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HB 768
file

AN ALTERNATIVE TO **ABORTION**

For you ... or
a friend ...



If you are pregnant and reluctant to go through an abortion, there is a dignified alternative available to you through LDS Social Services, an agency licensed in the State of Washington which is organized to help you in the following ways:

**COUNSELING
HOUSING
MEDICAL SERVICES
SCHOOLING
PRENATAL INSTRUCTION
A SPECIAL COMPANION
AND AFTERWARDS**

Counseling

Each person seeking services is assigned a professional case-worker. The depth and frequency of counseling offered is regulated by your needs and desires. Counseling includes discussion of alternatives and planning regarding your future and that of the unborn child. Adoption of your child into a loving, stable home is one alternative service available to you if you choose.



Housing



The agency can arrange temporary housing for you if you wish to live away from home during pregnancy. Housing is offered by families who volunteer to provide room and board and to treat you as a family member. In return, you would be expected to help the family with light housekeeping chores, babysitting, etc. Services can be provided if you wish to live at home or with relatives.

LDS Social Services, unwed parent program does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color and ethnic or national origin, but all participants will be asked to maintain the ideals and standards of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints while participating in this program.

Medical Services

The agency is prepared to help you obtain excellent obstetrical services. Financial arrangements for medical services are based on individual resources and/or needs.

Schooling



Arrangements can be made for you to continue your education. Select school districts offer a choice of programs.

Prenatal Instruction

Prenatal instruction is offered in weekly small group discussions. Films and hospital tours are included.

How do you apply for service?

A Special Companion

If you wish, you may have the trusted friendship of a volunteer woman, trained by agency professionals, to help you make social contacts and be involved in appropriate group activities, as well as provide transportation, and interested concern, while you await the birth of your child.

And Afterwards

Counseling following the birth of your baby is available should you desire it. This includes help in resolving emotional conflicts and in making plans for the immediate future.

The person with the problem pregnancy may telephone or come in to one of the agencies.

An individual may be referred by a parent, bishop, minister, school counselor, doctor, attorney, or any interested party.

(All inquiries treated with absolute confidentiality.)

Information Regarding
Services May Be Obtained
at the Following:

L D S SOCIAL SERVICES
Washington Agency

220 South Third Place
Renton, Washington 98055
(206) 624-3393
(206) 228-3740

North 1005 Pines Rd., Suite A-2
Spokane, Washington 99206
(509) 926-6581
(509) 926-1553

OR:

ALASKA

STATE LEGISLATURE

MEMORANDUM

HB 768 file

February 18, 1980

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Representative Terry Martin

During the interim I was told that one of the major problems in our State which receives little attention is the finding of babies for adoption by a large number of childless couples.

The attached is for your information. I hope it will be of value to you in upcoming decisions.

TO: John R. Pugh, Field Director
Division of Social Services

DATE: October 5, 1979

FILE NO.

FROM: ^{NK} Nina Kinney, ICPC Coordinator
Division of Social Services

TELEPHONE NO.

SUBJECT: 1978 Adoption Statistics
January 1-December 31, 1978

The following information is available on the numbers of Alaskan adoptions in calendar year 1978:

Step-parent Adoptions	=	(419) estimated
DSS Adoptions	=	41
Catholic Charities	=	45 (Catholic Charities' figure)
Independent Adoptions (plus a few LDS adoptions)	=	<u>(71) estimated</u>
TOTAL ADOPTIONS IN ALASKA		676 Vital Statistics' figure

I anticipate the number of DSS adoptions in 1979 will be higher due to adoptions by foster parents which have occurred as a result of casework efforts made as part of the Permanent Planning Project.

NK:kk

Catholic Social Services

NOTE: These eligibility policies are deliberately minimum standards because we wish to avoid arbitrary limitations on parenting-by-adoption.

Adoptive applicants need to understand that meeting these minimum standards does not guarantee placement of a child. Children frequently come from unusually difficult circumstances, and therefore we are looking for families who are capable of understanding the specialness of a child not just when the child is a baby but as he grows into adolescence and adulthood.

To accept the realities of adopting a child, and to help the child work through the special difficulties of finding his identity -- these are the true challenges of adoption. The adoption worker will help each family understand the unique differences surrounding adoption, both social and legal.

If a family feels led to apply for a school-age child or one with physical handicaps, we are pleased to work with them. One important item is that the family needs to carefully examine their attitudes and their situation to determine if it would be possible to fully accept such a child.

It is not the handicap or the age or the race that is important in adoption but the family's resourcefulness in coping, their understanding and their feelings toward the child. To learn to respect and accept all others is the true challenge of our love.



In order to help families wishing to adopt a child through our agency, we present this information about the steps in the adoption process and our policies regarding eligibility.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
811 W. 6th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Phone: 271-2554

Office Hours:
M-F: 8:30 - 4:30

*Every child comes with a message
that God is not yet discouraged with man.*

