



House of Ruth

WHAT IS HOUSE OF RUTH?

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU ADOPT?



Children



...are a gift of the Lord

Psalm 127:3

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart..." Jeremiah 1:5



Thank you for contacting House of Ruth Ministries. This booklet will introduce you to pertinent information about our ministry.

First, we want to make it very clear that we are NOT a licensed adoption agency, nor do we feel the need to replace that service. Our outreach is to women who, for whatever reasons, are faced with unplanned pregnancies. It is our belief that every unborn baby has the right to life, and we encourage girls to continue with their pregnancies rather than opt for abortion.

Whatever plan a mother should choose for herself, or her baby, we will help her with a variety of referrals. Most mothers choose to keep their babies and raise them alone or with the help of their families. A few choose to place their babies for adoption. We feel adoption should be the last alternative for a mother. Every possible attempt will be exhausted to keep a child within its birthfamily.

The state provides two ways for a mother to place a baby for adoption. One is the relinquishment of her child to a licensed adoption agency. The other way is called a "private" or "independent" adoption. In a private adoption, the birthmother must choose for herself the family with whom her baby will be placed. Only agencies or birthparents can place a baby for adoption. In many cases, a birthmother doesn't know of a family who would take her baby. This is where House for Ruth Ministries can assist her.

House of Ruth Ministries is an outreach to help girls find homes for their babies. We are not a service to help find babies for adoptive families. There is a difference.

Our aim is to help make the adoption process as easy as we can for the birthmother and her family. It is for that reason that we have chosen to work with "open", private adoption.

An "open", private adoption is one where the birthmother not only chooses the family for her baby, she can meet them and have the peace to know that this is the family she wants for her child. The amount of "openness" is determined by the birthmother and the family that is chosen. If the adoptive family is uncomfortable with this openness, then "open", private adoption may not be for them.

There are only a few birth birthmothers who don't want to know about the adoptive family they choose. Many birthmothers even request pictures throughout their child's life.

Contrary to what many believe, a birthmother will never forget her baby. She has made a loving choice to choose a family, and to give her child the opportunity to have information about his/her adoption when he/she needs to know. We hold birthmothers in very high esteem for making such a difficult and loving decision.

We hope you will prayerfully consider working with us and making yourself available to be a blessing to a birthmother who comes to us in her time of need.

Agape,

Karyn Johnson
Director/Counselor

QUESTIONS MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED

1.) *What type of family can work with House of Ruth Ministries?*

We choose to show the files of families where both the husband and the wife are born again Christians and actively involved in a Bible-teaching Protestant church. These families must also be comfortable with the concept of "open", private adoption.

2.) *What type of girls work with House of Ruth Ministries?*

Girls from every walk of life work with us.

3.) *If the birthmother chooses the family herself, will she know our name and address?*

Yes. Due to the legal process of private adoption, the birthmother will know your name and address once you have been specifically chosen.

4.) *Are we responsible for the birthmother's medical and hospital bills?*

You could be. Some mothers have insurance or Medi-Cal, but others don't. Some mothers also need financial help with housing and maternity clothes. The State of California allows the adopting parents to pay for any pregnancy related expenses as an "act of charity." You would need to check with your state, this may differ from state to state.

5.) *After a birthmother has chosen us and the baby is born, when do we take the baby home?*

Babies usually go home with their adoptive parents right from the hospital within a few days of birth.

6.) *Will the birthmother see the baby in the hospital?*

Yes. We do encourage the mothers to hold, feed, and take pictures of their babies.

7.) *Do some birthmothers change their minds after seeing the baby?*

Yes, some do. But most birthmothers who change their minds do so before the baby is born.

8.) *After we take the baby home from the hospital, what should we do next?*

This will vary from state to state. However, you should immediately contact your attorney to see that a petition of adoption is filed in Superior Court.

9.) *How do we get started?*

Periodically, we hold adoption seminars explaining our program. These seminars are mandatory for both husband and wife and are held all day on a Saturday. If you desire to receive an invitation to our next seminar, please fill out the attached pre-registration form. To defray our expenses, we require a \$125.00 seminar fee payable at the time you receive your invitation. (Do not send money now!)

