



Lutheran
Family Service

For Nothing is Impossible with God

Lutheran Family Service (LFS) was established over a century ago in response to a high number of orphaned children. LFS programs evolved to provide professional services to support individuals and families with personal and family challenges through the years. Today our mission, *to walk with people who are experiencing hard times and to be there for them, just as God has been there for us*, is met through our *Mental Health Counseling Program, Pregnancy Counseling Program, Adoption Program and Congregational Services.

**Pregnancy Counseling & Adoption
Services are available in NW Illinois
call 563-359-0696**

17628 Hubbard Rd.

East Moline, IL 61244

Long & Rich Adoption History at LFS

In 1901 LFS began adoption services, resulting in over 2,175 adoption placements. Our service has been adapted throughout these years to meet the changing needs of society. In 1930 LFS built the orphanage, known as the Lutheran Home Finding Society, pictured above. Later, when foster care had been established in Iowa, the former orphanage was used as a maternity home.



Today, LFS pregnancy counseling throughout Iowa and NW Illinois serves the needs of women in crisis over their decision to parent or place a child for adoption. When she chooses adoption, children are usually placed directly as newborns into the adoptive parent's home.

The Adoption Program at LFS is built on the belief that:

- ◆ *All human life is precious in the sight of God.*
- ◆ *Every child has the right to grow in families where their emotional, developmental, spiritual, and physical needs will be adequately met.*
- ◆ *Adding a child to a family by adoption is a valid means of creating a family.*
- ◆ *Adding a child to a family by adoption is unique in many ways, and special preparation and planning must accompany the adoption process.*
- ◆ *Adoption is a unique, life-long experience for the adopting parents, the adopted child, and the birth parents, that requires ongoing education, reflection, and participation in the adoption process.*



Adoption Options

There are four main types of adoption to consider:

- ◆ **Domestic Infant Adoption**
- ◆ **International Adoption**
- ◆ **Embryo Adoption**
- ◆ **Foster Care leading to Adoption**

LFS provides options in Domestic Infant Adoption, International Adoption and Embryo Adoption. LFS does not have any programs in foster care leading to adoption, though some information about it is provided on page 3.

ADOPTION OPTIONS



DOMESTIC INFANT ADOPTION

The Adoption Programs of LFS are almost exclusively for infants. On a rare occasions LFS has an opportunity to place older children.

Applicants must meet the requirements of Illinois State Code regarding adoption as well as LFS following requirements:

1. At least 3 years of marriage (heterosexual)
2. Active members in a Christian congregation
3. Good mental, emotional & physical health

Costs of the Domestic Infant Adoption Program are determined on a sliding fee scale based on income. **The fees range from \$22,000 to \$25,000, and bundle together the costs of social work, placement and legal costs of termination of parental rights.** (Please see the fee sheet for a detailed explanation on page 9.)

Families are selected for the placement of an infant by the women we serve in our pregnancy counseling program using a profile book. The profile book is designed by the family to introduce themselves to a woman who is seriously considering placing her infant for adoption.

Once a woman becomes interested in a potential family LFS will host a face to face match meeting with the group where the plan can be further explored. LFS remains a neutral party during the decision making process.

LFS does not make any guarantee of placement, or guaran-

tee a placement within any given time frame.

There are two program options for Domestic Infant Adoption.

Tier One Domestic Infant Adoption Program allows adoptive parents to have their profile books shown first in all adoption opportunities that meet their requirements.

Many Tier One families work exclusively with LFS, as the fees for the program are pre-paid before a match is made, making it financially more difficult to work with other agencies simultaneously, though it is not prohibited.

Tier Two Domestic Infant Adoption Program couples have their profile books shown when a woman does not find the “right” family in the Tier One options, or there were no Tier One options available for her particular need.

Tier Two families often times have their home studies completed elsewhere, but LFS can complete a home study if needed using our individual adoption service pricing found on page 8.

Tier Two Domestic Infant Adoption Program allows families the financial flexibility of working with multiple agencies if they desire.

The program fee for both Tier One and Tier Two are the same. However, Tier One is largely paid in increments upfront and prior to the placement while Tier Two is paid in increments following a match & placement.

Details of the fee structure for both Tier One & Tier Two Domestic Programs are outlined on the LFS Adoption Fee

Sheets on page 9.

