

## Mission

The Catholic Children's Aid Society, on behalf of the Catholic community, is committed to providing social services that protect children and strengthen family life.

## We Value:

- Human Dignity
- The Courage and Integrity to Take a Stand
- Partnership and Teamwork
- Cultural, Racial and Individual Differences
- Professional Excellence

For the love  
of Children



Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto  
Resource Services - Adoption Team  
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*Are You Considering  
Adopting a Child?*



### **Are you considering adopting a child?**

CCAS is looking for adoptive families for children who need a permanent home. We are looking for adoptive families who will give our children unconditional love, understanding, care, a Catholic upbringing, educational, social and recreational opportunities.

### **Who is eligible to apply to the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto?**

Adult married couples and single adults who live in Toronto and plan to raise their child in the Roman Catholic faith. Applicants must be landed immigrants or permanent residents of Canada. Other applications may be considered at the request of another Children's Aid Society, or if it is considered in a child's best interest to do so.

### **What does it cost?**

There is no charge for a public adoption.

### **Who are the children who need homes?**

We are looking for families for children of all ages, most of whom are toddlers and preschoolers. The children are Catholic; their cultural and racial roots are varied. They may have factors in their family backgrounds which require extra attention and/or make them vulnerable to future difficulties, such as learning problems.

### **How do I find out more about adoption?**

Call 416-395-1520 and talk to our Administrative Assistant, who will describe the application process and invite you to an Information Meeting for prospective applicants.

### **What does the application process involve?**

All adoptive applicants in Ontario are required to provide references, a medical report, financial information, as well as consents for police and child welfare record searches. In addition, they are required to attend 27 hours of training, during which they discuss and review many aspects of caring for children.

An Adoption Worker is assigned to applicants to guide them through the homestudy process, which involves personal visits. Together they discuss the role of adoptive parents and the applicants' capacity, willingness and readiness to assume this role.

### **After applicants are approved, how long does it take for a child to be placed in the home?**

This depends on many factors. The more closely the applicants' attributes match the specific needs of the children available, the more likely it is that a placement would occur sooner. The child's needs, cultural and racial heritage are considerations.

### **How will the placement occur?**

Once a child is identified for a possible placement, the prospective adoptive parents are given all relevant information about the child. Once the decision is made to proceed with an adoption placement, adoptive parents visit the child and foster parents frequently to ease the child's transition from one home to another.

### **How will CCAS help me after a child is placed with my family?**

The Adoption Worker continues to visit and provide support to the child and adoptive family until the adoption is legally finalized by an adoption order. We are also available for consultation, referral and support after the adoption is finalized, as requested. Adoption subsidies may also be available by application.

In addition, we provide non-identifying information to those looking for additional family history. Those who want non-identifying information about birth relatives are encouraged to contact our office to learn more about adoption disclosure legislation. The Ontario government website at [serviceontario.ca](http://serviceontario.ca) is also available for further reference.

### **Here's what a couple who adopted twins has to say:**

*My husband and I have been blessed by adoption through the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto. We have been told many times by friends and relatives how lucky our newly adopted children are to be part of our family. In truth, my husband and I feel like the lucky ones; these children have changed our lives.*

### **From an adult adoptee:**

*You will be happy to know I had a wonderful childhood and the very finest adoptive parents who truly loved me as their own. I received a first rate education and am now a highly successful professional with an excellent career, many friends, live in a great community, have a wonderful family and have achieved every wish expressed for me by both my birth mother and foster family that I noted within your information.*