



A thoughtful match of child to family is the key to a successful adoption. A Home Study is an overview of your life. It helps us gain information about you, your spouse or partner (if applicable), your personal relationships, your finances and generally how you live your life. It is a tool that helps us evaluate what it would be like for a child to enter into your family and how your family would adjust to the addition of a child.

Because often times the wait for the right match can be lengthy, we encourage you to begin the first steps in the Home Study process as soon as possible.

**A Home Study will include:**

- Discussions about the adoption process and adoption itself
- Readiness and preparation for adoption
- Life changes that come along with adopting a child
- Discussions about child rearing, including discipline methods
- Problem solving techniques
- Childhood (where and how were you raised, discipline methods, and your family structure)
- Family relationships
- Interviews with family members, including other children in the family (if applicable)
- Educational history
- Current and previous employment
- Interests/hobbies
- Home inspection. Please note that the purpose of the home inspection is primarily to check for appropriate accommodations and safety measures in your home. It is not meant to judge the cleanliness or lavishness.

The purpose of a Home Study is to find the best fit between child and family, and to ensure the child will be entering a safe and healthy home and environment. Concerns that develop during a home study do not necessarily disqualify you from adoption.

Adoption is a serious decision with lifelong impact. It is important to take the time to get questions answered and to make sure everyone in your family is ready to make this commitment.

In preparation for your Home Study, you will need the following documents:

- 2 physician's reports
- 2 records check release forms. These forms must be accompanied by one (1) check for \$33 (or \$16.50 for single applications) made out to Lund. Please note that we cannot process your fingerprint clearances without these.
- 2 consent to release information forms. Please note that you DO need to complete these forms even if you do not have a case with the Office of Child Support or any children. The information that is need on these forms is your name, address, social security number and for you to sign and date them
- Photo copies of your birth certificates
- Certified copy of your marriage license (if applicable)
- Certified copies of any and all divorce decrees (if applicable)
- Adoptive parents options sheet (please note that this form has medical terminology and is best reviewed with a doctor or medical professional

All of these forms can be obtained by contacting Toni Yandow at Lund (802) 864-7467 ext. 2006