

Confidential Intermediary Services



A Community of Solutions

Under the current NC Adoption Statute, Family Services may act as an intermediary on your behalf if you are one of the following:

- An adult adoptee (18 years or older)
- The birth parent of an adult adoptee
- An adult biological sibling or half sibling of an adult adoptee (written permission of birth parent required if living)
- An adult family member of a deceased biological parent
- An adult family member of a deceased adoptee
- The adoptive parents of a minor adoptee (non-identifying information only).

For the purposes of CI services, the definition of family member includes a spouse, child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent or grandchild.

Through this process, Family Services is able to obtain and share non-identifying birth family information, including an updated health history. If both parties request contact, Family Services is able to share identifying information with the individuals involved. If the search determines that person who is the subject of the search is deceased, the agency may obtain and share the death certificate with the person who initiated the search. For those whose CI services were conducted prior to begin able to obtain the death certificate, the fee for that service only is \$100.

If you are interested in intermediary services, you will need to complete an *Application for Confidential Intermediary Services*, which will start the process. It provides the agency with the necessary information about your adoption situation and the services that you are requesting from the agency. You will be added to our waiting list based on the date that we receive your *Application*.

A non-refundable fee of \$500 (\$600 for adoptions not handled through Family Services, Inc.) will be charged to cover the cost of a search. The fee will include:

- Support and preparation for the search
- An in-house record review
- A search for birth mother and birth father, if named in the record. If a search determines that the individual is deceased, copies of the death certificate will be obtained. An additional fee of \$200 may be charged if you chose to have the agency search for a relative of the deceased person, depending on whether extensive searching is necessary.
- Contact with the person found to obtain current medical and background information and to ascertain that person's willingness to share identifying information or have contact
- Facilitate the signing of the *Consent to the Release of Information and/or Contact*.

Family Services | 1200 S. Broad Street | Winston-Salem, NC 27101

336-722-8173 | fax 336-724-6491 | www.fsifamily.org



In some situations, the review of the agency record will show that there is already a current address or phone number for the person being sought and a diligent search will not be required. In these cases, there will be a reduction in fee to \$300.

The confidential intermediary process is a highly emotional journey and we recommend that you prepare by reading adoption related material, join a local or online adoption group, or consult with a counselor who is familiar with adoption issues.

For more information, contact Rebecca Nagaishi @ 336-778-7067 or Rnagaishi@fsifamily.org.