The Domestic Infant Adoption Program is supported through the Pregnancy Counseling Program. Pregnancy Counselors provide service to women throughout NW Illinois and all of Iowa who are considering parenting or adoption. Positive and long-lasting relationships with schools, community professionals, medical providers and crisis pregnancy centers all over Iowa result in many referrals to LFS.

The majority of women considering adoption today desire some openness with the adoptive family she selects. Openness can include pictures, texts, emails, letters, visits and direct exchange of contact information.

LFS seeks to help the prospective adoptive couple and birth parents mutually to design a level of ongoing openness that is comfortable and healthy for all parties.

Honor, respect, neutrality & care are the pillars of our Pregnancy Counseling & Adoption Programs.

ADOPTION OPTIONS

INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION

Thousands of children of varying ages who live in orphanages around the world are waiting to be adopted by their forever family. Bringing one of these children into your family would change that child's life, as well as the life of your family, forever!



Lutheran Family Service assists families with international adoption in partnership with placing agencies. Referrals can be given for agencies we know to be reputable, or you may select the placing agency yourselves.

The partnering agency is responsible for the placement of the child in your family and the dossier preparation necessary for the country you selected. LFS is responsible for your preparation before the adoption (home study) and support when you come home (post adoption).

The total costs of international adoption will depend on the partnering agency you select and the country requirements.

You can expect to pay \$2,600 to Lutheran Family Service for the pre-adoptive home study and at least \$1,600 for post placement services (but this will vary by country). Exact details are listed in the LFS Fee

Sheet on pages 7 & 8.

On average, total costs of an international adoption will not be less than \$25,000.

EMBRYO ADOPTION

Lutheran Family Service is committed to supporting unborn children at all ages, including embryos! Embryos are created through a process called In Vitro Fertilization or IVF. It is estimated that there are over 600,000 frozen embryos in the U.S. today. Many of them would be available for donation, if there were couples willing to receive them.

Some couples experiencing infertility have chosen IVF. In that process, many embryos are created,



but only a few of them may be implanted and born; thus, there are remaining frozen embryos suspended and frozen in time. Once families feel they are complete, they seek options for their remaining embryos so that they too may grow and be born.

These embryos are not just potential life, they are life with potential.

Embryo Adoption is a life affirming option for embryos that remain frozen from couples' IVF procedures. Embryos are never created for the purpose of adopted.

Lutheran Family Service provides couples with the pre-adoptive education and assessments needed to prepare for an embryo adoption. Through a partnership with Night-

light's Snowflake Program, a match is made with a couple who has remaining embryos for donation.

When a match is found, a legal process for property transfer occurs before the embryos are implanted.

Many believe they would not be an ideal candidate for Embryo Adoption because of their own infertility. The truth is, only a healthy uterus is necessary, not a healthy cycle.

Total costs for Embryo Adoption are estimated to range from \$13,000 to \$16,000. LFS collects the fee for a home study only, which is \$2,600 & does include a single post birth visit. (see fees on page 7).

FOSTER CARE

(Non LFS Program)

Foster care is a temporary home for a child with a caring family. The goal is to safely reunite these children with their birth families. However, in some situations, the courts decide reunification with the birth family will not be possible and then the child is legally available for adoption.

Illinois has an ongoing need for foster and adoptive parents, especially those who are interested in caring for sibling groups, teenagers and children with significant needs. Becoming a Foster Parent does require a 27 hour training course and licensing by the State of Illinois.

There is no cost to become trained and licensed in Illinois for foster care!

More information on Illinois' Foster Care System can be found at www2.illinois.gov

MAKING ADOPTION AFFORDABLE



Lutheran Family Service Supports Adopting Families Financially

LFS Adoption Fund

Lutheran Family Service is aware many wonderful Christian families are seemingly kept from responding to God's word to care for the fatherless due to the expense of the process. LFS has created an Adoption Fund to assist our families with adoption expenses. It is our hope that The Lutheran Family Service Adoption Fund will encourage Christian families to consider adoption.

Possible opportunities include:

Grants

Fund Raising Ideas

Matching Grants

Interest Free Loans

Tax Deductible Donation Accounts (family specific)

LFS created The Lutheran Family Service Adoption Fund in partnership with LifeSong for Orphans, a like-minded organization whose goals include mobilizing the church so each member can provide a unique and special service: some to adopt, some to care, and some to give.

