

## **THE ADOPTION HOME STUDY PROCESS**

AFTER DECIDING THAT ADOPTION IS RIGHT FOR YOU, YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE A COMPLETED PLACEMENT HOME STUDY AS WELL AS A FINAL ADOPTION HOME STUDY. WE CAN ASSIST YOU WITH THIS PROCESS.

A HOME STUDY IS A REVIEW OF YOU, YOUR SPOUSE, AND ANYONE ELSE LIVING IN YOUR HOME. IT HIGHLIGHTS ITEMS SUCH AS YOUR CHILDHOOD, RELATIONSHIPS, INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN, AND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD. IT CAN ALSO PROVIDE A TIME FOR COUNSELING ON ADOPTION AND ANSWERING ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING ADOPTION AND THE ADOPTION PROCESS. ADDITIONALLY, A CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF EACH APPLICANT AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBER'S CRIMINAL HISTORY WILL BE COMPLETED. FLORIDA REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF ONE VISIT IN YOUR HOME TO MEET ALL FAMILY SUBSEQUENT TO PLACEMENT TWO ADDITIONAL HOME VISITS WILL BE REQUIRED. INITIALLY, THE HOME STUDY PROCESS INTIMIDATES SOME FAMILIES UNTIL THEY ACTUALLY COMPLETE ONE. ONCE A SOCIAL WORKER IS IN YOUR HOME, YOU REALIZE THE PROCESS ISN'T INTIMIDATING AT ALL. THE HOME STUDY HELPS THE COURT AND OUR AGENCY DETERMINE IF A STABLE AND SUITABLE ENVIRONMENT EXISTS FOR A FAMILY TO RECEIVE AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT.

THE FIRST STEP IS COLLECTING ALL THE NECESSARY FORMS FOR YOUR HOME STUDY. A CHECKLIST HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO GUIDE YOU. YOU CAN CONTACT US AT 386-295-6907 OR 386-290-8055 WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR TO SET UP A HOME STUDY. HOME STUDIES ARE TYPICALLY COMPLETED IN LESS THAN 30 DAYS, HOWEVER CRIMINAL AND CHILD ABUSE CLEARANCE PROCESSING CAN TAKE SOME TIME. THEREFORE, WE SUGGEST YOU SUBMIT FORMS FOR YOUR BACKGROUND CHECKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE HAVE SET UP A CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SO THAT A LIVE SCAN CAN BE DONE TO EXPEDITE THE BACKGROUND CHECKS. WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH CONTACT INFORMATION.

## **CHECKLIST FOR PLACEMENT & ADOPTION HOME STUDY**

LOCAL BACKGROUND CHECK  
CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION REQUEST ( \$27 PER PERSON)  
LIST OF ALL RESIDENTS OF HOME, AGES AND SOCIALS  
COPY OF FLORIDA DRIVER LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION  
AFFIDAVIT OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER  
CENTRAL ABUSE HOTLINE RECORD SEARCH  
BIRTH VERIFICATION  
MARRIAGE VERIFICATION, IF APPLICABLE

DIVORCE VERIFICATION(S), IF APPLICABLE  
MOST RECENT TAX INFORMATION  
EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION OR NON WORKING SPOUSE FORM  
MILITARY DISCHARGE, IF APPLICABLE  
PHYSICIAN S HEALTH CERTIFICATE  
INSURANCE VERIFICATION  
PERSONAL REFERENCES (3)  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT