

**From:** Scott Corcoran [scott@afamilyforeverychild.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 18, 2013 4:41 PM  
**To:** scott@afamilyforeverychild.org  
**Subject:** How to ensure your placement will be successful



Dear ,

### **Are all adoptions successful?**

Almost all legally completed adoptions remain intact. Adoptive families who are realistic, flexible, and tolerant of a wide range of behaviors have more stable and successful placements. Many families will need support and services after they adopt, and there is no shame in that! Post-adoption resources can help families with a wide range of issues, and provide information on how to explain adoption to children of all ages, help a child who has been abused, help a child deal with their past trauma, and more.

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 post-adoption support:

- Loss and grief
- Understanding adoption
- Trust and attachment
- School transitions
- Post Institutionalization issues and behaviors
- Identity formation
- Birth relative contact
- Medical concerns
- 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.
- [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.
- [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.
- [Adopt Us Kids Post Adoption Resources](#): Search for adoption support groups, respite care, information on adoption financial assistance and more.
- [A Family for Every Child's Booklist](#): We have an extensive booklist that features books to help families in the post-adoption phase, including books for children.
- [The Post Institute](#): A love based, family-centered approach to dealing with children's challenging behaviors. They have many resources (free and paid) available to families in the post-adoption phase.
- [The Explosive Child: A New Approach for Understanding and Parenting Easily Frustrated, Chronically Inflexible Children](#) by Ross W. Greene: Throughout this compassionate, insightful, and practical book, Dr. Greene provides a new conceptual framework for understanding their difficulties, based on research in the neurosciences. He explains why traditional parenting and treatment often don't work with these children, and he describes what to do instead. Instead of relying on rewarding and punishing, Dr. Greene's Collaborative Problem Solving model promotes working with explosive children to solve the problems that precipitate explosive episodes, and teaching these kids the skills they lack.

These are just a few suggested resources for families in the post-adoption phase. We encourage all families to do some research on what types of services they will need, and to work closely with their adoption agency and worker to find local resources.

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