

Are all adoptions successful?

Over 98 percent of legally completed adoptions remain intact. Adoptions appear to be more stable when parents are tolerant of a wide range of behaviors, and have flexible and realistic hopes and expectations for their children.

It is common for adoptive families to need support and services after adoption. Postadoption services can help families with a wide range of issues. They are available for everything from learning how to explain adoption to a preschooler, to helping a child who experienced early childhood abuse, to helping with an adopted teen's search for identity. Experience with adoptive families has shown that all family members can benefit from some type of postadoption support. Families of children who have experienced trauma, neglect, or institutionalization may require more intensive services.

Because of the lifelong impact of adoption, members of adoptive families may want or need additional support, education, and other services as their children grow. The following are some issues for which families typically seek postadoption support.

Loss and grief, Understanding Adoption, Trust and Attachment, School Transition, Post institutionalization issues and behaviors, Identity formation, Birth relative contact, Medical concerns and Racial issues.

Helpful Resources

- [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#): Provides access to information and resources to help protect children and strengthen families.
- [North American Council on Adoptable Children \(NACAC\)](#): NACAC helps to reform systems, alter viewpoints, and change lives through advocacy, education, adoption support, and leadership development.
- [Adoptive Families Magazine](#): This award-winning national adoption magazine is an adoption information source for families before, during, and after adoption.
- [Dave Thomas Foundation](#): A non-profit public charity dedicated to dramatically increasing the adoptions of the more than 114,000 children in North America's foster care systems.
- [Medline Plus Medical Encyclopedia](#): Brings together authoritative information from government agencies like the national Institutes of Health and the National Library of Medicine.

- [The Basics of Adoption Practice: A Bulletin for Professionals](#): Provides an overview of adoption practice and the responsibilities of adoption workers.
- [National Adoption Directory Search](#): This search includes State-by-State contact information for a variety of adoption-related organizations and services including public and licensed private adoption agencies, support groups, State reunion registries, and more.
- [Heart Gallery of America, Inc](#): The Heart Galleries across the US provide public awareness of the need for adoptive families. Volunteer professional photographers take portraits of children waiting for adoption. Their photographs present the children in a way that a description alone never could!
- [Families Like Ours, Inc](#): The independent Adoption Exchange with a focus towards gay and lesbian adoptive families. We welcome the diversity of all pre and post adoptive-foster families, creating permanent families for children in the US foster care system.
- [Family Stories](#): Inspiring foster care and adoption stories are featured in the words of a family.
- [Parent Support Groups](#): Search for a variety of foster care and adoption services and parent support resources by state.

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Jennifer Hancock

Matching Assistance Director

1-877-343-2856