



Adoption

Find forever homes with loving families for children who need them

Adoption is a beautiful way for a family to provide a stable, loving home for a child. COBYS Family Services facilitates adoptions of foster children through the Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN).

Adoption from Foster Care

Thousands of children in Pennsylvania's foster care system are waiting for parents who can provide a lifetime of commitment. Most children available for adoption through Pennsylvania's foster care system are ages 6 and up, sibling groups, or children with medical/developmental needs. What all of these children have in common is a need for a family to provide unconditional love and support.

Especially needed are racial and ethnic minority families and families who are willing to care for teens, sibling groups, and medically fragile children. While private and international adoptions can cost thousands of dollars, families who adopt through SWAN incur little expense. In addition, most children are eligible to receive ongoing adoption assistance until they reach the age of 18 or, in some cases, 21.



Getting Started

The first step toward becoming an adoptive family is to attend an orientation, offered twice monthly in Lancaster. These free, no-obligation sessions provide an overview of foster care and adoption to help you decide if adopting through foster care is right for you and your family.

After orientation, families apply and complete a 27-hour pre-service training, offered in either daytime or evening formats. COBYS resource families are dual certified to provide foster care and adopt.

Requirements for all COBYS adoptive families include clearances, references, home inspection, and a written family profile (home study).

We view fostering and adoption as a way of living out our belief that every human being is created in the image of God and should be loved and cared for from the moment of conception.

– Resource Parents Austin & Cathy

Motivated by Christian faith, COBYS Family Services educates, supports and empowers children and adults to reach their full potential.



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Who We Are

COBYS Family Services is a family service agency motivated by Christian faith, to educate, support and empower children and adults to reach their full potential.

In addition to adoption, the ministries of COBYS include foster care, family life education, counseling, and a permanency program. Based in Lancaster County, COBYS serves children and families in south central Pennsylvania.



To learn more about caring for children in foster care, contact:

COBYS Family Services
Murry Hill Center
444 Murry Hill Circle
Lancaster, PA 17601
717-656-6580
Fax: 717-656-3056
careforkids@cobys.org
www.cobys.org

Services are provided without regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin, age or sex.

After the Adoption

Adoption is a beautiful way to include a child in your family by providing stability and unconditional love. It is also an enormous, life-long personal commitment that often presents unexpected challenges. COBYS Family Services recognizes that many adoptive families need professional assistance to address the issues their children are facing—sometimes long after the adoption has been finalized.

COBYS provides free post adoption services through SWAN to ensure that families receive the support they need to continue providing a stable, healing environment for children. Services include:

- Case advocacy: mediating between birth families and adoptive families, connecting to community resources and acting as advocates
- Respite care: funding for training, family bonding activities, camps and other activities
- Support groups: evidence-based parenting programs and network of support

Any family who lives in Pennsylvania and has adopted a child (domestically or internationally) or is a permanent legal guardian or kinship care provider qualifies for this free support.



COBYS caseworkers are always there for you and will help you when they can. And if they can't they will find the answer for you.

– Resource Parents Doug and Andrea

Is it time – for you to adopt?

