

{ Your Choices }

Right now, the thoughts and questions you have can be overwhelming.

That's why we're here to help you. We want you to understand every option so you can make the choices that are right for you. So read through this booklet, and if you have any questions for us, please ask. We're here for you now, and we will be here as long as you need us to be.

Who Are Gladney's Staff & What Do They Do?

- Gladney's caseworkers, houseparents and legal professionals are all here to ensure your adoption experience is positive.
- Counselors are available to work with you to make an adoption plan that meets your needs.
- Private and group counseling are provided to assist you through the process and help you understand your feelings regarding your adoption plan.
- Gladney's staff is always ready to listen, to counsel and to guide you through each step of the adoption process.

No matter whether you choose to live on Gladney's campus or at your home, your planning process can include:

- Reviewing profiles of carefully screened prospective adoptive families.
- Meeting and/or talking on the phone to the adoptive family you choose.
- Communicating with counselors who can help you understand your feelings regarding your adoption plan.
- Accessing our Post-Adoption Department for periodic updates on your child's progress.
- Getting a free e-mail address to correspond confidentially with your chosen adoptive parents.

LIVE WITH US

Gladney's residential facility offers a supportive living environment. While living in Gladney's free residential facility, birth mothers are encouraged to develop the best adoption plan for their children as well as for themselves.

What About Medical Care?

- Medical professionals will provide exceptional care for you and your baby throughout your pregnancy.
- Delivery occurs at a nearby, state-of-the-art healthcare facility.
- Medical expenses are paid at no cost to you.

What's the Campus Like?

- A park-like setting with a beautiful swimming pool.
- A cozy fireplace in the living room.
- Beautiful and charming bedrooms.
- A fitness center.
- Exciting activities like shopping trips, eating out, sports events, movies, museum trips and other special events going on in the Fort Worth-Dallas area.
- Living accommodations where you and other young women can share common interests.

Can I Continue My Education?

To further help you prepare for your future, Gladney offers a variety of educational programs:

Middle School and High School Programs

Stay on our campus and continue your education through the local I.S.D. You can take the basics, AP or Honors classes and earn credits toward graduation.

GED Program

If you are 17 years old or older, Gladney will sponsor you in earning your GED.

Career Development Program

You can also further your education through an individualized plan designed to meet your career goals.

LIVE AT HOME

For birth mothers who prefer to live at home during their pregnancies, Gladney offers many options and services that are free of charge.

What Assistance Will I Receive If I Live at Home?

You will have a personal caseworker to assist you in every step of the adoption process.

- You can have as little or as much help as you like. Your caseworker is only a phone call away, and she can also visit you at home.
- She can help you schedule and arrange doctor and hospital visits.
- She will work with you and a Gladney attorney to coordinate any legal work involved in your adoption.
- Your caseworker can also arrange meetings with local adoptive parents and other birth parents. This way you can hear their opinions about Gladney and adoption.



POST-ADOPTION SERVICES

By allowing Gladney to help you through the adoption process, you become a member of our extended family. Through Gladney, lifelong services are available to birth parents, adoptive parents and adopted children.

For Gladney birth parents, we offer the following specialized services:

- Progress reports on your child's development.
- Access to a monthly birth parent support group at the Fort Worth campus.
- A mutual-consent, voluntary registry (after age 18).
- Access to caring, confidential counseling services.
- Permanent maintenance of adoption records.

The Voluntary Registry

In 1984, the state of Texas approved the institution of a Voluntary Registry. That same year, the Gladney Center for Adoption established its own Voluntary Registry. The Registry provides the means for birth parents and adopted persons (18 or older) to meet when there is mutual consent.

The Sibling Registry

Gladney also maintains a sibling registry. This registry provides a means for full and half siblings to meet when they are 18 or older and there is mutual consent.



Gladney Center for Adoption

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