

We're here to help you
in any way we can.

Call us for confidential counseling
any time, day or night:

5200 SW Macadam Avenue, Suite 250
Portland, OR 97239
503-226-4870

315 West 10th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401
541-343-4825

329 South Ivy Street
Medford, OR 97501
541-608-6134


200 West Mercer Street, #E-508
Seattle, WA 98119
206-782-0442

Olympia, WA
360-352-3063

Vancouver, WA
360-254-7236

Bend, OR
541-388-2535

Salem, OR
503-540-5832

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*Being
involved
in your
child's
open
adoption*

Fathers Matter

You can play an important role
in your child's life.

“I loved this boy so much.
I knew he deserved the best,
and this was it.”
– Garrett, birthfather

Open Adoption &
Family Services welcomes
your cooperation and
involvement. You will be
treated with dignity and
respect. OA&FS honors the
important role birthfathers
play in their children's lives.

When the choice is
adoption, we facilitate child-
centered open adoptions. We
will help you form lifelong
relationships with your child
and the adoptive family.



“A birthfather's love and acceptance
is so important to children. It helps
them know themselves and feel good
about who they are.”
– Laurel, adoptive mother

“I was right there with my girlfriend, helping make decisions,
reading the histories and biographies, and ultimately
deciding together who we wanted to be the adoptive parents.”
– Andrew, birthfather

(shown on front)



TOLL FREE
1.800.772.1115
Para Español
1.800.985.6763



CONTACT
THE EXPERTS 24/7
1-800-772-1115
www.openadopt.org

Birthfathers make a big difference

Adopted children benefit from contact with their birthparents. Access to both birthmothers and birthfathers contributes to an adopted child's identity and self-esteem.

Adopted children want and need to integrate birthparents into their lives:

- Psychologists estimate that 60 to 90 percent of all adoptees want identifying information about their birthparents.
- In a national study (2008), birth fathers reported higher satisfaction with the adoption process and better post-adoption adjustment when they had higher levels of openness.
(Bridging the Divide. Journal of Family Psychology, 22, 529-540)
- According to two surveys of OA&FS clients (2001 and 2003), birthparent involvement benefits the child, the birthparents, and the adoptive parents.



Birthfather Robert with Ceriwen, 6 mo.



Birthfather Cody with Mitchell, age 7

“We liked OA&FS’ program because it gave us a way to be involved in our son’s life. We wanted to see him grow up. We wanted him to know us. My son knows I love him. The adoptive parents laid the groundwork by letting him know where he came from. I followed through by being involved.”

– Cody, birthfather

How you can be involved in your child’s life...

Adoption is a loving, responsible and honorable choice. You can be involved in these ways:

- Participate in options counseling at the agency. You can do this together or individually.
- Assist in the process of reviewing prospective parent profiles and choosing an adoptive family.
- Meet the adoptive parents and participate with the birthmother in the adoption planning. This will include making important decisions about the birth plan and the placement, as well as defining your role in the new family.
- Create your own open adoption agreement with the adoptive parents, planning the level and type of ongoing contact you will have with your child. (Open adoption agreements are legally enforceable in Oregon and Washington.)
- Follow through on your commitment to the child. Stay in contact with your child and the adoptive parents. Our agency can support and guide you along the way.

“Thanks to open adoption, my son is in a great place. I can watch him grow and develop with the confidence that he is well-loved and provided for.”
– Bryan, birthfather

Birthfather David with adoptive father and baby Grace at the hospital

