

YCS Adoption Search Services

Family Search Services

YCS provides search services to adoptees 18 years and older who are interested in establishing contact with their birth family and/or obtaining or providing updated medical information, for birth parents and siblings. The agency policies conform with applicable laws and /or regulations. The agency complies with all laws and regulations regarding confidentiality and does not release or discuss any information without prior written consent.

How do we begin a search?

The first step in the process of search and reunion is the non-identifying background information report. This report provides all information that is not deemed identity-specific. Provided information may include ethnicity, physical descriptions of birth family, religious background of birth family, education of birth family, circumstances around adoption placement etc..

To begin the process, the client must complete agency documentation and submit two forms of identification. The average length of time to complete the report is 4-8 weeks. When the report is completed, the client is usually required to meet with the social worker to review the report.

If the client lives outside the area, the report will be mailed; it is recommended that the client call the social worker upon receipt of the report. The client and the social worker then review and discuss the report in further detail.



Our Commitment to You

The agency is committed to finding the biological family, parent or member and will pursue all existing avenues. In those few cases where the agency is unable to locate the birth parent, the client is invited to use an independent search consultant with a record of past success.

Clients requesting search services are usually seen for a pre-search interview. Expectations and possible outcomes are discussed so that the client is prepared to deal with the life changes and intense emotions that surface as a result of the search process.

Writing a letter to the birth parent or child is also discussed. Clients are asked to update the agency when there is a change in their name and address.

Clients are encouraged to attend support groups and are given information about local groups in their area. When a client is in therapy, the social worker will work cooperatively with his/her therapist with the client's permission.

Clients living out of state are referred to an adoption specialist in their area to set up a pre-search interview. The client can elect to independently locate an adoption specialist of his or her choice.

Family Interaction Procedures

If the birth parent is amenable to a meeting and is within commuting distance to the office, he or she is invited to meet with the social worker to discuss his/her feelings about establishing contact with their adult child. If the birth parent is not within commuting distance to the office, the worker will discuss on the telephone his/her feelings about having contact with the adoptee. **No identifying information such as name, address, and telephone number is shared without prior written permission** of both the adoptee and or the birth parent.

When a birth parent does not wish to have contact with their adult child, the social worker will ask the birth parent to share updated medical and social information. The worker will ask the birth parent to accept the letter written to them by the adoptee. If the birth parent does not wish to receive the letter, it is kept in the records, in the event that the birth parent chooses to receive the letter sometime in the future. The adoptee is informed of the birth parent's decision and feeling about establishing contact.

The agency is available to meet with the adoptee and birth parent to process feelings and issues that emerge after the search is completed.

Through follow-up with those involved in the search process, the agency has found that participants consider it successful even when the desired contact is not possible.

Adoption Search Fees

The fee for the non –identifying information report is \$50.

The fee for a search is \$500. A payment plan can be worked out if the full fee cannot be paid at one time. No client is refused service if they have limited financial resources.

The average length of time before a search is completed is 4 to 12 weeks. The client's name is placed on the waiting list on the day the search application is received and the paperwork requesting various documents pertaining to the search is also initiated. During the waiting period, clients are given a bibliography of recommended books on the topic of adoption searches and reunification.

Youth Consultation Service, better known as YCS, is New Jersey's leading private, non-profit behavioral health and social services agency that has been caring for at risk children and families since 1918. YCS is committed to advocating, educating, sheltering, and caring for the state's most vulnerable children and families. Each year, YCS gives hope to more than 6,500 children, birth - adulthood in healing homes, foster care, special education schools, autism learning centers and community-based programs.

YCS Mission Statement

To partner with at-risk and special needs children, youth and young adults to build happier, healthier more hopeful lives within families and communities.

Richard Mingoia
President/CEO

YCS Headquarters
25 E. Salem Street, 3rd floor
Hackensack, NJ 07601
info@ycs.org
www.ycs.org



Adoption Search Services

Alicia Perry
Director
aperry@ycs.org

Brianne Teller, LCSW
Social Worker Supervisor
bteller@ycs.org

60 Evergreen Place, 9th floor
East Orange, NJ 07018

973-854-3611



Adoption Search Services



973-854-3611

Call for a free consultation to determine if an adoption search is possible and right for you.

973-854-3611