

FUNDRAISING

ADOPT TOGETHER

www.adopttogether.org

Adopt together is a website where you can tell your adoption story, post pictures, videos, blogs, and keep people informed about what's going on. You can accept donations from your friends and family, and these funds are sent to Nightlight. Set up a page for your adoption, and then send the link to all your friends, church members, family, etc.

A MOTHER'S LOVE

www.amotherslovefundraising.com

An adoptive mom who helps people all across the country through fundraising to defray the cost of their adoptions. She will supply fundraising flyers and catalogs at no charge.

CHIP IN

www.chipin.com

You can add a pay-pal button from Chip In to any website. Put this button on your facebook, blog, etc., and allow friends and family to contribute toward your adoption.

KINGDOM KIDS

www.kingdomkidsadoption.org

Kingdom Kids has developed a program by which prospective adoptive families raise funds for their adoption. Once you decide on an agency and program the process of fundraising can begin. The first step is to obtain a fund raising packet. Next you will develop a support letter which explains your situation and the details of your adoption and send to your prospective donors. All donations are sent directly to KK, are tax-deductible and are used at Kingdom Kids discretion.

OTHER FUND RAISING WEBSITES

There are many other online fund raising sites, now referred to as "crowd-funding." They are similar to adopttogether.org and chipin.com. You link them to your facebook, blog, etc., and ask family and friends to support you. These include:

www.indiegogo.com

www.justgive.com

www.fundeasy.com

www.gofundme.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RESOURCES FOR ADOPTION

resources4adoption.com

This is a website that lists grants and loans for people who are adopting. Stay informed about all the funding that is available to you.

MAKING DONATIONS TOWARD AN ADOPTION

Family and friends can make a donation toward an adoption by donating to a non-profit organization, which, in turn, will contribute to your adoption. For example, the organization from HIV to Home has such a program. For donors to receive a tax deduction, they must make their checks payable to the non-profit organization. DONORS MUST NOT WRITE the adoptive family's name on the check. The donor can place the adoptive family or child's name on a sticky note and then place it on the check. Adoptive families CANNOT donate toward their own expenses. However, ask your agency if any part of the agency's fees is tax-deductible donations.

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the organization or agency collecting the funds must have complete control over the funds and is in no way obligated to place the donated funds toward the adoptive parents' adoption expenses. If the family for some reason does not proceed with an adoption, then the donations cannot be returned to the donor.

If a family member is 70 ½ or older, there is a further incentive for that relative to make a donation: Congress has reinstated the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2010 and 2011. Those 70 ½ and older can distribute funds *directly* from their IRAs to a tax-exempt entity. The transfer will count toward the person's minimum required distribution and will not count as taxable income. The person will receive the equivalent of a charitable deduction even if that person does not itemize deductions on the donor's tax return. The extension of the IRA Charitable Rollover allows gifts made by January 31, 2011, to be treated as 2010 donations.

RESOURCES AFTER YOU ADOPT IN SC

Not only is adopting expensive, but the care of a child can also be expensive. Listed are some resources that can help reduce the expenses of caring for a child—especially a child with special needs.

TEFRA

This program provides financial resources through Medicaid to pay for medical and therapeutic interventions and prescriptions for qualified children. Eligibility is based on your child's income—not yours. However, your child cannot have funds in a savings account; otherwise,

based on the amount in the saving account, your child will not be eligible. If your child does have funds in an account in his name, it can take a few years before your child becomes eligible.

Regarding TEFRA in SC, a mother obtained TEFRA but it took her from January to July 2010; fortunately, the benefits were retroactive to November 2009. TEFRA is secondary insurance, and, in some cases, will cover portions that the employer insurance will not.

This mother also added that after you are approved, you must select an insurance plan through TEFRA. What the family was not told is that they could ask for the original Medicaid plan. The original Medicaid plan was the only one that was accepted by the service and health care providers from whom the child was already receiving services.

When signing up for insurance through TEFRA, those affiliated with the other insurance programs through the TEFRA program tried to discourage this family from sticking with the original Medicaid plan by offering them gift cards and personal care items. But, of course, there is no value in selecting a plan that will not cover your child's treatment. Furthermore, do not automatically accept one of the plans listed through the TEFRA call-in-number that reportedly indicates that your child's physician or other health care providers will accept this plan. Check with your child's health care providers directly to see which plans they accept. This family found that there was a huge discrepancy in what plan the child's physician and other service providers would accept and what the TEFRA list indicated.

A good contact resource to learn about these benefits is from Family Connections. The website states that if you would like to talk to another parent whose child has TEFRA contact Family Connection at 1-800-578-875.

<http://www.hdwg.org/catalyst/resources#general>

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

These programs are provided at minimum to no cost to families regardless of income. Your insurance may first be used to cover expenses.

BABYNET

This program is for children birth through 36 months of age who may have developmental delays or other issues such as sensory integration problems Children can receive in-home services including occupational, physical and speech therapy. If you believe that your child may need early you can have your child evaluated at no cost to you.

<http://www.scfirststeps.org/BabyNet.html>

SC FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL READINESS

This program is coordinated with BabyNet but is for children 36 months old and older who need extra services due to developmental delays and other issues. To contact your regional office, go to www.scfirststeps.org/babynet.html and click on the map to find the location and number.

State BabyNet Program

1300 Sumter St, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29201
803-734-0479 803-734-1431 (fax)

Greenville and Pickens Counties

Center for Developmental Services
29 N. Academy Street
Greenville, SC 29601
864- 331-1450

RESOURCES AFTER YOU ADOPT IN COLORADO

The Early Intervention Services booklet is an easy-to-read guide on the services your child who is under 36 months old can receive. If your child is more than 36 months old, there are other services also available. http://www.eicolorado.org/Files/Guidebook%20II_FINAL.pdf