

## QUESTIONS TO ASK A COUNTY OR PRIVATE AGENCY

The adoption process can be confusing and overwhelming, with many rules, processes and terms to learn and understand. Agencies and counties may also have varying processes which can add to the feelings of confusion.

In order to assist you in initial conversations, we encourage you to begin with the following questions when contacting a County or Agency to begin your adoption process.

1. Please explain to me your different adoption programs.
2. What fees are associated with the different adoption options?
3. Is a copy of your agencies fee disclosure statement available?
4. How many families have been matched with a child & adopted this last year?
5. What supports are available to families during the adoption process (within agency as well as community based)?
6. What supports are available to families after finalization of the adoption (within agency as well as community based)?
7. If I choose to move forward with your agency, how long would it take before I would be able to begin the home study process?
8. What can I do to prepare myself while waiting to be assigned an adoption worker?
9. How often do families meet with their adoption worker?
10. Are adoption workers available evenings/weekends?
11. What are ways families can advocate for themselves during this process?