

Our Pledge to You:

For over 100 years The Baby Fold has been committed to uniting children and families.

We continue to meet the challenge of providing love, care, and families for waiting children.

Our dedicated staff recognizes that when the legal process of adoption ends, the strengthening of the family begins.

We offer education and support to families before, during and after the adoption.

As you commit yourself to fulfilling the needs of a child, we at The Baby Fold are also fully committed to helping and supporting you and your growing family.

OUR MISSION: The Baby Fold embodies Christian principles to serve children and families and help them build safe, loving, and healthy environments.



To begin the adoption process, you can contact the Adoption Unit at:



The Baby Fold

612 Oglesby Avenue
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 454-1770

An adoption worker will be available to answer any questions you may have and to schedule an in-person informational meeting to get you started.

The Baby Fold is a not for profit private agency, licensed by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The Baby Fold is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and EAGLE, and affiliated with the Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. We serve all races, nationalities, and creeds.

ADOPTION PROGRAMS

Healthy Infant



Special Needs

International



These programs offered by
The Baby Fold

Healthy Infant Adoption

The Healthy Infant Adoption Program helps people who desire to adopt newborn to three-year-old children. These children have been surrendered to The Baby Fold by birth parents who made an adoption plan.

Requirements: Be at least 21 years of age to become a licensed foster/adoptive parent

- Be married or single
- Rent or own your home
- No income guidelines, but you must be able to cover adoption and court fees

Fees: For Healthy Infant Adoption, the agency fees range from \$7,000 to \$10,000 or more, depending on birth expenses. You will also need to pay legal fees for adoption.

The wait for a child can be from six months to a few years depending on your openness regarding birth parent and child history. Your comfort in developing a relationship with the birth family is important. At The Baby Fold, we encourage our adoptive parents to develop open relationships with birth families.

Inquiries: To start the process, contact The Baby Fold. A worker will meet with you to get you started with the adoption process. Your adoption worker will help you become a licensed adoptive family, complete your homestudy, and assist you during a two-day study group. At the end of the process, you create a birth parent letter and family profile to be shown to potential birth families.

Special Needs Adoption

Hundreds of children in Illinois are waiting for adoptive families. These children have come into care due to abuse, neglect, or dependency issues in their birth home. Those with the greatest need are:

- Children with physical, emotional, medical, behavioral, or educational needs
- Children of school age or older
- Siblings who need homes together

Requirements: Be able to provide a stable, loving home to a waiting child

- Have sensitivity to the needs of children who have difficulties
- Be at least 21 years of age to become a licensed foster/adoptive parent
- Be married or single
- Rent or own your home
- No income guidelines

Fees: There are no agency fees for the family who adopts a waiting child. Adoption Assistance may be available to cover related living, medical, and legal expenses.

Inquiries: A call to The Baby Fold starts the adoption process. Several meetings are scheduled so the adoption worker gets to know you and prepares you for the adoption experience. Your worker will help you determine your parenting strengths and the type of child best suited for your care.

Upon placement, The Baby Fold continues to provide counseling and support to you and the child for several months. Some adoptive parents request ongoing services even after the adoption is final. We promise that we will assist you and your family to make the adoption experience positive.

International Adoption

The Baby Fold is excited about their International Adoption Program. The Baby Fold Adoption Unit has received approval from the Department of Children and Family Services for provision of International Adoption Services and our training program.

The Baby Fold is considered a supervising agency for International Adoption. This means that we can complete an adoption homestudy, provide training, and license adoptive families. We will assist adoptive parents with paperwork for Immigration and Naturalization Services. The Baby Fold will help identify a placement agency to work with depending on the country you wish to adopt from. The Baby Fold has developed partnership agreements with four agencies that provide placement services to the adoptive parents. The Baby Fold also provides post-placement supervision when the adoptive parents and children return to the United States and completes reports requested by the sending country.

Fees: Fees for International Adoption consist of a \$1,500 homestudy fee and a \$250 post-placement fee for each visit required by the country from which you have adopted.

Inquiries: Interested families can contact The Baby Fold to learn about our International Adoption Program.

We look forward to helping waiting children across the world achieve permanency through adoption.
