



## Post Adoption Services and Fees

All fees cover partial costs of rendering the following post adoption services to the Requester of these services. New Life Family Services (New Life) believes in providing excellent post adoption services and will not deny service based on inability to pay for requested service. New Life does, however, rely on financial donations to continue to offer and provide services. New Life encourages the Requester of the post-adoption services to consider the payment of these services as an investment in your future as well as a support to this ministry.

### STANDARD SERVICES (No fee charged)

- Updating information for file (name change, new address, etc.)
- Communicating new medical information from birth family
- Providing any post adoption services within the first two years after placement
- Connecting clients with similar adoption circumstances
- Offering referrals
- Coordinating visits through New Life
- Forwarding/copying regular correspondence between parties
- General post adoption questions

*Receipt of the "Application for Post Adoption Services" by New Life Family Services is required for the following post adoption requests.*

### REQUESTING DOCUMENTS FROM FILE

- Check file for stored correspondence and none found. - No Fee
- Receiving correspondence from file. - \$15 Fee
- Receiving documents from file (medical information and birth family history). - \$15 Fee

### REQUESTING UPDATED MEDICAL INFORMATION (\$25 Fee)

(This option is for when one party desires information from another party, but would not like to have personal contact.)

- Process includes:
  - The party submits the specific information they are requesting (additional medical information, health history, etc.) to the post adoption worker.
  - The post adoption worker contacts appropriate party, relays the request, acts as an intermediary, and provides support and counsel to the receiving party.
  - If New Life does not have current information for the sought out party and needs to do a **full search for an additional \$50**, the requesting party will be notified to see if they want to proceed prior to conducting the search.

### REQUESTING POST ADOPTION SEARCH

#### Reconnecting with other party – Fees vary

This service involves reconnecting parties who, in the past, have had an open adoption relationship to some degree.

- Assuming that we have updated contact information on file and contact has been within the last 5 years - No Fee
- Assuming that we have updated contact information on file and they have not had contact with other party for over 5 years - \$25 Fee
- If we have to search for updated contact information, another \$25 fee will be added.

## Searching for another party– Fees vary

- **New Life has most current contact information - \$50 Fee:**
  - Connecting confidentially with the party being sought after in order to see if he/she is ready and willing to proceed with opening the adoption at this point.
  - If the requesting party has written a letter, New Life will forward it after connecting with the other party and provide limited counsel to both parties if needed. The initiating party is informed that the letter has been sent and accepted or rejected.
  - Contact information is shared with both parties in order for them to continue on their own
  - Brief counsel is offered throughout the reunion process for both parties when New Life is assisting. This is helpful when emotions are high and both parties have many questions.
  - If an adoptive family or an adult adoptee is requesting to search for both birth parents, there will be an additional \$50 fee.
- **New Life does not have sufficient contact information - \$100 Fee:**
  - Searching for new contact information if information found in file is insufficient or out of date.
  - Connecting confidentially with the party being sought after in order to see if he/she is ready and willing to proceed with opening the adoption at this point.
  - If the requesting party has written a letter, New Life will forward it after connecting with the other party and provide limited counsel to both parties if needed. The initiating party is informed that the letter has been sent and accepted or rejected.
  - Contact information is shared with both parties in order for them to continue on their own
  - Brief counsel is offered throughout the reunion process for both parties when New Life is assisting. This is helpful when emotions are high and both parties have many questions.
  - If an adoptive family or an adult adoptee is requesting to search for both birth parents, there will be an additional \$50 fee.
- **(Optional) Reunion assistance requested – \$50 Fee:**
  - New Life provides a meeting place and a mediator for the first meeting.
  - Brief counsel is offered throughout the reunion process for both parties when New Life is assisting. This is helpful when emotions are high and both parties have many questions.

## Obtaining Information on Original Birth Certificate – no fee

- Adoptee will be directed to the MN Department of Health
  - <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/osr/adoption.html#searches> (information)
  - <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/osr/afdisclose1A.pdf> (request form)
  - The post adoption worker can assist with the above process if needed.
  - There is a small fee that will need to be sent along with the request form.

## COUNSELING/CONSULTATION

### Both parties desire counseling or consultation – \$100 Fee

- Process includes:
  - Coordinating meeting with both parties.
  - Receiving all necessary information from both parties prior to meeting.
  - One face to face meeting with consultation with both parties present; one hour minimum.
  - If an additional face to face meeting is requested, a \$50 fee will be added.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If your request is not listed above, please call the post adoption department at New Life Family Services and someone will help determine which fee (if any) applies.

**Minnesota Statute 259.83 (subd. 5)** allows for agencies to charge reasonable fees for Post Adoption services. According to New Life Family Services' practice, for all Post Adoption services, except for fees charged for searching, payment must be received before the service is rendered. New Life Family Services charges the above fees in order to assist in covering costs for the services rendered. Vital services will not be denied. If necessary, contact New Life Family Services' Post Adoption department for possible fee reductions based on income.