hamilton, Clermont, Warren, Preble, Montgomery, Greene and Clark. Also servicing central and northeast Ohio.</p>

Butler County Children Services



help heal the hurt
Butler County Children Services

Contact Information:

*Jeanne Campbell – Recruitment
Coordinator*

300 N Fair Avenue

Hamilton, OH 45011

(513) 887-4314

(800) 792-3854 (Recruitment Line)

Fax: (513) 887-4260

campbj05@odjfs.state.oh.us

www.butlercountychildrenservices.org

The staff at Butler County Children Services (BCCS) believes that all children deserve to live in families that are safe, nurturing and supportive and provide guidance to children. Our mission is simply this: We are committed to protecting children by strengthening and preserving families. Through open communication, BCCS partners with the community to ensure quality outcomes for the children and families served.

BCCS strives to recruit qualified foster and adoptive families.

These families are:

- Single, married or divorced
- Have substantial income to sustain own household
- Have no criminal record
- Are in good physical, emotional and mental health

BCCS provides these families:

- Initial and ongoing training
- Support services for family and children in home
- Referrals for counseling, both in and out of home
- Foster and Adoption Support Group

Service Area: Butler County (can also license families from surrounding areas)

Citizens for Community Values



For the past 27 years Citizens for Community Values (CCV) has worked to protect Ohio communities, defend the institution of marriage and build strong families.

CCV's Mission Statement:

To promote Judeo-Christian moral values and to reduce destructive behaviors to those values through education, active community partnering and empowering individuals at the local, state and national levels.

CCV is a statewide organization officially associated with Family Research Council, the American Family Association and Focus on the Family. CCV is supportive of the Focus on the Family *Wait No More* program and dedicated to providing assistance across the state of Ohio.

Service Area: Ohio

Contact Information:

Phil Burress
11175 Reading Road – 103
Cincinnati, OH 45241
(513) 733-5775
Fax: (513) 733-5794
Info@CCV.org
www.cvv.org

Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services



The Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services, Children's Protective Services Division, is a non-profit, public child welfare agency. The foster care and adoption unit licenses and approves foster care and adoptive applicants so that dependent, abused and neglected children in need of temporary or permanent living situations are provided a safe and nurturing haven.

Contact Information:

Erica Boller – Children's Services Supervisor
2400 Clermont Center Drive
Batavia, OH 45102
(513) 732-7624
(513)732-7173
Fax: (513) 732-7833
BOLLEE@odjfs.state.oh.us
www.clermontforkids.org

For more information about how you can give a child hope for a brighter tomorrow, please call (513) 732-7173, or visit our website at clermontforkids.org

Service Area: Clermont County and surrounding Southwestern Ohio counties.

<p>Coalition of Care</p>	
	<p>The Coalition of Care is a ministry of A Child's Hope International, whose mission is to motivate and mobilize the church to respond to the cry of the orphan.</p> <p>The Coalition of Care initiative is intended to align churches into agreement that together we can improve the lives of children locally and globally.</p>
<p>Contact Information: <i>Lawrence Bergeron – Executive Director</i> 6396 Gemstone Dr. Liberty Township, OH 45044 (513) 791-4571 (513) 515-2611 lebergeron@achildshopeintl.org www.coalitionofcare.org</p>	<p>The local expression of the Coalition of Care is working with Job and Family Services to establish homes in our community for children in foster care while encouraging more families to respond to the call of adoption.</p> <p>This growing list of church partners in the greater Cincinnati and Dayton areas has joined the Coalition of Care because the children are waiting. Each church has committed to supporting this initiative in a manner that is personal to their style and scope of ministry.</p>
<p>Focus on the Family</p>	
	<p>At Focus on the Family, we believe that every child deserves to know the love of a forever family. Therefore, our goal is to raise awareness of and recruit families for the children and youth waiting in foster care. To that end, we are working collaboratively with state, county, church and adoption agency leaders to help find families for waiting children and youth in foster care.</p> <p>Our awareness and recruiting efforts are complemented by desperately needed post-placement resources for adoptive families – resources that are both biblically-based and relevant to their unique struggles. These resources also provide practical ways for churches and individuals to support the adoptive families in their communities.</p>
<p>Contact Information: www.iCareAboutOrphans.org orphancare@family.org</p>	<p>And while not every family is called to adopt, we believe everyone can play a role through prayer support, mentoring, giving, or mobilizing the church. Focus on the Family believes our efforts will inspire and equip families and churches to meet the needs of orphans and vulnerable children in their communities.</p>

