Benefits of Working with LCFS

- No placement fees charged for identified adoptions
- Personal service and support from a single LCFS caseworker to assist with all phases of the process
- Home studies are typically completed within twelve weeks of first interview; in emergency situations, LCFS can expedite the process
- Extensive experience with interstate adoptions
- One of the few agencies in Illinois with the knowledge and expertise to assist families in adopting older children who are listed by other states as waiting for adoptive homes
- Provides quality education to help adoptive families prepare for the entire adoption process
- Provides birth parent support services including gathering background medical and social information, contacting the hospital and assisting with placement
- Keeps social and medical information on file
- Provides guidance on openness and contact with birth parents
- Post-placement and post-adoptive support services available
- Assists both single adults and couples residing in Illinois with the completion of an adoption regardless of their race, creed, religious affiliation or sexual orientation
- Provides adoption services anywhere in Illinois

For more details and a complete listing of adoption services provided by LCFS, go to www.lcfs.org/Adoption.

Adoption Services

Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois (LCFS) annually improves the well-being of people statewide by nurturing and protecting children, strengthening families and transforming communities. We serve all faiths, races, orientations and ethnic backgrounds.

Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois
7620 Madison Street
River Forest, IL 60305
800-363-LCFS (5237)
lcfs_info@lcfs.org
www.lcfs.org
www.facebook.com/LCFSIL

In response to God’s love, LCFS engages with youth, adults, families, communities and other stakeholders to improve the well-being of those we are called to serve.

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Note: None of the images are real clients and no children shown in this brochure are available for adoption.
Some children are born to a family, while others join their “forever families” through adoption. Adoption provides a way for you to become a parent and build your family. Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois (LCFS) can assist you through every step of your adoption journey.

Building Forever Families
The adoption process starts with a phone conversation with our intake specialist, who will gather some information and answer your questions. You will be assigned your own caseworker who will walk you through the home-study process and help prepare you for your role as an adoptive parent. Our caseworkers have master’s degrees and several have experienced adoption in their own lives.

Eligibility
LCFS’ eligibility guidelines are similar to those of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and are generally inclusive. LCFS can assist single adults and couples residing in Illinois to complete an adoption regardless of their race, creed, religious affiliation or sexual orientation. LCFS imposes no standards regarding age of parents, number of children, marital status, length of marriage or number of divorces.

Domestic-identified Adoption
An identified adoption is one in which adoptive parents and birth parents connect with each other directly or through an intermediary. LCFS offers the safeguards and services of an agency adoption while providing you with the opportunity to be proactive in locating a child.

International Adoption
LCFS can help single adults and couples living in Illinois complete an international adoption by providing the home study and coordinating with primary adoption service provider agencies.

Search Assistance
LCFS search assistance services are conducted with respect and discretion and are focused on helping adoptees and birth parents access information or the connection they seek. If a connection is made, LCFS will provide guidance and support during the connection process.

“No two adoptions happen in the same way.... Be as prepared as you can be on your end... Ask as many questions as you can think of to your case worker, your attorneys and other adoptive families.... You are not alone.”

— couple who completed two home studies with LCFS