



Pre-Adoption Medical Review Services

Adoption Health Services of Western PA

Kids Plus Pediatrics

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Why Do We Do Pre-Adoption Medical Reviews?

We believe that children who are being adopted are best served when the families who adopt them are totally prepared to meet their unique needs. We're committed to helping prospective adoptive parents understand the predictable needs and possible future issues of children who they consider adopting, so that they may realistically assess their abilities to meet these needs.

We are NOT trying to:

- Screen out "bad kids" – there are no such things!
- Help families "pick a good one" – ALL children deserve the love of a family

We DO want to:

- Help prospective adoptive families to understand in general how the experiences of deprivation, abuse, neglect, and prenatal substance exposure impact children over both the short and the long term
- Help families to understand the medical, developmental, and psychosocial information given to them with the referral of a particular child
- Help families to know what additional information needs to be gathered to develop a reasonably complete picture of the child's potential needs

- Help families to assess their capabilities to meet the foreseeable needs of a particular child
- Begin to connect families with community resources which will help them to help this child to thrive

Services We Provide

- Detailed review of all available referral information, including written information, photographs, videos, etc.
- Assessment of health and well-being of child based on available information
- Explanation of medical conditions and foreign medical diagnoses, including expected medical needs after arrival
- Thorough discussion of recognizable risk factors for long-term physical and mental health needs, cognitive, educational, and behavioral needs
- Discussion of missing information, with assistance in deciding what minimum additional information is needed on order to make an informed decision
- Ongoing review of additional information learned about the child
- Detailed pre-travel consultations for families traveling to adopt on "blind referral" adoptions (adoptions where families must travel without having first reviewed detailed information about the child)
- Connections with appropriate medical specialists, when necessary
- Travel preparation for parents, adult companions, siblings, and children being adopted
- Availability for consultation while traveling

- Planned telephone and e-mail contact for families on blind referral adoptions
- Emergency consultations

Fees

All fees are one-time, flat fees for all information reviewed about a particular child, and for all services listed above. Fees are based on the usual amounts of time spent for various adoption processes, from the initial consultation until the child arrives home.

Please speak with our office staff about current rates for the specific services you will need.

If the first child reviewed for a family is not adopted, fees for subsequent reviews are half of the usual fee for that type of adoption,