Focus on Youth



Contact Information:

Cindy Skinner – Executive Director

Diane Brown – Family Resource Specialist

8904 Brookside Avenue
West Chester, OH 45069
(513) 644-1030

Fax: (513) 644-1025

cskinner@focusyouth.com

dbrown@focusyouth.com

www.focusyouth.com

Focus on Youth, Inc. is a non-profit Christian based foster care and adoption organization, co-founded in 1992 by current Executive Director, Cindy Skinner, adoptive parent and third generation foster parent. The organization, located in West Chester, Ohio, was founded with the belief that foster parents could be trained to work with the unique needs of youth in care that would help families remain committed to the placement especially when times got tough.

Focus on Youth, Inc. is certified to provide family foster care, specialized foster care, and foster to adopt. The organization offers youth and families 120 years of staff experience in foster care and adoptions. During the past 18 years, over 1,200 youth have been served by the organization. Focus on Youth, Inc. is committed to the safety, stability, and permanency for each youth. That is why we provide strong support and professional training for the foster parents who implement effective treatment interventions for the children we serve.

Service Area: 100 mile radius of West Chester, Ohio

Hamilton County Job and Family Services



Contact Information:

222 E Central Parkway

Cincinnati, OH 45202

(513) 632-6366

Fax: (513) 946-2368

adoption@jfs.hamilton-co.org

www.hckids.org

The Children's Services Division of Hamilton County JFS provides services to children and families toward building and maintaining family permanency. Adoption workers and recruitment staff work together to find "forever" homes that will meet the needs of the waiting child. The staff works to prepare children for adoption, place them with loving and nurturing "forever families," and provide post-adoption support as needed. Individuals and couples new to adoption can attend pre-service training classes and complete their home study through HCJFS. The agency also accepts home studies of individuals and couples from across Ohio and the United States who have an interest in being considered for a Hamilton County child waiting to be adopted.

As adoptions move toward finalization, HCJFS provides pre-finalization services, as well as post-finalization and post-adoptive services after the Final Decree and adoption certificate are issued.

For more information about the adoption process, please visit www.hckids.org and click on the "Becoming an Adoptive Parent" link under Foster & Adoptive Parent Information. You may also call our information line at (513) 632-6366.

Service Area: Hamilton County and surrounding counties (Butler, Warren and Clermont)

Hope for Orphans, a ministry of FamilyLife



At Hope for Orphans, we want to serve your church by helping you do what God has called you to do in serving children in foster care here in the United States and orphans around the world. We provide biblically-based materials about adoption, foster care, and orphan care, and we build relationships with partner organizations that we can introduce to you in order to help you live out God’s call for your church. Through our *If You Were Mine* DVD Adoption Workshop, you can learn more about adoption from a biblical perspective. We also have various resources designed to help you launch an effective orphans ministry in your church. To find out more about how we can serve you and your church, please visit HopeForOrphans.org.

Contact Information:
John Moore – Content Manager
 2001 W. Plano Pkwy. Suite #3442
 Plano, TX 75075
jmoore@familylife.com
www.hopefororphans.org

Making a Difference Ministries



Making a Difference Ministries has been serving communities in various ways for a decade. We make a difference in many lives through household furnishings, repair and assistance as well as being advocates for foster care and adoption. We currently have a Parent Support Group, which is open to all foster or adoptive parents. There is a huge need for encouragement and support for each other, we find this makes a huge impact on the family.

Contact Information:
Dan Clark or Beverly Clark – Ministry Leaders
 5095 Waynesville Jamestown Rd.
 Jamestown, OH 45335
 (937) 313-2444
 (937) 313-2443
 Fax: (937) 675-7062
Bev4stars@yahoo.com

The support group meets at 10am on the 2nd Friday of every month at Panera Bread in Beavercreek OH, at the Commons.

