

Counseling Services

For both our biological and adoptive parents, the adoption journey is filled with many twists and turns. The team at I.A is a group of professional social workers who are here to listen, care, share information, and provide feedback to our clients. It is not our intention to take the place of individual or family counselors and provide ongoing treatment or therapy.

For our biological parents: much grief accompanies having to say goodbye to a child that they have carried and bonded with for months. Additionally, guilt may arise, as they grapple with conflicting feelings of wanting to parent the child but are unable to provide for the child. Any unresolved issues with their parents and significant others often become amplified at this time. Fret and worry followed by depression after the birth of the child also commonly occurs. Grief is personal and everyone grieves in his or her own way. Some ways of coping are more positive than others. We care about our biological parents and want to be sensitive to their needs related to the adoption process. Each of our birth parent clients is offered an opportunity to receive professional counseling to assist them along their adoption plan journey. The company will cover counseling expenses related to the adoption, not to exceed five sessions. The offer of the agency covering the cost of counseling expires six months after the birth of the child is placed for adoption.

Adoptive couples: Couples often come to us after the many disappointing trials of infertility issues. They frequently struggle with the excitement of the possibility of being matched with a birth parent while trying to guard their heart from further disappointments or a “let down”. While waiting for birth parents to select to meet with them is a test of patience in and of itself, the roller coaster of emotions does not stop there.

Even after they are selected, anxiety and fret enters, as the reality of a birth parent changing her mind becomes a possibility, or a biological father deciding not to cooperate with the adoption plan. Again, we are here to listen, pray, and share information. We have an adoptive couple support group that is facilitated by other adoptive couples that volunteer their time to offer a place for emotional support and information.

Adoption is an emotional journey for all involved in the process. I.A. can make no promises or guarantees as to where the journey will lead. Only the good Lord knows the future. The team at I.A. will be honest with each client as to the risks involved with each particular case. In keeping with the best interest of both the clients and children involved, we will not withhold information that would be to the detriment of anyone involved in the process. Further, we maintain the National Association of Social Workers code of ethics by believing that each client has the right to self-determination.