



**Hoping to Adopt?**  
**We can help you ...**

*Adoption*  
**Partners**  
of Michigan

In 2021 Jennifer Jaworski and Michelle Dykema joined Michigan attorney, Christopher Swartz, in launching Adoption Partners of Michigan, a licensed child placing agency (formerly Swartz Adoption Agency). Together we have over 60 years of combined experience providing ethical adoption services to children, birth parents, and adoptive families by educating, supporting and coordinating adoption services throughout Michigan.

As experienced adoption professionals, we understand the fears and anxieties related to an unplanned pregnancy. We're here to provide support and resources to help birth parents make the right decision for themselves and their babies. We're here to listen, to be responsive to each woman's individual needs, and to offer free information and assistance to help her make an informed decision every step of the way.

We also walk alongside adoptive parents as they prepare to welcome a child through adoption. We're experts in providing home studies as well as post placement support for adoptive families in Michigan. And we guide both the birth parents and the adoptive parents through the adoption legal process.

Wherever you are in your personal adoption journey,  
**Adoption Partners of Michigan** is here to help.

## Contact us

### Call

(989) 793-0000

### Text

(989) 262-0032

### Email

[info@adoptionpartnersmi.org](mailto:info@adoptionpartnersmi.org)

### Website

[www.adoptionpartnersmi.org](http://www.adoptionpartnersmi.org)





# A step by step guide to adopting your baby

## Choose an agency

You've got plenty of choices when it comes to trusting who to help you adopt a baby. We believe that a licensed adoption agency with experienced professionals provides the best service to everyone involved: the adoptive family, the birth parents, and most importantly, the adopted child.

## Home study

You'll need a home study to be approved for adoption. Choosing to work with a licensed, experienced agency will ensure that the home study is done correctly, while also providing you with valuable insights into your particular adoption journey.

## Creating a profile

Look online and you'll find profiles of many hopeful adoptive parents. You'll create your own unique profile, a valuable tool in sharing who you are with expectant parents considering placing their baby for adoption.

## Being matched

You might wait awhile, but what a great moment it will be when you're connected with a birth parent, when you've been chosen as the right family for her baby. You'll probably have an open adoption. Working with a licensed adoption agency will give assurance that everyone's wishes for an ongoing relationship are respected and honored.

## Placement and the legal process

You'll take custody of the baby you hope to adopt, and we'll guide you through the legal process. We'll ensure that the birth parents are cared for and fairly represented, while assuring that you finish with a full and final adoption.



# Openness in Adoption

## Open Adoption

A fully open adoption means there is an exchange of identifying information between the birth parents and the adoptive parents. Over time the birth parents and the adoptive family are in regular contact with each other and may have visits together.

## Semi-open Adoption

Some adoptions are considered semi-open, when birth parents and adoptive parents may meet each other before placement, and then make an agreement for limited ongoing contact. This might include occasional visits, and usually includes sharing regular updates and pictures.

## Closed Adoption and Anonymous Surrender

Occasionally, birth parents will request a closed adoption. In a closed adoption there is typically little or no information exchanged.

In Michigan, the Safe Delivery of Newborns law allows for anonymous surrender of a newborn by his or her parent. Most often, the baby goes immediately to an already-approved adoptive family in Michigan. This law is meant to provide safety for a baby who might otherwise be abandoned. These adoptions are usually considered closed too.



**Is open adoption a good idea? We believe the answer is ‘Yes!’**

### Advantages for the child:

- Having access to information about his or her birth family, including health and background
- There are no unknowns about his or her origins or adoption story
- Knowing birth parents can give a strong sense of identity and place in the world

### Advantages for birth parents:

- Certainty over time that the adoption plan was right for them as they see their child grow
- Confidence that their child is being well cared for and loved
- Pride in witnessing their child grow and develop to his or her fullest potential

### Advantages for adoptive parents:

- Knowledge of their child’s origins so that they can answer any questions their child might have about his or her adoption story
- Having full health and background information so they can make the best decisions for their child
- Opportunity for a rich and meaningful relationship with others who want the very best for their child





# Who's placing a baby for adoption?

Birth parents come to Adoption Partners of Michigan in many ways. They might have found us online. Or they might have been referred by a medical professional or counselor, or maybe even calling us from the hospital after their baby has already been born.

## Common reasons for considering adoption include:

- I'm too young/I want to finish school
- I have health problems/I struggle with substance use
- I don't have any support from my family or friends
- I can't afford to have a baby now
- I can barely take care of the kids I already have
- I'm not emotionally ready to be a parent
- I think my baby deserves more opportunities than I can give

No matter what the circumstance, we do our utmost to provide personal, sensitive, and compassionate guidance and information, without pressure and with no judgment. We believe that the more we understand, know, and support birth parents, the better we can assist them in making the right plans for their babies.




## If you're ready to take the next steps with Adoption Partners of Michigan

- 1** You're already on your way! You've looked at our information, and probably other agencies too. You can also check out our agency policies, program statement, and fees.
- 2** Contact us! We'll schedule a time for an individualized orientation meeting. We'll make sure that all your questions are answered.
- 3** Fill out a formal application. We'll set you on the path to completing a home study and profile.

We're grateful for your trust in Adoption Partners of Michigan and look forward to finding the right adoptive family for every baby we place, so that his or her birth parents can be confident that they've made a good plan for their child.

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