



Bright Futures Adoption Center

WHAT BIRTH PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WORKING WITH BRIGHT FUTURES

- ♥ Bright Futures will help you understand and consider all of your parenting options and will assist you in making the decision about whether to parent or make an adoption plan for your child. Bright Futures will not pressure you in any way to choose adoption. There is no “right” or “wrong” decision; there is only the decision that is best for you and your child given where you are in your life right now.
- ♥ Counseling and all other services provided to you by Bright Futures in connection with deciding whether to make an adoption plan for your child and throughout the adoption process are free of charge.
- ♥ You have all of the rights set forth on the attached Statement of Birth Parents’ Rights.
- ♥ If you decide to make an adoption plan for your child, you will have the opportunity to review pictures and letters from adoptive parents approved by Bright Futures and to select the family or families that you would like to get to know better. After you have had the chance to ask questions and speak with the adoptive parents, you will be allowed to identify the family that you want to work with to make an adoption plan for your child. Although Bright Futures will work hard to match your child with the family you select, by law Bright Futures is required to make the final decision about whether the placement is in the best interests of the child.
- ♥ If you enter into an agreement with the adoptive parents (regarding on-going contact or any other matter), Bright Futures cannot enforce any such agreement.
- ♥ Bright Futures will help you make an adoption plan that works for you. As part of making your adoption plan, it is Bright Futures’ policy to ask you whether you wish to be contacted in the future if your birth child is ever in need of care and assistance. There is no right or wrong answer to this question. Bright Futures will do its best to respect your wishes, while still acting in the best interest of your child. ***Please note that due to a recent change in the law in Massachusetts, children born after January 1, 2008 and their adoptive parents may access the child’s original birth certificate. This means that whatever information you include on the child’s birth certificate will be made available to the child and the adoptive parents if they seek to obtain this information. Normally, a birth certificate includes your full name, date and place of birth and sometimes your address.***

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