
Welcome to CARA

This brochure will answer some of the most commonly asked questions about adoption. We hope it will be helpful to you as you go through this important decision-making process. Of course, this is only the beginning. Your Child Adoption Resource Association social worker will be able to help answer your other questions and listen to your concerns.

CARA is a licensed, private, not-for-profit adoption agency. We have programs for the adoption of infants and older children. All of our staff members are professional social workers who will provide personalized services to you.

All our staff understand that this is a emotional and confusing time for you. Helping you make the best plan for your child and providing you with personal service is important to us. We will help you sort out your feelings, and treat you, and the decision you have made with respect.

Your social worker will be available to answer your questions and to provide you with all the information and guidance that you need throughout this process.

Dear Birth Parents

The Child Adoption Resource Association (CARA) has created three brochures for you. We hope they help you through the process from making a plan for your baby through after the adoption is finalized.

This brochure talks about the last part of the process: After the baby is placed and the adoption is finalized.

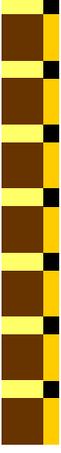
Please ask your CARA social worker for our other brochures:
Making A Plan for Your Baby
The Placement Process



Child Adoption Resource Association

2 Union Plaza, Suite 300
New London Connecticut 06320

Phone: 860-444-0553
Email: information@adoptacarakid.org
Web site: <http://adoptacarakid.org>



After Placement & Finalization

Third in a series of three brochures for birth parents

CHILD ADOPTION RESOURCE ASSOCIATION



*Helping Birth Parents
Cope with the
Adoption Process*

2 Union Plaza, Suite 300
New London Connecticut 06320
860-444-0553

After the Adoptive Placement

Once the baby is placed with the adoptive parents, the Child Adoption Resource Association (CARA) is responsible for making sure all goes well. A CARA social worker will make periodic home visits to the adoptive family, as well as keep in touch with them by phone.

The baby must be with the adoptive family for at least six months before the adoption may be finalized. If the social worker believes that the adoption is going smoothly and the termination of parental rights has been completed, then the adoptive parents may apply to have the adoption finalized by the Probate Court. A court hearing is scheduled for this purpose; the adoptive parents, child, and social worker attend this hearing.

The finalization is the last step in the adoption process. At the hearing, the baby is legally adopted by the adoptive parents.



You may continue to see your CARA Social Worker. You may also be connected to a local counselor if you decide that you need extra support after the adoption.

After the Adoption is Finalized

After the baby is placed with the adoptive parents and after the adoption is finalized, your CARA social worker will continue to be available to you for as long as necessary.

The agency will also continue to facilitate any picture or letter exchanges that you and adoptive parents have agreed upon. Or, if you have any recent medical information that should be shared with your child, the agency will try to contact the adoptive parents to pass your information on to them.

Contact after Adoption

In Connecticut, any adult, over 18 years old, who was adopted and birth parents who have birth children over 18 years may request that the agency contact their birth relative.

You can decide at the time of the adoption or anytime afterward whether you wish to sign up for what is called the "reunion registry".

By signing the reunion registry form, you are consenting in advance to having contact with your birth child if he/she requests it. Often, this leads to a reunion if both parties agree to it. A social worker at CARA will help you through this process when it arises.

Our Commitment to You

The Child Adoption Resource Association is committed to helping you throughout the adoption process and beyond.

Our social workers are dedicated to helping you. It is our promise that you will be treated with respect, that all our interactions with you will be sincere and, that, we will be diligent in all our work with you.

Throughout all the steps before and after the adoption, please ask your social worker any other questions that you have. All your questions and concerns are important to us, we encourage you to speak to your social worker anytime you have a question. We truly want your experience with us to be a positive one.

Deciding if adoption is best choice for you is a very important decision. We are aware of the complexity of this decision and this time in your life.

It is our promise that you will be treated with respect, that all our interactions with you will be sincere and we will be diligent in all our work together

Contact us for our other brochures:
Making A Plan for Your Baby
The Placement Process