

## ADOPTIVE PARENT TRAINING POLICY

The training of adoptive parents will be a four-step process as follows:

- 1 During the application/questionnaire phase of applying with the agency, the couple will be required to read a book on resolving infertility issues. The couple will write a summary of the book and a summary of how they have learned to cope with the issue of infertility. In the event a couple is not infertile, this step will not be required.
- 2 During the initial interview phase, the couple will be given information on open adoption and explained to the reason why the agency encourages open adoption. The couple will be required to read a book on open adoption and write a summary of the book.
- 3 During the home visit phase, the couple and social worker will discuss issues of open adoption, and further training may take place. The couple will be given a CD on birth parent grief and healing and the couple also be given an evaluation component.
- 4 The remaining information for training will be completed in a group setting and completed on an individual basis. The group training will be provided by the agency every three months. The group training will include water safety, legal issues, birth parent issues, the legal process, money matters, drug and alcohol exposure, and hospital protocol. Basic infant care and firearm safety will be completed on an individual basis.
- 5 In the event that a couple needs training before a scheduled time (emergency placement), the couple will be required to read materials and listen to a tape on training components, and attend the next available training.

Participation in the training process is absolutely required! Consideration for modification of the required training will be considered for couples that have already received training on similar topics from another agency (example: CPS) with documentation and Executive Director approval.