



Adoption

WHAT COSTS ARE INVOLVED?

When adopting a child from the foster care system in Pennsylvania, costs for a family are minimal. Attorney fees are usually paid by the county that has custody of the child. There are no fees for the family profile or coordination of the adoption finalization. The adoptive family is responsible for providing a complete physical for everyone who lives in the home and background clearances for all adult household members.

The majority of children are eligible for an adoption subsidy which may include a daily reimbursement, as well as medical coverage. In most cases, this subsidy will continue until the adopted child reaches 18 years of age (or 21 years of age if adopted as a teenager.)

There may be additional costs to adopt a child from another state.

WHAT SERVICES DOES BETHANNA PROVIDE?

- Foster Parent Adoption
- Special Needs Adoption
- Orientation and Ongoing Training
- Family Profiles
- Child Profiles
- Child-Specific Recruitment
- Child Preparation
- Support Groups
- Coordination of Adoption Finalization
- Post-Adoption Services

A copy of the official registration and financial information of Bethanna may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Bethanna



1-800-989-1926

www.bethanna.org

Bethanna

Serving Children and Families
Since 1934



HOW DO CHILDREN BECOME AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION?

While the county is working with the biological parents to meet their goals for reunification with their child, the county may also consider these options for a child if reunification is not possible:

- Placement with relatives
- Adoption by the foster family
- Adoption by another identified family

If a judge terminates the parental rights, the child is legally free for adoption.

WHO ARE THE CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION?

There are many children and teens waiting for loving adoptive families. Special focus is placed on finding families for children who are:

- A sibling group placed together
- Seven years of age or older
- Members of a minority group

- Living with emotional, physical or learning disabilities
- Presence of a disability due to genetic or environmental factors

Visit www.adoptpakids.org to see children currently waiting for adoptive families in Pennsylvania.

These children need and deserve families who can:

- Provide a safe and nurturing environment, meeting a child's educational, social, emotional, and economic needs
- Provide love, consistency and support
- Be flexible and forgiving
- Give unconditional love
- Appreciate small steps in growth
- Commit to a life-long relationship

HOW DO I KNOW IF ADOPTION IS APPROPRIATE FOR ME?

Bethanna works with families seeking to adopt children who are in the custody of a county children and youth agency.

We invite you to attend our orientation sessions. During these sessions, videos, group discussion and instruction will explore how foster care and adoption affects children and their families. An adoption worker will help you assess whether adoption is the right option for you.

HOW DO I BECOME MATCHED WITH A SPECIFIC CHILD?

Bethanna's goal is to find families for children. Bethanna provides assistance in assessing the type of child who would be appropriate for you. If your family profile is approved, we will provide matching services.