



About the Agency

Catholic Charities of Wyoming is a licensed non-profit adoption agency created in the middle 1960s. We provide both pregnancy and adoption services throughout the state of Wyoming. Pregnancy services are provided free of charge. The agency provides adoption services to those seeking newborn infants or children with special needs. Assistance with a home study and post placement supervision can also be provided to residents working with an out of state international adoption agency.

Sources of support include adoption fees, donations, some grant and United Way funds, and the Diocese of Cheyenne. The agency serves those of all races and denominations as well as those with a variety of income levels.

Child placement cannot be guaranteed. Fees are subject to change. Payment arrangements are possible. Some credit cards are accepted. Questions about adoption are welcome. Meeting with a caseworker can be arranged at no charge should you wish to discuss adoption prior to applying. Application packets are available through area caseworkers and the main office.

Criteria for Infant Adoption

- Minimum age of 21
- Married at least 2 years
- Active and practicing in a religion
- Have a suitable and safe residence
- Financially stable
- Good physical, emotional health
- Unable to achieve conception either for medical reasons or because pregnancy is medically inadvisable

The Process

Application

The application, fee, and other requested paperwork are sent to the main office. Autobiographical, background, health, and reference and other information is collected. Your caseworker is then notified about beginning your home study.

Home Study

A home study usually involves both individual and joint visits, at least one of which must be in the home. It involves sharing of information and allows for discussion of questions or concerns about adoption. It gives the caseworker an opportunity to get to know you well enough to write a quality study, to assess the safety of your home for a child, to make an informed recommendation, and to help prepare you for adopting. Catholic Charities of Wyoming strives to be open and honest with those served and expects the same of clients. The caseworker writes the home study with a recommendation and submits it to the agency Director for approval.

Waiting

Once approved, applicants are added to the agency's infant waiting list, may have their "profile" shared with birth parents, and may be considered for available children. While waiting for a placement a caseworker will be available to you and will keep your home study updated. There is no way to predict the length of the waiting period or to guarantee child placement.

Placement

Many birth mothers/birth parents wish to select the parents for their expected child and may want to meet you and/or correspond via the agency over time. Each placement is unique and can vary in terms of openness.

Post-placement

In Wyoming, an adoption cannot be finalized until the child has been in the home for a minimum period of six months. Petitioning for an Interlocutory Decree after placement is common practice. Agency supervision is provided to Wyoming clients by Catholic Charities of Wyoming. The agency works with the attorney of the adoptive parent's choice regarding documents, reports, and consents needed for filing with the court.

Interstate Placements

In cases where birth parents and adoptive parents are in different states there is an interstate compact process which must be followed and involves approvals from both states. Home studies and post placement supervision are required as well as other paperwork. Adoption laws vary by state and can also be factors.

Fees

Please see fee sheet.

Catholic Charities of Wyoming

Main Office: 1-800-788-4606

**P.O. Box 907
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Cheyenne, WY 82003**

www.charitieswyoming.org

**Caseworkers Statewide
in:**

**Casper
Cheyenne
Gillette
Cody
Riverton
and
Rock Springs**

**A licensed, non-profit
adoption agency**

Memberships:

**Wyoming State Adoption Council
Catholic Charities USA
Adoption Exchanges**



Building Families through Adoption



**CATHOLIC CHARITIES
OF WYOMING**

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