The fund provides financial assistance, but it also provides an opportunity for adopting families to involve others in fund raising for the adoption expenses to bring a child into their family.

Unique fund raising ideas and

an account where tax deductible donations for a specific family can be kept are all included.

Involving others in the cost of an adoption gives them the opportunity to follow God's word.

He is calling all of us to care for the fatherless, not just those who are willing and able to parent them.

Applications can only be obtained through Lutheran Family Service Staff and are exclusively reserved for families working with Lutheran Family Service.

Applicants must have a completed and approved home study in order to apply.

Tax Benefits in Adoption

Federal tax credit the year you finalize an adoption is **up to \$13,190**. There are two key points to consider. This is not a credit you can carry over year to year, so if your tax burden is less than \$13,190 the year you adopt, then you will receive the lesser amount. Additionally, if your adoption expenses were less than \$13,190, you can only receive the credit up to the amount of your actual expenses.

Those families adopting embryos may be eligible for a partial tax credit. The fees for a home study and post placement services

would be "adoption expenses". The medical procedures and legal fees are not.

Lutheran Family Service hopes you find this information helpful, but we also encourage you to check out the tax information with your tax professional. Tax laws change continually and you will want to have the most up to date information possible.

OTHER GRANT & LOAN OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILIES CAN APPLY FOR SEVERAL GRANT & LOAN OPPORTUNITIES

James 1:27 Foundation	www.thejames127foundation.org
Show Hope	www.showhope.org
Sea of Faces Foundation	www.seaoffaces.org
National Adoption Foundation	www.Nafadopt.org/how-we-can-help/how-we-can-help.shtml
Pathways for Little Feet	www.pathwaysforlittlefeet.org
Abba Fund	www.abbafund.org
Gift of Adoption Fund	www.giftofadoptoin.org
Ava's Hope	www.avashope.org
God's Grace Adoption Ministry	www.ggam.org
Bright Future Adoption Found.	www.bfaf.org
Cadman Foundation	www.cadmanfoundation.org
America's Christian Credit Un.	www.americaschristiancu.com
His Kids Too!	www.hiskidstoo.org
Kingdom Kids Adoption Ministry	www.kingdomkidsadoption.org
A Child Waits	www.achildwaits.org
HelpUsAdopt.Org	www.helpusadopt.org
Orphan Impact	www.orphanimpact.com
Adoption Network Law Center	www.adoptionfunding.com
Oxford Adoption Foundation	www.oxfordadoption.com
Brittany's Hope Foundation	www.brittanyshope.org
HANDinHAND Christian Adopt.	www.handinhandadopt.org
Our Creator's Hope, Inc.	www.ourcreatorshope.com
Katelyn's Fund Orphan Ministry	www.katelynsfund.org

**** Please note this information is subject to change and may not be completely accurate.

The organizations listed are not affiliated with Lutheran Family Service nor do we necessarily promote the same ideas or concepts regarding Christian adoption. Nonetheless, these organizations may be helpful to you in planning your adoption expenses and we encourage you to do your own research.

We encourage families to pursue grants through all possible organizations. Each organization will have their own set of rules, but you can be assured that having a completed & approved home study will be one of the requirements.

Families need to be prepared to be home study approved to get through that first step before they will know the likelihood of receiving grants from these organizations.

STARTING THE PROCESS

WHAT TO DO NEXT?

We are happy to explore the idea of adoption with your family!

Applicants must meet the requirements of Illinois State Code regarding adoption as well as LFS following requirements:

1. Married at least 3 years in a heterosexual marriage
2. Active members in a Christian Congregation
3. Good mental, emotional & physical health

You can take the next steps toward adoption with Lutheran Family Service by **sending the**

registration form (Page 10-15) and the non-refundable fee of \$200 to:

*Lutheran Family Service
17628 Hubbard Rd.
East Moline, IL 61244*

After receiving your registration, you will be contacted to set up an orientation where the programs will be explained in detail and we can explore your options together.

When you reach a decision about the type of adoption that best suites your needs, our staff will guide you into the next steps in the process.

Attending an orientation does not obligate a couple to enroll in a program nor assure acceptance into a program.

