

## INFORMATION REGARDING ADOPTIVE PLANNING

**CHILD:** \_\_\_\_\_

It is the Agency's responsibility at this time to recommend a permanent plan to the Court for this child, since return to the parent(s) is not possible and/or is not in the child's best interest.

It has been assessed that the most appropriate permanent plan for this child is a plan of adoption.

**We have discussed the possibility of adoption of this child with the child's current caregiver, and the caregiver is not able to adopt and/or is not interested in adoption of this child.**

The Agency will now begin actively searching for an adoptive home for this child. It is the policy of Alameda County to not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age (over 40), religion, national origin, color, ethnicity, disability (mental or physical), political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, medical condition, or the conditions of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS Related Complex (ARC). According to the Multi Ethnic Placement Act, Alameda County may not categorically delay or deny the placement of a child for adoption, or otherwise discriminate in making an adoptive planning decision, on the basis of race, color, of national origin of the adoptive parent or the child involved. Alameda County Adoptions places children in approved adoptive homes of traditional two parent heterosexual couples, single parent heterosexual families (both male and female), and nontraditional families including gay and lesbian couples and individuals. Children are matched with prospective adoptive families that may or may not be ethnically and racially matched to the child involved. We assess potential adoptive families based on their individual characteristics and strengths, and their ability to meet the particular needs of a potential adoptive child.

When looking for an adoptive family, we look at families with approved homestudies through our county. We also look at approved adoptive families from other public and private adoption agencies throughout the Bay Area, the state of California, and if necessary, nationally. Once a family has been selected, we will begin working with that family in a preplacement process. Our commitment is to work with the selected family, and to facilitate a smooth and supportive transition for the child to move to his or her new home. Our goal is to work in partnership with the current caregiver and the prospective adoptive family in order to minimize bringing further loss and trauma into any child's life.

As an Agency, we acknowledge and respect that families that have fostered a child may sometimes have a difficult time letting go of a child they love and care for. Sometimes it is difficult if the family selected for adoptive placement is not one that the current caregivers are comfortable with or would choose themselves. We are committed to working with resource families regarding any concerns that may arise in this process. We highly value any feedback caregivers may have regarding the needs of the child. However, selection of a potential adoptive family lies solely with Alameda County Social Services Agency.

**CWW:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Caregiver(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Information Shared with Caregiver:** \_\_\_\_\_