10.) *Is there anything we can do in the meantime until the next seminar?*

Yes!!! Read, study, and check every possible source of information. Never miss an opportunity to make your needs known. Talk to everybody! Contact adoptive parents' groups, physicians, and infertility groups in your area. They could be very helpful and informative.

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(10 cont.)

Most importantly, share with your pastor, friends, neighbors and acquaintances your desire for a child. Ask your Bible study or prayer meeting leader if you could share with the group. You may never know when you may be the answer to someone else's prayer. What a fantastic story to tell your child as he or she grows up; the tremendous desire you had for a child that you would go so far to find them.

11.) After the seminar what's next?

After attending the seminar if you decide to work with House of Ruth you will then submit your completed application along with a filing fee of \$2500.00.

12.) Once we are on file with the House of Ruth, how long will it take for us to adopt a baby?

Once you are on file with House of Ruth, there is no waiting list. Your file will be shown to any birthmother looking for your particular profile. Most birthmothers want to look at all of our files before making their choice. You may be chosen right away, or you may have to wait awhile. Although some couples have been in our files for over a year, we have found that the average waiting time for most couples to be chosen has been within a year of filing with us.

13.) What if I don't live in California? Can I still work with House of Ruth?

Yes. Call our office regarding private adoption in your state.

*Our prayer to God for you is that you will allow
the Holy Spirit to lead and direct you.*

*"Sing, O barren,
you who never bore a child;
burst into song, shout for joy,
you who were never in labour;
because more are the children
of the desolate woman than of
her who has a husband,"
says the LORD.*

*"Enlarge the place of your tent,
stretch your tent curtains wide,
do not hold back; lengthen your
cords, strengthen your stakes."*

Isaiah 54:1-2



HOUSE OF RUTH ADOPTION EXPENSES

Filing Fee\$2500.00

The average time that we will spend on an adoption is 20 hours. This includes time spent in counseling during pregnancy and post relinquishment, phone calls to the birthmother, attorneys, social workers, and all hospital visits. It also covers our ministry maintenance expenses i.e. phone bills, crisis pregnancy counseling to birthmothers who don't choose adoption, helping to meet their needs. This fee is due at the time your application is submitted.

OTHER USUAL EXPENSES
AT THE TIME OF THIS PRINTING

Long Distance Calls.....Actual Cost of Calls

Attorney's Fees (Uncontested adoption).....Approx. \$3,000 - \$5,000

Home Study Fees for the State of California

Charged by Public Agencies.....Approx. *\$4,500 as of 10/1/08

Adoption Service Provider.....Approx. \$500 - \$700

**This amount is subject to change at the discretion of the State legislature.*

OTHER POSSIBLE EXPENSES

Medical

If for some reason a birthmother cannot receive A.F.D.C. (Medi-Cal), her prenatal and labor and delivery expenses may need to be covered by the adopting couple.

Maternity Clothes

Housing

If a birthmother is in need of housing, the expense can be taken care of by the adopting couple.

HOUSE OF RUTH ADOPTION SEMINAR

If you would like to receive information about our next seminar, please return the following pre-registration form. You will then receive an invitation, and at that time you will pay the seminar fee of \$125.00.

Do not send any money at this time!

Please be sure to print clearly!

Names _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Work Phone () _____

Church Affiliation _____

Date of Marriage _____

DESCRIPTION OF CHILD DESIRED

Would you be open to a child of either sex? Yes No
If no, which? _____

What racial background?
 Caucasian Black Asian
 American Indian Mexican American

Would you consider:
A child with medical problems? Yes No
Siblings? Yes No
Twins? Yes No
Specify age range: _____

Tear off the pre-registration form on the previous page and return it to House of Ruth if you are interested in attending the next mandatory seminar.

Your information will be held in our files until the invitations for the next seminar are sent.



If you have any further questions,
please contact us at:
(562) 803-1477
e-mail at: heart4baby@calvarydowney.org



House of Ruth

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