We look forward to helping you with your adoption plans!



A Word of Advice

Beyond any other advice we can give as adoption professionals, the advice to pray daily together as a couple is by far the most important. Pray for your future child, for their birth family, for the fears you face, for the finances you need, and for the peace that passes all understanding when you bring it to the Lord.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

But Jesus looked at them and said to them, with men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

Matthew 19:26

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct

your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

James 1:27

A Note Regarding Our Fees

Adoption Fees are carefully considered. Fees help pay for licensing LFS as a Child Placing Agency in Iowa and Illinois, outreach programs to crisis pregnancy centers, marketing, professional staff in adoption & pregnancy counseling, caseworker travel to birth mothers, administrative staff, our physical presence (rent) in several Iowa & Illinois communities, on going train-

ing of our professional staff, Social Media Outreach, and other agency expenses.

Lutheran Family Service attempts to make adoption as affordable as possible through the setting of our fees and The Lutheran Family Service Adoption Fund. Congregational and individual contributions are used in conjunction with fees collected to cover the additional expenses of the Pregnancy Counsel-

ing and Adoption Program at LFS.

The information below gives specific information about our Programs Fees (page 9) as well as adoption related social work that can be purchased separately (pages 7&8).

Fees are subject to change upon notification of our clients.

Registration (applies to the adoption program as well as individually priced adoption social work applicants) **\$200.00**

Registration fees must accompany a registration form and are non-refundable. All new clients, regardless of the program or individual adoption service they are applying for, must register. All returning clients must register unless LFS has kept their home study valid through required home study updates. Registration initiates a consultation with an Adoption Caseworker.

INDIVIDUALLY PRICED ADOPTION SOCIAL WORK FEES (Below & page 8)

Mileage

\$.545 per mile

The current IRS mileage reimbursement amount is consulted when setting this fee. When options are available for a client to come to our offices we will let the client know of that option. LFS attempts to send the nearest caseworker to a client, however, the timing of the client need may also necessitate sending a caseworker further away. It is the discretion of the Director to determine the most effective way to assign the work. **Clients enrolled in Domestic Tier One Program are exempt from mileage fees. Domestic Tier Two clients are exempt from mileage charges during post adoption (after a placement).**

Home Study—Pre-Adoption Investigation (Individual / Non Program Price) **\$2,600**

Domestic, international (some exceptions) and embryo adoption home studies can be provided. The payment of fees does not guarantee the approval of the applicants to adopt.

Included are Illinois Criminal Background Checks, Illinois Sex Offender Checks, Adoption Caseworker visits (at least three during the process & one in the year following), Interviews for each applicant and all members of the household, up to 5 original home study investigation reports with proper signatures & notarization as necessary. For Embryo Adoption Clients, one post-birth visit with report is included with the home study fee.

Not Included are FBI fingerprint fees, child abuse investigation fees outside of Illinois, Hague Education requirements (international only), specialists fees if required including physician fees, mileage of the caseworkers, travel costs for the clients, books or other educational materials.

Payment of a \$1,300 fee is due to begin the home study process and is non-refundable. The other half (\$1,300) is due at the completion of the home study and before it will be released. If applicants withdraw from the home study process prior to it's conclusion, it is up to the Director to individually determine if the remaining \$1,300 will be collected dependent on the percentage of work completed prior to the withdraw request.

Note about Post Adoption for International Adoption Clients. Post Adoption fees will be collected prior to the release of a home study document. The pre-paid post adoption fees are 100% refundable should the applicant withdraw from the international adoption process.

INDIVIDUALLY PRICED ADOPTION SOCIAL WORK FEES

(continued from Page 7)

Home Study Update (Individual / Non Program Price) **\$600.00**

Illinois home studies are valid for 12 months, if signed Feb. 1, 2015 or after & 12 months if signed before that date. They must be updated within that time frame or they expire.

Included is the cost of Illinois Criminal Investigation Checks, Illinois Sex Offender Checks, Illinois Child Abuse Checks, a visit from the case-worker during the update and a visit from the caseworker within the year following, and up to 5 original home study update reports signed and notarized as is necessary.

Not Included is the cost of caseworker mileage, costs of any specialists required including physicians, cost of any FBI fingerprint checks necessary.

