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**Fee Explanations**

**Application: $250** Includes adoption application screening processing and mailings**,** preparation of Home StudyPacket tailored to clients’ needs, administrative services and application review.

**Home Study Fee (Original): $2500** Includes collection, processing and review of all pertinent information and paperwork for Home Study, joint and individual interviews, as required, administrative and support services, collaboration contacts and completion of Home Study document. A home study is typically completed in 120 days and a rush home study fee will be required if a family is requesting a home study completed in less time. A decision will be made on a case-by-case basis for rush home studies depending on social worker’s caseload. *Pre-adoptive family will provide required documentation in a timely manner, complete all documentation accurately, complete required pre-service training and annual training, be available and cooperate at family consultations - home studies that take longer than 6 months to complete will be charged an hourly fee in addition to the $2500.*

**Home Study addendum or Revision Fee**: **$75 hourly** for annual update of Home Study information as required by licensing regulations and/or for minor changes in the original Home Study (job change, moving to a new residence, etc.) performed by prior to child’s placement.

**Fully Updated Home study: $1300**: home study for another child; or if Agency is updating another agency’s home study that is not a SAFE home study or does not meet the domestic program home study guidelines. Includes all items stated above for original Home Study with the ability to use the family’s last approved home study with necessary updated information.

***Transfer Fee:******$675*** *includes all costs related to a transfer from another program or agency, such as a domestic home study or licensed foster home study into the Caritas Adoption Program. This covers all the cost of a revised home study, preparation, case management and home study approval for the Caritas Domestic Adoption Program. Note, this is only applicable to the transfer of SAFE home studies; all non-SAFE homes studies will require an original home study and fee.*

**Adoption Placement with Caritas**: This fee is assessed on a one-time basis regardless of how long a client remains enrolled in the program, as long as the home study remains current. This fee allows the Agency to conduct the necessary case management and program administration work, personnel, client support, coordination of a hospital plan, coordination of a post-adoption agreement, coordination and facilitation of meetings and contacts between adoptive family and birth family pre-placement and post-placement, file compliance as well as assists with the Agency’s advertising costs, which includes community outreach, and trainings. It also includes emergency response services –staff on-call 24 hours per day, presentation of profiles to expectant parents identified by the Agency. The Agency uses a sliding scale based on the adoptive family’s gross worth/earning at application or during the home study process. (See sliding scale on next page)*.* ***This fee does not include possible birth parent expenses, which may include medical, housing, food, transportation, utilities, and will be shared with the pre-adoptive family during the match process and paid to the agency with monthly invoices detailing the expenses before, during and after the placement; nor does it include legal fees paid to the attorneys representing the termination of parental rights for the birth parents and representation for the child (Guardian Ad Litem), and the adoptive family.***

***Matching fee for Caritas domestic program– If a birth parent and adoptive family are considered “matched” (birth parent/s and pre-adoptive parent/s are in agreement to go forward with a possible placement), while waiting on Caritas’ domestic adoption list, the adoptive family will pay $2000, which will be deducted from their final fee at placement. Please note, this matching fee is non-refundable for each time a family is considered “matched”; however, if the “match” fails, the $2000 will be applied to the final adoption placement.***

Sliding fee scale per schedule outlined below. Based on most recent 1040 tax return at time of initial home study application.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **If your adjusted gross income is:** | **Your Fee:** |
| $50,000 and under | $12,000 |
| $50,000 - $60,000 | $13,500 |
| $60,001 - $70,000 | $15,000 |
| $70,001- $80,000 | $16,500 |
| $80,001 – $90,000 | $18,000 |
| $90,001 - $100,000 | $19,500 |
| $100,001 - $110,000 | $21,000 |
| $110,001 - $120,000 | $23,500 |
| $120,001 - $130,000 | $25,000 |
| $130,001 - $140,000 | $26,500 |
| $140,001 - $150,000 | $28,000 |
| $150,001 and above | $29,000 |

**Interstate Compact Processing Fee:** All interstate adoptions must comply with the ICPC, an

agreement between all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Virgin Islands that regulates

interstate adoption placements. If you are adopting across state lines, Your ICPC paperwork

must be approved before you can leave the state where the baby is born and will need to be

completed by an adoption agency and/or attorney.

**Foster Care Fee:** For the care of infant or child in Caritas agency-licensed foster home post-delivery until placement for self-networking or independent situations when foster homes are available.

