

“For I know well the plans I have in mind
for you... plans for your welfare and not for
woe, so as to give you a future of hope.”

— Jeremiah 29:11



4001 BLUE PARKWAY, SUITE 250 | KANSAS CITY, MO 64130 | 816.659.8235

1123 S. 10TH STREET | ST. JOSEPH, MO 64503 | 816.232.2885

AFTER HOURS CALL 913.908.0829

ADOPTIONS@CCHARITIES.COM | WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIES-KCSJ.ORG



Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph is accredited through the Council on
Accreditation and licensed through the State of Missouri as a child placing agency.



Adoption Services

Birth Families



Welcome to the adoption program at Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph. We will partner with you throughout the adoption process and guide you in your journey. We will be with you every step of the way, even if you decide to parent your child in the end.

Adoption means different things to different people. To us, adoption means truly making the most loving and responsible decision for your baby. It is giving him/her hope. It is giving him/her the life you dream of for them. For you, it gives you the opportunity to follow your dreams. For an adoptive couple, it's the chance to expand or create their forever family.



PHASE ONE

Introduction

- Meet social worker.
- Share your story.
- Learn about Catholic Charities adoptions.

PHASE TWO

Social History Preparation

- Lots of paperwork.
- Periodic appointments with social worker.
- Social worker prepares your social history report for court.
- Attorney consultation.

PHASE THREE

Matching

- You are given letters and photo books of eligible couples.
- You can select the family.
- You may choose to meet them face-to-face, before or after you deliver the baby.

Services provided at no cost to expectant parents:

Birth options counseling

Emotional support

Short-term financial assistance

Medical referrals

Legal representation

Employment assistance

PHASE FOUR

Delivery

- You choose if you want to see, hold, and/or feed the baby.
- You decide when the couple can meet the baby.

PHASE FIVE

Release of Parental Consent

- Your final decision would occur no sooner than 48 hours after delivery.
- Signed in presence of your attorney.

PHASE SIX

Court Hearing

- An attorney is provided for you, free of charge.
- You attend the hearing in-person approximately 2-5 days after the baby is born.

PHASE SEVEN

Ongoing Support

- Ongoing access to your social worker.
- Counseling.
- Correspondence and pictures from the adoptive family.
- If requested, notification of adoption finalization (at least 6 months after temporary custody hearing).

Types of Adoption

The type of adoption depends on the request of the birthparent(s), the desire of the adoptive couple, and the court presiding over the temporary custody hearing.

	Information Sharing	Correspondence	Contact
Open Adoption	Definitely first names, possibly last names. Other information about your life can be shared by you as you wish.	The families decide if they want to have communication. The correspondence can be filtered through Catholic Charities or exchanged directly between the families.	The families may meet periodically. Before the finalization, Catholic Charities staff will be present. After the finalization, the families choose. Some meetings are in community locations. As families further develop their relationship, the meetings may be at a family's home.
Semi-Open Adoption	First names are known and some additional non-identifying information such as professional field, hobbies, family traditions, dreams for the future and anything else that each person chooses to share.	Any correspondence is filtered through the Catholic Charities office. There will be letters and pictures during the first six months. Correspondence after that point is determined by the families. It typically consists of annual or semi-annual pictures and letters.	The adoption agency coordinates any meetings between the families.
Closed Adoption	Possibly first names only, if both families agree.	Birthparents have the option of receiving letters and pictures during the first six months. Birthparents decide if they want to receive correspondence or have it placed in their file.	None.

Types of Adoption

The type of adoption depends on the request of the birthparent(s), the desire of the adoptive couple, and the court presiding over the temporary custody hearing.

	Information Sharing	Correspondence	Contact
Open Adoption	Definitely first names, possibly last names. Other information about your life can be shared by you as you wish.	The families decide if they want to have communication. The correspondence can be filtered through Catholic Charities or exchanged directly between the families.	The families may meet periodically. Before the finalization, Catholic Charities staff will be present. After the finalization, the families choose. Some meetings are in community locations. As families further develop their relationship, the meetings may be at a family's home.
Semi-Open Adoption	First names are known and some additional non-identifying information such as professional field, hobbies, family traditions, dreams for the future and anything else that each person chooses to share.	Any correspondence is filtered through the Catholic Charities office. There will be letters and pictures during the first six months. Correspondence after that point is determined by the families. It typically consists of annual or semi-annual pictures and letters.	The adoption agency coordinates any meetings between the families.
Closed Adoption	Possibly first names only, if both families agree.	Birthparents have the option of receiving letters and pictures during the first six months. Birthparents decide if they want to receive correspondence or have it placed in their file.	None.