

## CONFIDENTIALITY

We understand that confidentiality is important to you and to birth parents. We will not intentionally exchange identifying information about you to the birth parents or about the birth parents to you unless you and the birth parents agree otherwise. In working with you, however, it is often necessary to coordinate with physicians, social workers, court officials and others. During this process, information about you will be shared on a "need to know" basis. You hereby release and authorize us to release both identifying and non-identifying information, as the laws of the involved jurisdictions require, about you with others. This authorization does not permit us to release identifying information about you to the birth parents. Release of identifying information to the birth parents requires a separate authorization that must be given after you have received information about a specific proposed placement.

During the course of the adoption, your identity and that of the birth parents may become known to numerous persons and institutions, including, but not limited to, medical providers, hospitals, courts, social workers, court officials, and to the birth parent's counsel. We cannot control the actions of these persons and institutions regarding releasing confidential information. We will advise such persons and institutions of your request regarding sharing of information and request that they respect your confidentiality. We also advise you that, in some instances, subsequent to adoptive placement, the birth parents may request a meeting with you or identifying information about you, even if you had previously agreed upon and prefer confidentiality and/or anonymity. We encourage cooperation between you and the birth parents and encourage you to reach an agreement with the birth parents about what information will be exchanged, both before and after placement.

Information about you may be obtained by a birth parent through accidental disclosure by us, or through many other sources such as motor vehicle registration, internet resources, birth parent advisory groups, private detectives or any person involved in facilitating the adoption matching process. You also understand that there are legal methods of tracing a child placed for adoption through adoption registries, vital records, school and medical records, and the work of confidential intermediaries. Further, when your adoptive child becomes an adult, it is likely that your child will have access to identifying information about the birth parents and may share identifying information about you with the birth parents. Based on the ready availability of information, especially via the internet, we cannot and do not guarantee life-long confidentiality.