**Counseling Fee for Birthparent(s) and/or Adoptive Family via an independent or attorney assisted adoption:** For all clients who want a Caritas

Birthparent and/or Adoption Counselor to provide counseling and adoption planning services to

the birthparent(s) and/or adoptive parent (s). Includes all activities performed by Caritas

Birthparent Counselor and/or adoptive counselor with the Birthparent(s) and/or adoptive

parent (s) to achieve an adoption plan for their child i.e. all contacts pre/post-delivery with

birthparent(s) and/or adoptive parent (s), hospital coordination and support in the hospital

setting, data collection, TPR referral process and legal fees for TPR, profiling and

correspondence facilitation for the birthparent(s) and or adoptive parents.

**Post-Placement Supervision Fee(s):** Per interview for each individual child being supervised.

Includes support services following placement of a child, supervision interviews required by Missouri statute and written reports for placement agency. An additional charge per court appearance i.e. Transfer of Custody hearing or Finalization hearing for independent adoptions.

**Check out the many ways to finance an adoption:** [**https://adoptionfinancinginformation.com/**](https://adoptionfinancinginformation.com/)

**https://adoptioncouncil.org/article/adoption-financial-resources/**

**https://bothhands.org/how-it-works/**

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**FEE SCHEDULE**

**Family’s Name:**

**Adoption Fees:** This fee schedule summarizes the variety of services offered by Caritas Family Solutions. If the fees and expenses change for any reason all clients will be notified. The client will be charged actual fees at the time of billing. Please note fees are non-refundable and is due upon request for services. Payments are accepted in the form of a personal check or a credit card. Clients are responsible for the processing fees associated with the transaction. Those fees are typically 2% of the total transaction amount.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service(s) Provided** | **Usual Fee/Range** | **Timing** | **Amount Paid** | **Amount Owed** |
| Application fee | $250 | Upon submitting application for review |  |  |
| Home Study Fee (relative, step-parent, independent, domestic or other agency); does not include fingerprints completed and paid by family. | $2500 | Onset of home study |  |  |
| Fully updated home study | $1300 | Onset of home study |  |  |
| Mileage for services outside of a 30 mile radius from Caritas offices | .60 per mile | Onset of services |  |  |
| Transfer Fee to Caritas Domestic Program from other domestic adoption program with SAFE approved home studies. | $675 | Onset of Services |  |  |
| Home Study Addendum (required yearly or a life change such as new job, move, etc.). | $75 per hour (billed in 15 minute increments) | Onset of services |  |  |
| Home Study Rush Fee- completed in less than 6 weeks  (if applicable) | 20% of home study fee | Onset of home study |  |  |
| Home study services not completed within a 6 month time frame by pre-adoptive family | $75 per hour (billed in 15 minute increments) | 6 months after application for home study |  |  |
| Adoption Webinars (required with home study) | $60-$160 for Adoption Learning Partners | Paid to Adoption Learning Partners |  |  |
| Hospital Coordination for independent or attorney assisted adoptions | $75 per hour  $30 per hour for travel (billed in 15 minute increments) | Upon contract for service |  |  |
| ICPC paperwork | $75 per hour (billed in 15 minute increments) | Upon contract for service |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Service(s) Provided** | **Usual Fee/Range** | **Timing** | **Amount Paid** | **Amount Owed** |
| Birth Mother and/or Birth Father counseling/report/case management for independent or attorney assisted adoptions | $75 per hour  $30 per hour for travel (billed in 15 minute increments) | Upon contract for service |  |  |
| Court Report/Appearance- when applicable | $75 per hour (billed in 15 minute increments) | Upon contract for service |  |  |
| Foster Care | $25 a day, when applicable | Due at placement |  |  |
| Post-Placement Adoption Services | $300 each (includes one visit and one report) | Due at placement |  |  |
| Adoptive Parent case management/ Matching/Support/  Counseling for independent, attorney assisted | $75 per hour  $30 per hour for travel  (billed in 15 minute increments) | Upon contract for services |  |  |
| **Caritas Domestic Adoption Program** | **The sliding scale range is $12,000 to $29,000 and based on the pre-adoptive family’s home study 1040 tax income. The program fee is due at placement.**  **A match fee of $2000 is due when matched with an expectant parent and is deducted from the final placement fee. This fee is due each time a family is matched with an expectant parent and is non-refundable.**  **The remaining balance is due at placement.**  **The agency domestic program fees include: birth parent support/counseling, hospital coordination, foster care if applicable, post-placements and court appearances. This fee does not include home study services, birth parent or attorney expenses.** | Due upon  matchings/  placement |  |  |

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**SERVICE AGREEMENT**

**If Applicable, Family’s Adjusted Gross Income:**

**Total Amount due to the agency:**

The client/s acknowledge that:

**\_\_\_\_\_\_** Understand that the domestic program fee has been assessed on a sliding fee scale according to our income at the time of the initiation of the home study, with the purpose for all families to have the ability to adopt.