Payment of Fees is billed and due at the time the request is made for the update. The fee is non-fundable. Payment of fees does not guarantee an approved home study update.

Amendment or Addendums - No Visit (Individual / Non Program Price) **\$200.00**

Amendment or Addendums - with Visit (Individual / Non Program Price) **\$350.00**

Amendments or addendums are occasionally needed due to family changes. An Adoption Caseworker may or may not be required to come to your home based on the type of change that is occurring.

Included is the written report with the necessary changes and up to 5 original reports with signatures and notarization as necessary.

Not Included is any specialist fees including physician fees or caseworker mileage fees.

Payment of Fees is due at the time the amendment or addendum is requested. The fees are not refundable.

Post Placement Supervision (Individual / Non Program Price) **\$1,600.00**

A minimum of three post adoption visits with reports are required for all children regardless of their country of origin.

Included are three visits from Adoption Caseworkers with written reports for each visit with recommendations for continued supervision, removal of a child or a finalization of adoption. Additionally, referrals for special assistance can be given.

Not Included is caseworker mileage or the fees for a specialist or physician that could be recommended.

Note about Post Adoption for International Adoption Clients. Post Adoption fees will be collected prior to the release of a home study document. The pre-paid post adoption fees are 100% refundable should the applicant withdraw from the international adoption process. Mileage fees will be paid at the time they are incurred.

Domestic clients fees will be billed the time post adoption supervision is requested. Payment for fees is required before the post adoption documents will be released. Post adoption fees are not refundable for domestic clients. Mileage will be billed at the time it is incurred for these post adoption visits.

Extended Post Adoption Supervision (Individual / Non Program Price) **\$350.00**

If post adoption visits and reports are required beyond the initial three, each additional visit with report is subject to this fee.

Included is the adoption caseworker visit with a written report including recommendations. Additionally, referrals for specialized services may be included.

Not Included are fees for specialists that may be recommended including physicians, and caseworker mileage.

Note about Post Adoption for International Adoption Clients. Post Adoption fees will be collected prior to the release of a home study document. The pre-paid post adoption fees are 100% refundable should the applicant withdraw from the international adoption process. Mileage fees will be paid at the time they are incurred.

Domestic clients fees will be billed at the time post adoption supervision is requested. Payment for fees is required before the post adoption documents will be released. Post adoption fees are not refundable for domestic clients. Mileage will be billed at the time it is incurred for these post adoption visits.

LFS DOMESTIC ADOPTION PROGRAM FEES

Domestic Tier One Program

\$22,000—\$25,000

This program is designed to be financially all inclusive with very few exceptions. The program description is found on page 2.

Program Includes training, education, caseworker mileage, a completed home study, home study update reports (every year), caseworker visits annually prior to placement, child abuse and criminal investigations costs, addendums, amendments, post adoption support & reporting, profile book advice, placement of an infant, (not guaranteed), termination of parental right legal fees (up to \$3,000), ongoing birth parent counseling, match meetings, ongoing support with birthparent relationship, and a child study report, coordination with an attorney of the client's selection for finalization of adoption.

Not included in this program are profile book printing fees, FBI criminal investigation fees, additional books & training materials, cost of applicant's travel, legal fees beyond \$3,000 for termination of parental rights, legal fees for the finalization of adoption, birthparent expenses or other specialist fees.

Payment of Fees \$3,000 is billed and is due at the time of acceptance into the program. Half (1/2) of the remaining balance is due at the completion of an approved home study. The remaining balance is due 9 months following the completion of the home study or upon placement, whichever is shorter. All but \$8,500 is refundable to a client if they withdraw after the completion of a home study and nothing is refundable if the client withdraws prior to the completion of the home study. Payment of fees does not guarantee approved home studies or home study updates nor the placement of a child.

Gross family incomes \$70,000 and greater will pay \$25,000.

Gross family incomes at \$56,000 or below will pay \$22,000.

Gross family incomes in between \$56,000-\$70,000 will pay 36% of their gross family income.

Domestic Tier Two

See page 2 for a full description of this domestic infant adoption program.

Domestic Tier Two Education / Enrollment Fee

\$500

Payment of this fee is required upon acceptance into the program. Applicants who are completing a home study through LFS (using our individual pricing found on page 8) are exempt from paying this fee in lieu of paying the home study fee. Included in this fee is the cost of education for the applicants in an orientation and the acquisition of home study documents from their provider.