Montgomery County Job and Family Services



Montgomery County JFS provides foster care and adoption services, a method by which adults become legal parents of children not born to them. Children awaiting adoption come into permanent custody of Children Services Division when a court determines that their birth parents cannot care for the child's needs and will never be able to. These children may have been abused, neglected or abandoned or have special needs.

Service area: Montgomery County

Contact Information:

Alma Nelson – Supervisor
Linda Moenter – Supervisor
3304 N Main Street
Dayton, OH 45405
(937) 276-1701
(937) 276-1662
Fax: (937) 276-1852

Preble County Children Services



Preble County Children Services (PCCS) is a division of Preble County Job & Family Services located in Eaton, Ohio. PCCS is a public child welfare agency that serves Preble County with the mission of protecting children from abuse and neglect.

Children who cannot return to the care of their birth family await adoption through PCCS. The agency works to match children with an adoptive family through and beyond adoption finalization. It is the goal of the agency to create lasting families for both the child and their new family.

Preble County has nine children who are in need of a permanent family. All of these children are Caucasian. The youngest is eight and also has a thirteen year old sibling awaiting adoption. In addition, the agency has four sixteen year olds, one fifteen year old, one fourteen year old and a thirteen year old.

Service area: Preble County

Contact Information:

Jewell Good – Children Services Administrator
1500 Park Avenue
Eaton, OH 45320
(937) 456-1135
Fax: (937) 456-6086
goodj@odjfs.state.oh.us

Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children³

If a child is born in one state, commonly known as the “sending state” and the adoptive family lives in another state, called the “receiving state”, the adoption placement must be approved by the ICPC, the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children. All states are members of the ICPC. For the purposes of an adoption it is illegal to move a child across state lines without meeting the requirements of the ICPC.

The documentation submitted to the ICPC for approval includes the adoptive parent’s home study, the child’s birth information and other health information, biological information on the birth parents, and relinquishment or termination documentation from the birth parents. Documentation for the child and the adopting parents will be forwarded to the ICPC office in the sending state which will forward the documents to the ICPC office in the receiving state. The ICPC offices review the documentations to verify that their state laws have been complied with.

Once approval has been made, the child can be placed with the adopting family who are from another state. It is not required, but recommended to hire an adoption professional such as an adoption attorney or agency to assist with the ICPC procedures.

³ All information adapted from <http://www.abcadoptions.com/icpc.htm>.

Next Steps

Each of the adoption agencies and ministries listed in this attendee guide has specifically identified the next step for an interested family to take as you explore your role in meeting the needs of a waiting child.

Please utilize the information on the following pages of this guide and your opportunity to interact directly with those organizations today to select the agency that seems best for your family.

Next Steps:

- Visit the agency booths
- Determine which agency you prefer to work with
- Obtain any relevant paperwork
- Find out their orientation and training schedule

If you are planning to further explore adoption, please fill out the green interest form and place it in the marked boxes throughout the church or hand them to one of our event volunteers.

It is important to do this even if you are not sure which agency you prefer to work with yet.

For more information on any of the orientations, trainings, or other events listed on the pages that follow, please contact the agency hosting the particular event. Thank you again for your willingness to help Ohio's waiting kids!

May 2010

Bair Foundation

Monday, May 10 – Session 7 & 8, 6-9pm

Thursday, May 13 – Session 4 & 9, 6-9pm

Monday, May 17 – Session 3, 6-10pm

Thursday, May 20 – Session 1 & 2, 6-9pm

Saturday, May 22 – PAAR, 9am-5pm

Saturday, May 29 – CPR & First Aid, 10am-7pm

All sessions will be held at the Bair Foundation, 3077 Kettering Blvd, Ste 306,
Moraine, OH 45439

