

Adoption brings love full circle.

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ALTERNATIVES TO ADOPTION

Please sign the Agency copy and retain the Client copy for your file.

There are many choices available to you concerning your pregnancy and expected child. Adoption is one of those choices. There are also other alternatives. The following is a list of some services available to you if you have the need. Further information can be obtained about any of these services through calling your local state agency that assists with state and federal benefits, allotments and entitlements. The telephone number for the area office closest to you is usually available by calling Information (411). Your adoption case worker can also discuss these services with you and, at your request, can help refer you to appropriate sources who can respond to your needs. Note: As government regulations and available services are often changing, the below information should be verified with the local governmental agency offices closest to you.

WELFARE

Financial Assistance Program to support your child at home. You may be eligible following application; coverage is subject to regulations in force at the time you apply.

MEDICAID

Medicaid is similar to medical insurance which will pay generally in full for you and your child's medical expenses. You can receive Medicaid for as long as you are eligible. Review eligibility criteria with a nearby Welfare office.

FOOD STAMPS

Coupons which may be used to pay for groceries are available based on your eligibility.

WIC

If you are pregnant or a breastfeeding mother, you may be eligible for milk, cheese and other dairy products. Children are also eligible within certain age guidelines. Applications are available through health care centers and your welfare/benefits office.

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

Through your local housing authority, it may be possible for you to obtain an apartment for which the government will pay a portion of the rent, based on your financial need. There is usually a long waiting list for this program so you should consider completing an application as soon as possible if interested in this program.

FOSTER CARE

If you are unable to care for your child at home at this time, you may apply for voluntary foster care from the state agency in charge of providing State foster care. Foster care means your child would be taken care of for a temporary period of time with the goal of helping you make permanent plans for your child to return home, or make another permanent plan

for your child. Again, eligibility is best determined at the time of making an application to the Department of Children and Families or other similarly named agency.

DAY CARE

If you go to school or work, you may qualify for state-subsidized free or partial payment of day care. Your social worker can help see if a suitable program for your child is available.

EDUCATION

If you have not finished high school, you may wish to enroll in a special program for teen parents or consider a GED program. You may wish to research availability of financial aid for college programs.

VOCATIONAL

There are federally funded and state funded job training programs for which you may qualify. Ask for information about Job Corps, Educational Training and other programs.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

If you are in a crisis situation or in transition and do not have a place to live, you may be able to find a place to live in a short-term shelter.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Your counselor at Full Circle Adoptions can help refer you to a range of therapeutic programs. These include counseling around various individual or family problems. Services are offered by professional counselors, by referral or through self-help programs, such as AA (for people who have an alcohol issues), Al-Anon (for family members of someone with an alcohol problem), or Parents Anonymous (for parents who are experiencing parental stress, etc.).

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Wherever possible, Full Circle Adoptions strongly encourages each pregnant woman to share the fact of her pregnancy and the impending birth of her child with appropriate family members and/or close friends. It may be possible that the family or close friends could provide emotional and financial help.

SINGLE PARENTHOOD

For some women facing an unplanned pregnancy, single parenthood may be an option. Today there are many women who raise children as single parents. The other resources discussed in this handout may be available to you as well.

My signature on this form means I have read and understand the information as written and received a copy of the same.

Expectant Parent Signature

Date