\_\_\_\_\_ An Adoption Specialist has satisfactorily explained the various adoption services available from CARITAS FAMILY SOLUTIONS and the associated costs of those services;

\_\_\_\_\_ The client has received, read and had the opportunity to ask questions about the “Client Rights and Responsibilities” and “Adoption Fee Schedule and Explanation of Services”;

\_\_\_\_\_The client understands that there will be additional costs associated with any adoption which may include attorney fees, temporary baby care, court costs, and birth mother expenses allowed by law;

\_\_\_\_\_The client is responsible for any medical costs incurred by the birth mother and the child not paid by Medicaid or any other medical provider or resource;

\_\_\_\_\_ The client acknowledges that due to the intrinsic fluidity of the number of children available for adoption, as well as the highly personalized choice of birth parents in regards to the placement of their children, CARITAS cannot guarantee that clients in the adoption program will be provided with the opportunity to adopt a child.

\_\_\_\_\_The client acknowledges that this Agreement does not obligate CARITAS to provide adoption services if, in its judgment, it is no longer in the child’s best interests to do so. CARITAS may also withhold its consent at any time during the adoption process, if CARITAS believes, in its judgment; it is no longer in the child’s best interests for CARITAS to consent to the adoption. This Agreement also does not obligate the client to proceed with the adoption process, if the client decides not to do so.

\_\_\_\_\_Payment is due *prior to the initiation of all services (including the placement of a child)* regardless of the ultimate outcome in the adoption process and even if CARITAS ultimately withholds its consent to the adoption. Fees for services are *nonrefundable* if placement does not happen; CARITAS will only return funds when clients have paid for services that have not been rendered.

\_\_\_\_\_ The client is responsible for paying all required payments in full and arranging any necessary financing to facilitate full payments of fees in one lump sum. If fees are not paid in full, Caritas reserves the right to not approve the finalization of the adoption until all fees are collected. CARITAS does not act as a finance agency, and as such *does not provide the option to make payments*.

\_\_\_\_\_ All medical costs described above must be paid in full prior to the adoption finalization;

\_\_\_\_\_The client agrees to pay a fee for the agreed upon services provided under this Agreement at the rates set forth in the Adoption Fee Schedule attached to this Agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_If there is a need to change program services to facilitate the adoption process, CARITAS and the client will execute an updated Adoption Fee Schedule.

\_\_\_\_\_Should services be provided by CARITAS that are not currently anticipated, the client will be responsible for any additional fees associated with the additional services, as long as the client has been appropriately apprised of the additional services and costs prior to the services being performed.

\_\_\_\_\_The client also agrees and consents to providing financial information to CARITAS as required to complete a home study and the sliding scale fee document. This information may include, but is not limited to, copies of tax returns, financial statements and/or credit reports. The client further agrees and consents to executing the necessary documents in order to obtain the financial information.

\_\_\_\_\_The parties agree that the meaning and interpretation of all the provisions of this Agreement shall be controlled exclusively by Illinois law. Any dispute arising out of or any way related to this Agreement shall be controlled exclusively by Illinois law and the St. Clair County Circuit Court for the State of Illinois shall have jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_This Agreement, together with the attached Adoption Fee Schedule and Explanation and the Client Rights & Responsibilities brochure, contain a full, complete and integrated statement of each, and every term and provision agreed to by and among the parties and supersedes any prior writings or agreements between or among the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have signed this Agreement on the day and year first above written.

I/We have read the above and willingly agree to the terms set forth and request services listed from Caritas Children & Family Services.

I/We have received a copy of Caritas Family Solutions Statement of Rights and Responsibilities.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Client Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Client Date

Caritas Family Services agrees to provide the services listed above for the set amounts listed.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Caritas Family Solutions Date

Services Representative