Domestic Tier Two Program Fee

\$22,000—\$25,000

The program description is found on page 2.

Please note, applicants to this program will either be using an outside source for their home study and home study updates or they will be paying LFS through individual pricing. ***Due to receiving these social work services outside of the program, each family can reduce the stated Tier Two Program fees by \$2,600.**

Program Includes ongoing pregnancy counseling, match meetings, assistance with birth parent relationship, termination of parental rights legal fees up to \$3,000, caseworker mileage, placement of the child (not guaranteed), post adoption support and reports, coordination with client's attorney for the finalization of adoption, and a child study report.

Not included in this program are legal fees for termination of parental rights beyond \$3,000, therapy or other specialist services, printing costs for profile books, legal fees for the finalization of adoption or any birth parent expenses.

Payment of Fees \$8,500 is billed and due at the time a match is made with a pregnancy counseling client, which is not refundable. If the match does not result in a finalized adoption, the \$8,500 will be put towards another adoption opportunity at LFS, but will not be refunded even upon withdraw from the program.

Half of the remaining balance is due when a child is placed in the home and the remaining balance is then due before the finalization of adoption, which is typically six months following the placement. These two payments would be refundable if the placement did not result in a finalized adoption.

* does not include discount

Gross family incomes \$70,000 and greater will pay \$25,000.

Gross family incomes at \$56,000 or below will pay \$22,000.

Gross family incomes in between \$56,000-\$70,000 will pay 36% of their gross family income.



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ADOPTION REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE NOTE: *The following disclosure questions are to provide us required information about you prior to beginning a home study. You will have the opportunity to fully discuss these areas during the home visits.*

Date:

\$200.00 Registration Fee: <i>(NON-REFUNDABLE)</i>	<i>Your check #</i>
Husband's Full Name to include any aliases:	
Your Heritage (ie. German, Irish, African American, etc):	
Birth Date and Place:	
Height & Weight:	
Eye & Hair Color:	
Social Security #:	
Employer & their Address:	
List addresses where you have resided outside of Illinois in past 5 years.	
Wife's Full Name to include any aliases & your maiden name:	
Your Heritage (ie. German, Irish, African American, etc):	
Birth Date and Place:	
Height & Weight:	
Eye & Hair Color:	
Social Security #:	
Employer & their Address:	
List addresses where you have resided outside of Illinois in past 5 years.	

Home Address:	
Email Address:	
Home Phone:	
His Cell Phone:	
Her Cell Phone:	
Wedding Date:	

Child's Full Name: Birth Date: Social Security #:	
Child's Full Name: Birth Date: Social Security #:	
Child's Full Name: Birth Date: Social Security #:	
Child's Full Name: Birth Date: Social Security #:	

Questions to be answered by the Husband:

1. Have you been married before? YES NO
If yes, when and for how long. _____

2. Have you ever been arrested? YES NO
If yes, please explain:

3. Have you ever been involved in a situation where a law officer made an investigation, even if it did not lead to arrest? YES NO

4. Do you use tobacco products? YES NO

5. Do you have a history of substance abuse? YES NO

6. Have you ever participated in professional counseling? YES NO

Dates: _____

Reason/s for counseling: _____

7. Do you have a history of gambling? YES NO

8. Do you have a history of sexual abuse, either as a victim, caretaker, or a perpetrator? YES NO
9. Do you have a history of being abused physically, sexually, or emotionally as a child? YES NO
10. Do you have a history of child abuse, as a caretaker or a perpetrator? YES NO
11. Do you have a history of domestic violence even if it did not result in arrest or conviction? YES NO
12. Do you have a criminal record? YES NO
13. List any medications that you are taking and for what condition. _____

14. Name and city of the church you are a member of and what church activities you are involved in? _____

15. Who is your current employer? _____
 What is your annual income? _____
 What is your job title? _____
 What are your typical work hours? _____
16. List your hobbies and interests. _____

Questions to be answered by the Wife:

1. Have you been married before? YES NO
 If yes, when and for how long. _____
2. Have you ever been arrested? YES NO
If yes, please explain:

3. Have you ever been involved in a situation where a law officer made an investigation, even if it did not lead to arrest? YES NO
4. Do you use tobacco products? YES NO
5. Do you have a history of substance abuse? YES NO