(937) 424-0210, ajett@bair.org

Clermont County

Tuesday, May 11 – Session V: 6–9pm

Thursday, May 13 – Session VI: 6–9pm

Saturday, May 15 – Session VII: 1–4pm, Session VIII: 4:30–7:30pm

Tuesday, May 18 – Session IX: 6–9pm

Thursday, May 20 – Session X: 6–9pm

Saturday, May 22 – Session XI: 1–4pm, Session XII: 4:30–7:30pm

Tuesday, May 25 – Session XIII: 6–9pm

Focus on the Family

Sunday, May 16 – Sunday, May 23: Foster Care Prayer Vigil

Calling followers of Christ together across the country to cry out to God on behalf of children and youth in our nation's foster care system, their families, their workers, and the church as it responds to the needs of those in the foster care system.

www.FosterCarePrayerVigil.org

Focus on Youth

Monday, May 17 – Foster Care and Adoption Informational Meeting, 6–7pm

Hamilton County

Tuesday, May 11 – Adoption Information Session, 5:30-6:30pm

Avondale branch of the Public Library, 3566 Reading Rd., Cincinnati, OH

Thursday, May 13 - Adoption Information Session, 5:30-6:30pm

Cheviot branch of the Public Library, 3711 Robb Ave., Cincinnati, OH

Monday, May 17 - Adoption Information Session, 5:30-6:30pm

Bond Hill branch of the Public Library, 1740 Landgon Farm Rd., Cincinnati, OH

Monday, May 18 - Adoption Information Session, 5:15-6:15pm

College Hill branch of the Public Library, 1400 W. North Bend Rd.

Montgomery County

Thursday, May 20 – Informational Meeting, 6pm

June 2010

Bair Foundation

Saturday, June 5 – Session 5, 6 & 10, 9am-5pm

Tuesday, June 8 – Session 7 & 8, 6-9pm

Thursday, June 10 – Session 4 & 9, 6-9pm

Saturday, June 12 – PAAR, 9am-5pm

Tuesday, June 15 – Session 3, 6-10pm

Thursday, June 17, Session 1 & 2, 6-9pm

Tuesday, June 29 – Quarterly Training/Support Group, 6pm

All sessions will be held at The Bair Foundation, 3077 Kettering Blvd, Ste 306, Moraine, OH 45439

(937) 424-0210, ajett@bair.org

Focus on Youth

Thursday, June 3 – Session 1, 6–9pm

Thursday, June 10 – Session 2, 6–9pm

Tuesday, June 15 – Session 3, 6-9pm

Monday, June 21 – Foster Care and Adoption Informational Meeting, 6-7pm

Thursday, June 24 – Session 4, 6-9pm

Montgomery County

Saturday, June 19 – “Kruisin for Kids”, 12-4pm

A “cruise in” event to meet, honor and celebrate our kids who are waiting for adoption. On the beautiful grounds of Montgomery County JFS Children Services Division, 3304 N. Main St., Dayton, OH.

