



Teaching the Importance of Education

school is just around the corner.



As you prepare diligently to get your children ready for the 2013-2014 school year remember to take some time to reflect on the importance of family, and the values, morals and legacies that revolve around your family. Spend that last weekend with your kids and make memories before they head back to school.

She Has Options

Bringing a child into the world is an indescribable experience. Should she decide to keep the baby, a lifelong journey will begin that is filled with both rewards and challenges. The Legacy counselor works through the practical aspects of bringing home a baby, and will ask questions like;

- Will the father help with the baby?
- Are your parents supportive, and willing to assist with childcare?
- What financial cushion will you have?
- What are your long-term goals for school and a career?
- What government assistance programs would you consider?

Deciding on adoption is another option. Legacy adoption plans range from open, ongoing interaction

between birth mother and adoptive parents, to closed adoptions and scenarios in between. The birth parents have a say in how to structure their adoption. Despite the stress and angst she may feel, the crisis can actually bring great peace and joy, both for the birth mom and the adoptive family willing to help support her emotionally throughout her pregnancy.

Deciding to end a pregnancy, of all the choices the birth mom may have, this is the most time sensitive and permanent. Terminating a pregnancy can also be the most difficult to bear. At Legacy, we can explain the laws in Texas, potential complications of abortion, along with the emotional implications. No one should pressure a birth mom to end a pregnancy, and she shouldn't have to struggle with the decision alone. Legacy is here to help.

The call a birth mom makes to Legacy does not come with strings attached. There is no pressure to have any future contact, or underlying agency pressure to choose one option for resolving unplanned pregnancy over another. Legacy is here to help birth moms find peace in their decision whatever it may be.

We will offer options counseling for women with unplanned pregnancies. Reviewing available options in depth may clear up many unanswered questions.

Hot Topic

Texas House approved abortion law on Tuesday, July 9th. A final vote will be held in the Senate. If the Senate approves, the legislation would ban abortions after 20 weeks and add restrictions that would lead the closing of most abortion clinics in Texas. Other provisions would potentially require abortions to be performed at ambulatory surgical centers and would require doctors to have admitting privileges at hospitals within 30 miles of the facilities where they perform abortions.

As things begin to change in the state of Texas, it's hard to help but think this is only the beginning. What will this do for the rate of abortion? Will it put unplanned pregnant women at risk by back alley abortions? Will adoption rates or parenting rates go up? Legacy will be praying that regardless of the legal process ahead, that more women will become educated about their options and create Legacies for their child.

Adoption – A Birth Mom's Perspective

Based on conversations with multiple birth mom's, we have found that one of the most crucial parts of what we do with our birth mothers are the relationships and bonds that we form with them. That relationship helps them feel accepted and not judged as some of the birth mothers may have felt at some point in time during their pregnancy. Being the one that offers support, both emotionally and physically is what our birth mom's really thrive for during that time in their life.

The support we offer is something very important to our birth mom's and has helped various mothers feel empowered, hopeful, and joyous for the opportunity they chose not only for their child but for themselves. Many times the choice of adoption is a second chance for them to set goals; whether it is to graduate high school, go back to college, start a career or buy a motorcycle. The opportunity these mom's have received from our support and guidance has empowered them to set goals and accomplish their dreams.

Every birth mom we work with has a different story and a different situation, however the end results is still the same. These moms feel accepted, hopeful and empowered to change themselves.

"The greatest accomplishment is not in never failing, but in rising again after you fall."

—Vince Lombardi

The Ins and Outs of Financing Adoption

Contact – (817) 562-5765
www.LegacyAS.com

The National Endowment of Financial Education (NEFE) has developed a booklet titled "How to Make Adoption an Affordable Option." This booklet provided information for all prospective adoptive parents regarding financial assistance, benefits, and tax breaks for all types of adoptions. It also provided a breakdown of what fee may be involved in the adoption process. The booklet is available on the NEFE website at

<http://publications.usa.gov/epublications/adoption/>

The National Adoption Foundation has established a \$9 million revolving loan bank to provide unsecured loans to adoptive families. Payments and interest then help other adoptive parents. The foundation has a limited program to provide grants, usually in the \$2,500 range, to assist families with adoption costs.

FAQ

Can the birthmother see or hold the baby after birth? Yes. Birthmother has all rights and privileges of a parent until she signs relinquishments.

What happens if the mother refuses to give the name of the biological father? Diligent efforts must be made to determine the name and whereabouts of the biological father – but ultimately the decision to involve the birth father is her right.

Feedback

We would like to make our newsletter educational and informative to all of our readers. Please email *Candyce Woods* our Adoptions Counselor, at CandyceWoods@LegacyAS.com for any questions or ideas you would like to read in our newsletters to come.

For consultation/questions call:



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