

## Post-Permanency:

All Pennsylvania families who are permanent or subsidized legal custodians, fit and willing relatives, or adoptive families are eligible for post-permanency services. Services are ongoing prevention services that enhance permanency and support the families.

Case advocacy is designed to provide support for families. Families can determine how much support is necessary for their individual needs. The case advocate will communicate with the family on a regular basis and provide ongoing support. The advocate can also assist the family by attending meetings or referring them to other services in the community that might be helpful to their family.

Respite services support the family by developing resources that help alleviate the pressures of parenting special needs children. Children's Aid Society will offer the families respite resources, which can be for a day, an evening, or a weekend. This service can occur in or outside the family's home. This is a decision families can make with the respite provider. Respite resources will provide a safe environment for the adopted child while the parents take some time for themselves.

Support group services are designed to ensure that families are supported by building relationships with other adoptive families, forming a community of support, and mentoring. Children's Aid Society offers an email support group. Families have the opportunity to connect with other adoptive families and obtain information, educational materials, and share valuable life experiences. Children's Aid Society is also available to offer phone support or a cup of coffee.



Children's Aid Society was founded in 1890 and currently offers the following programs:

Real Relationships	2016
Triple P - Positive Parenting Program	2015
In-Home Services	2012
Relatives As Parents Program	2010
Pre-K Counts	2007
Foster Care	2002
Clearfield Elementary Care	1998
Nurturing Parenting Program	1995
Childcare	1989
Adoption	1985
Youth Mentoring	1985

The mission of Children's Aid Society is to provide services to improve the quality of life of children and families. We are a private, non-profit, non-sectarian agency governed by a volunteer board of directors, with IRS 501 (c) (3) classification. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or physical ability.

**Please note: Application to the adoption program does not guarantee approval or placement.**

The program staff will diligently work with interested applicants — providing information, training, and support to help you make the best adoption decision for you and your family. Professionalism and confidentiality are priorities in providing adoption and permanency services.



Adoption



## Adoption Services

### Find us online!



A member of



Children's Aid Society  
1008 South Second Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830  
(814) 765-2686

[www.childaid.org](http://www.childaid.org) | [adoption@childaid.org](mailto:adoption@childaid.org)

## Services available:

Children's Aid Society's adoption program operates as a full-service adoption agency, providing services to participants in all stages of the adoption process:

- Adoptive parent training
- Birth parent and adoptee searches
- Birth parent counseling and advocacy
- Child preparation
- Court appearances, as required
- Child Specific Recruitment (CSR)
- Family profile/home study preparation
- International agency contacts
- Networking and matching services
- Placement services
- Post-adoption supervision
- Post-placement supervision and reports
- Post-permanency services for all adoptive families
- SWAN (Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network) orientation



A SWAN affiliate

## Types of adoption:

### Infant program:

Our agency places infants in approved adoptive homes and assists with private and/or interstate placements and/or facilitates open adoptions. The number of placements per year and timeframe varies.

### Waiting children:

Our program actively recruits adoptive families for waiting children. Case managers search for appropriate adoptive placements for families through an extensive network of professional contacts. The agency provides all placement services including exploration of options, trainings, home study preparation, placement, interstate approval, supervision, assistance with post-placement and post-legalization issues.

Children's Aid Society is an affiliate of SWAN (Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network). SWAN assists with the placement of children waiting in Pennsylvania.

### International adoptions:

The agency provides pre- and post-placement services for most international adoptions. The program provides home studies that meet USCIS requirements and options to those seeking international placements, refers families to reputable international agencies, and provides required post-placement/adoption services to families upon their return to the United States.



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## Birth parents:

Children's Aid Society assists individuals who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy and wish to consider adoption as an option. The agency is committed to the belief that birth parents have the right to make decisions for themselves as well as their children.

Birth parents who have chosen adoption are encouraged to select the type of family desired for the child. Their preferences for the adopting family's geographic location, religious affiliation, and lifestyle are given the highest consideration.

The wishes of birth parents concerning the degree of openness with the adopting family are also respected.



*"Someone I know wants to place a child for adoption. What needs to be done?"*

Call or email Children's Aid Society and staff will walk you through the process. The agency averages a waiting list of 5-10 prospective adoptive families at any given time. Staff will gladly assist the birth parent, hospital, physician, or agency to find a suitable match.

## Service areas:

Adoption services are provided to families residing in 16 counties within Pennsylvania. Licensed by the state of Pennsylvania, the adoption program can provide adoption services to residents of Pennsylvania only.

However, the agency is permitted to place children out of state and has also facilitated the placement of children from other states with waiting families in Pennsylvania.

The adoption program follows interstate compact requirements when working with interstate placements.

## Fees:

Children's Aid Society charges reasonable fees as services are rendered. A fee schedule is available upon request or online at [www.childaid.org](http://www.childaid.org). The costs of adopting a child who is already in foster care may be paid for by SWAN.