

# Information Packet



## VI. Post Placement Adoption Services

The prefinalization period shall be no less than six months from the date of placement. During that time ADOPTION CIRCLE retains legal custody of the child and will perform post-placement, pre-finalization supervision. A caseworker/adoption assessor will make a home visit with the adoptive family no later than seven days following placement and shall make face-to-face visits during the post-placement, pre-finalization period. Per Ohio Law, all visits are in the home and both parents must be present. All members of the household must be present for at least two visits during a six month period.

During the post-placement visits your caseworker/adoption assessor will observe your family to make certain that your child is thriving in your home, surrounded by love and appropriate care. The assessor may offer parenting suggestions and will assess the total family environment to insure the health and welfare of the baby.

Adoptive parents are required to send pictures of the baby and letters describing the baby's progress on a monthly basis to the Agency for a period of one year from the date of placement. These items will be shared with the Birthparent(s) upon request.

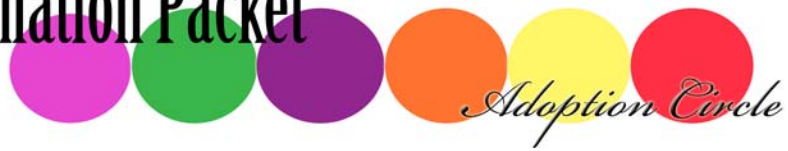
For six consecutive weeks immediately following placement, one or both adoptive parents must remain home with the infant. ADOPTION CIRCLE believes this is a very important time of parent/child bonding.

ADOPTION CIRCLE will provide and/or arrange for services for the family or child as may be needed during this period of time. Adoptive parents who believe that their child may be eligible for any type of subsidy must apply for the subsidies during the post-placement, pre-finalization period.

### a. Finalization

During the post-placement period, adoptive parent(s) petition the Court to finalize the adoption, thereby transferring legal custody of the child from ADOPTION CIRCLE to the adoptive parent(s). The Agency will assist with the process but you will have to hire an attorney to complete the legal paperwork and attend the Court hearing. The fees for the finalization including court costs and the attorney fees are not included in your agency adoption fee. The adoption finalization hearing cannot be held until the child has been in your home for six months.

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