

# A Family For Every Child

Matching Assistance Program

Homestudies & Family Biographies

## Homestudy Tips

Please make sure your home study is clearly dated and not older than 1 year. Your home study should state what pre-adoptive training you have taken, and the ages and number of children you are approved for. If it's not Foundations, PRIDE or MAPP then we need an addendum from the adoption worker stating you have been trained and assessed and meet MOST states requirements. Please give us a call or email any updated information and addendums you have.

## Family Profile

It's important to keep your family biography as current as possible. You can update your **FAMILY BIOGRAPHY PAGE** as many times as you like, adding new trainings and experience as you go through the adoption process.

**Your family bio/profile page should consist of:**

- \* A well-done profile
- \* Warm, welcoming and genuine
- \* Information about yourselves, your interests, and your immediate family.
- \* Display photographs that show your family, your interests and hobbies.

There are many divergent opinions regarding Family Profiles. Many wonder what should be included in the Family Profile and in what order? How long should it be? What documents should be attached? And what should be emphasized and/or omitted?

A core ingredient is the family's own story. There are many ways that a family can tell their story:

\* Through an autobiography written by the family - and unedited by the worker. The family prepares the autobiography, in response to a broadly worded questions, such as, "Tell us about yourself and what is important in your life."

\* The family should provide a statement about the child(ren) whom they believe they can welcome into their hearts and home and whom they believe they can parent well. Encourage the family to use broad parameters in this statement without pushing them to 'stretch' beyond what they believe they can do.

#### Photo Hints:

\* Avoid using blurry, or black and white photos.

\* Make sure they are clear and appropriate.

#### Other Helpful Hints:

\* Check your spelling and grammar.

\* Make sure to update your profile.

\* Have you expressed personality characteristics and interests?

\* Many adoption professionals state that personality is the most important area on which to focus in determining a good fit between children and families. Common interests often are a bridge to developing a relationship between a parent and a child.

**A Family For Every Child**  
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