SOCIAL WORK SERVICES ADOPTION SERVICES



ADOPTION OVERVIEW Adoption = Building Families

Adoption is the legal process by which a child becomes a member of a family.

Who can adopt?

Any married couple or single adult who is committed to providing a permanent home for a child.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF ADOPTION?

There are 3 types of adoptions:

- 1. Agency Adoptions
- 2. Relative and Step-Parent Adoptions
- 3. Independent Adoptions

1. Agency Adoptions

Agency Adoptions are ones in which a child is in custody of an agency, either private or public, and that agency has been given the authority to place the child in an adoptive home.

A family interested in agency adoptions must be willing to participate in a required 30 hour training session which will help them discern whether adoption is the best avenue for their family.

The family will also be required to obtain a Preplacement Assessment. The Assessment includes interviews with all family members, fingerprinting for criminal records checks, medical exams, and reference checks.



2. Relative and Step-Parent Adoptions

In Relative Adoptions, the adoptive parents are related to the child in one of the following ways: grandparent, greatgrandparent, aunt, or uncle, great aunt or uncle, adult sibling, half sibling, stepparent or first cousin.

Relative Adoptions do not require the completion of a Pre-placement Assessment (PPA) on the prospective adoptive family.

3. Independent Adoptions

When there is an Independent Adoption, the prospective adoptive family must obtain a Pre-placement Assessment prior to the child's placement in their home.

Any licensed adoption agency may conduct the assessment and most charge a fee for this service. However, persons wishing to adopt a child in the North Carolina foster care system can obtain a Pre-placement Assessment at no cost.

All Independent Adoptions of children in the custody of another state must follow guidelines of the Interstate Compact On The Placement Of Children (ICPC). A coordinator is based in each state. The NCICPC coordinator can be reached at (919) 733-3801.

Both Relative and Independent Adoptions are adoptions in which a birth parent places his/her child with another person, without an agency having custody of that child.

HOW TO GET STARTED

 In-person: 35 Woodfin Street
 M - F | 8am - 5pm (Across from the Court House)

2. **By Phone:** (828) 250-5868

3. **By Email:**

familiesforkids@buncombecounty.org

4. Website: buncombecounty.org/foster

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

OR

MAKE A REPORT

(828) 250-5900

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE, ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

What is the legal Process for Adoption?

Family files their Petition For Adoption with the Clerk of Superior Court.

Clerk of Court orders the Department to conduct home assessment within 60 days (Order of Reference).

HHS sends report to Clerk, and requests issuance of new birth certificate.

In agency adoptions, the Adoption Assistance case is now opened.

Social Worker:

Phone Number:

Supervisor:

Supervisor Number:

Partnering with our community to strengthen our health, safety and self-sufficiency







35 Woodfin Street Asheville, NC 28801



SOCIAL WORK SERVICES: (828) 250-5900 ECONOMIC SERVICES: (828) 250-5500 BY PHONE HEALTH SERVICES: (828) 250-5000



ONLINE

VISIT

buncombecounty.org/HHS

Additional Resources



Call 2-1-1 or visit nc211.org to find out about other local resources.



Apply for Medicaid and Food Assistance online at ePASS.NC.GOV

Other Services we provide...

WIC Immunizations/Travel Vaccines **Nurse Family Partnership** Work First Employment Services **Disease Control** Free and Reduced School Lunches Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) Food Assistance Family and Children's Medicaid Child Care Subsidy STD/HIV Testing **Emergency Assistance**

Interpreter services available at no cost

Servicios de intérprete están disponibles sin costo alguno Услуги переводчика предоставляются бесплатно If you have problems getting interpreter help, please call

Title VI Compliance Officer at 828-250-5587

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