Tuesday, June 22 – Informational Meeting, 6pm

July 2010

Focus on Youth

Thursday, July 1 – Session 5, 6-9pm

Thursday, July 8 – Session 6, 6-9pm

Tuesday, July 13 – Session 7, 6-9pm

Monday, July 19 – Foster Care and Adoption Information Meeting, 6-7pm

Thursday, July 22 – Session 8, 6-9pm

Thursday, July 29 – Session 9, 6-9pm

Montgomery County

Saturday, July 24 – Informational Meeting, 9am

August 2010

Clermont County

Tuesday, August 3 - Session I: 6–9pm

Thursday, August 5 – Session II: 6–9pm

Saturday, August 7 – Session III: 1–4pm, Session IV: 4:30–7:30pm

Tuesday, August 10 – Session V: 6–9pm

Thursday, August 12 – Session VI: 6–9pm

Saturday, August 14 – Session VII: 1–4pm, Session VIII: 4:30–7:30pm

Tuesday, August 17 – Session IX: 6–9pm

Thursday, August 19 – Session X: 6–9pm

Saturday, August 21 – Session XI: 1–4pm, Session XII: 4:30–7:30pm

Tuesday, August 24 – Session XIII: 6–9pm

Focus on Youth

Thursday, August 5 – Session 10, 6-9pm

Thursday, August 12 – Session 11, 6-9pm

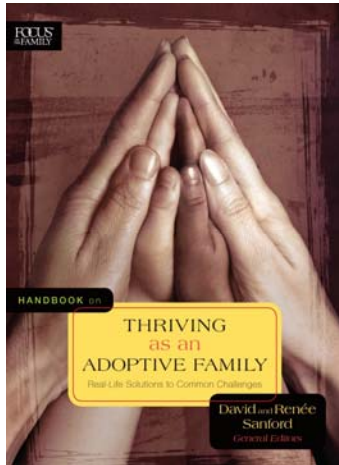
Monday, August 16 – Foster Care and Adoption Informational Meeting, 6-7pm

Tuesday, August 17 – Session 17, 6-9pm

Montgomery County

Thursday, August 26 – Informational Meeting, 6pm

Focus on the Family Support Resources

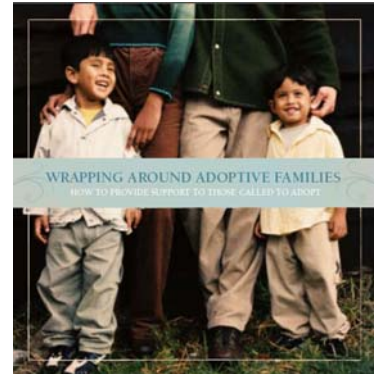


Handbook on Thriving as an Adoptive Family

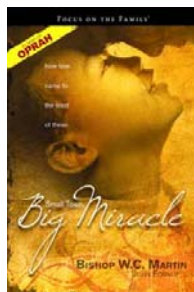
Adoption is a high calling from God, and the Christian home is primary soil for planting seeds of faith. But how will post-adoption challenges affect this growth? Many families do not feel adequately prepared for unexpected challenges like a child who has been adopted fighting with his new siblings, not wanting to be touched, or showing signs of reactive attachment disorder (RAD). Packed with practical advice, ideas and resources, this distinctively Christian book is an important parenting resource that provides comprehensive, topical, Bible-based solutions for the inevitable challenges after adoption.

Wrapping Around Adoptive Families

There are many different ways to minister to God's orphan children and to the adoptive families that have welcomed these children home. This booklet makes it clear that struggling adoptive families need their church families to support them during times of trials. While the suggestions in this booklet may not apply to all situations, they represent a general "cry of the heart" of adoptive families who welcomed home an emotionally wounded or struggling child. The goal is to provide practical guidance for churches seeking effective ways to support adoptive families.



Other Resources



Small Town, Big Miracle



Castaway Kid



Finding Home

Counseling for Families in Need

Families seeking someone to talk with can call 1-800-A-Family (232-6459) and ask to speak with one of our licensed counselors.

Wait No More Interest Form

Your Passport to Initiating the Process of Adopting from Foster Care*

Date	First Name(s)	Last Name
Physical Address		
Address:		City:
County:		Zip:
Mailing Address (If different)		
Address:		City:
County:		Zip:
Home Phone:		
Work Phone:		Work Phone 2:
Cell Phone:		Cell Phone 2:
Email:		Email 2:
Best way and time of day to reach you:		
Are you interested in a particular child? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, give the child's name: If no, what type of child would be of interest to you?		
Are you open to a sibling group? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Number of children desired: Age range you are interested in: Race/ethnicity: Gender Preferred: <input type="checkbox"/> Boy <input type="checkbox"/> Girl <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Either		
Please list the agency you prefer to work with: <div style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> No Preference</div>		

In order for us to best serve you, please **do one of the following**:

- Drop this form into one of the receptacles before you leave today
- Fax it to 719-548-5947
- Mail it to Focus on the Family Attn: Katie Porter Colorado Springs 80995

*Initiation of the Process will be followed by several steps including, but not limited to, attending an orientation and submitting an official application. Please see the agency of your choice for additional information and thank you for initiating the process of adoption from foster care.

Please note: Your personal information will not be shared. It will only be used to contact you regarding adoption from foster care.