



STANDARDS FOR PREGNANCY CENTERS PROVIDING ADOPTION SERVICES

A pregnancy center with an adoption agency as part of its organization is eligible for Care Net affiliation if it meets the following standards:

1. The center's adoption agency is properly licensed and is in full compliance with all applicable laws.
2. The pregnancy center segregates the functional operations and finances of the adoption agency from the functional operations and finances associated with the general pregnancy counseling ministry.
3. Pregnancy center personnel are trained to present all positive pregnancy options in an unbiased manner.
4. The center's adoption services are only offered and made available to a pregnancy center client if, and when, specifically requested by that client. The center also offers the client referrals to at least three other adoption agencies.
5. Each pregnancy center client pursuing adoption services from the center continues to be served by one or more pregnancy counselors whose sole responsibility is to protect and advance the client's interests.
6. The center's adoption agency is operated in a manner that assures that the periodic revenues, if any, derived in connection with providing adoption services do not exceed the costs of providing such services.
7. The center maintains and enforces strict policies to prevent the adoption of any pregnancy center client's baby by a staff member, volunteer, or any other person with whom there would be a conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety.
8. The center meets all other Care Net Affiliation Standards.

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STANDARDS FOR PREGNANCY CENTERS *REGARDING* ADOPTION REFERRALS

1. Standards for a pregnancy center that counsels about adoption and refers clients to outside adoption agencies:
2. Center assures that all peer counselors are trained to effectively counsel clients about adoption issues.
3. Center identifies at least three adoption agencies for referral. Centers may also refer for independent adoptions in states where it is legal.
4. Center assures that each referral agency is licensed, reputable, and adequately insured.
5. Center does not accept financial remuneration from any outside adoption agencies or enter into any special contracts with such referral agencies.
6. A client expressing an interest in pursuing adoption is given a referral list of agencies and is encouraged to set up meetings with the adoption agencies off site of the pregnancy center. An on site meeting might incur liability for the pregnancy center. A volunteer should not accompany a client to a meeting with a representative from an adoption agency. The pregnancy center should not act as a mediator in any manner between client and adoption agency.

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