6. Have you ever participated in professional counseling? YES NO
Dates: _____
Reason/s for counseling: _____

7. Do you have a history of gambling? YES NO
8. Do you have a history of sexual abuse, either as a victim, caretaker, or a perpetrator? YES NO
9. Do you have a history of being abused physically, sexually, or emotionally as a child? YES NO
10. Do you have a history of child abuse, as a caretaker or a perpetrator? YES NO
11. Do you have a history of domestic violence even if it did not result in arrest or conviction? YES NO
12. Do you have a criminal record? YES NO
13. List any medications that you are taking and for what condition. _____

14. Name and city of the church you are a member of and what church activities you are involved in? _____

15. Who is your current employer? _____
 What is your annual income? _____
 What is your job title? _____
 What are your typical work hours? _____
16. List your hobbies and interests. _____

Additional Questions;

1. Did you ever file for bankruptcy? YES NO
If yes, when? _____

2. Have you ever been rejected as a prospective adoptive parent? .. YES NO

3. Have you been the subject of an unfavorable home study? YES NO

4. List the name and address for all other agencies that have completed a home study for you. _____

5. Has any member of the household ever been involved in a situation where a law officer made an investigation, even if it did not lead to arrest? YES NO

6. Does any family member have a history of substance abuse? YES NO
If yes, please explain: _____

7. Has any immediate family member ever participated in professional counseling? YES NO

Dates: _____

Person in counseling: _____

Reason/s for counseling: _____

8. Does any family member have a history of gambling? YES NO

9. List any hobbies and interests that you enjoy as a family or couple. _____

10. What is your Annual household adjusted gross income? _____

11. Please check the type(s) of adoption program(s) you are interested in:

_____ **Domestic Infant Adoption**

_____ We would like to be considered for Tier One Domestic Program.

_____ We are only interested in Tier Two Domestic Program at this time.

_____ **International Adoption** (identify country below if known)

_____ **Embryo**

_____ We are seeking **only a home study, home study update or post adoption work** at Lutheran Family Service, and are not planning on proceeding with any LFS program. (A consultation visit will not be required for clients seeking only these services.) Please list the contact information of the agency you are working with for the placement of a child.

Name of Agency: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address of Agency: _____

Agency Email: _____ Agency Phone: _____

From what country are you seeking an adoption placement? _____

Please provide details of any predefined time frame your requested report must be completed by? _____

12. Please list the races of children who would be acceptable for adoption into your family.

13. At the time of home study, a thorough list of possible conditions of an adoptive child will be discussed and considered. It is helpful for LFS to get a general idea of your thoughts now, during the registration process, on the following broad categories. Please place an "X" on the spectrum below where you currently gauge your comfort with the following circumstances. We understand that changes may occur as we visit further at the time of your home study.

Child's General Health

←-----→

Healthy Only	Minor Correctable Conditions	Lifelong disease with no life expectancy changes	Will require long-term care beyond typical parenting years.	Lifelong disease with possible life expectancy changes
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Exposure to Drugs in Utero

←-----→

No known exposure	Limited exposure prior to pregnancy awareness	Some continued exposure after pregnancy known	Continual use throughout pregnancy
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Exposure to Alcohol in Utero

←-----→

No known exposure	Limited exposure prior to pregnancy awareness	Some continued exposure after pregnancy known	Continual use throughout pregnancy
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Openness with the Birth Family

←-----→

Will only meet during the selection process with no identifying info. shared.	Future contact by phone, letter, text, email, pictures etc. No identifying information exchanged.	LFS supervises future face to face contact between adoptive family & birth family.	Future visits not supervised by LFS & full identifying info shared with birth family assuming no safety issues are present
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Birth Family Physical Health

←-----→

Physically Healthy	History of serious genetic disorders such as Cancer, heart disease, diabetes etc.
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Birth Family Mental Health

←
Emotionally and Mentally
Healthy

History of depression,
Anxiety, ADD/ADHD

→
History of mental retardation
neurological disorders, or schizophrenia.

Please send your completed registration form and the non-refundable \$200 registration fee to:

**Lutheran Family Service of Iowa
17628 Hubbard RD
East Moline, IL 61244-9782**