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A non-profit humanitarian adoption agency licensed by the State of Wyoming

Connecting Hearts

Connecting Hearts Description of Fees

Connecting Hearts places a high priority on providing quality and thorough adoption services to families in Wyoming. We are sensitive to the many costs associated with the adoption process and endeavor to provide our services at a reasonable rate that enables families who feel strongly about adoption to pursue it. We generally require payment of the fees as set forth below to begin services, and in all cases require full payment due after the completion of services. All payments are non-refundable. Fees are subject to change without notice. If you have questions about our current fee schedule, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Application Fee: Connecting Hearts requires an application and associated fee before acceptance into any of our adoption programs.	\$50
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Designated Home Study Program	
Home Study Fee: This is the standard fee we charge for home studies to be used by an outside agency for placement services. This includes other domestic or international agencies as well as independent adoption home studies. This does not include costs associated with criminal background checks and child abuse registry checks or social worker mileage and per diem rates. Full payment is due with contract for services.	\$1500
Technology Fee: Connecting Hearts utilizes My Adoption Portal in the completion of the home study process in order to provide families with a secure and streamlined process for submission of required documents. This is a one-time fee covering the cost of that program for each family. Full payment is due directly to <i>My Adoption Portal/CAIRS Solutions</i> prior to start of home study.	\$150
Expedited Fee: A typical domestic home study takes approximately 3 months to complete, depending on client participation, background checks, references, and other factors. If your situation does not allow for that time frame and you require a completed home study prior to 3 months from the contract date, an additional fee will apply. Full payment is due with contract for services.	\$300 If Applicable
Home Study Update: This is the standard fee charged for all designated home study updates. Home studies are required to be updated every 12 months. This does not include costs associated with criminal background checks and child abuse registry checks or social worker mileage and per diem rates.	\$400
Pre-Adoption Education: Connecting Hearts requires families applying for adoption to completed courses through Creating a Family in order to best prepare them for the adoption process. This cost represents the standard set of courses required by Connecting Hearts. Additional courses may be required if Connecting Hearts feels there is a need. Full payment is due directly to Creating A Family at the onset of the home study process.	\$100
Mileage & Reimbursement: Charged per mile for all professional services on behalf of a client, including home visits. Includes required hotel stays and social worker meals for overnight trips. Rates within federal per diem limits.	Federal per diem rates
Post Placement Deposit: A post placement deposit and contract must be received prior to any documentation being shared with outside agencies, ICPC, or legal representatives on behalf of our clients. Deposit will be credited toward post placement visit costs.	\$500
Post Placement Fee: The State of Wyoming requires monthly in-home supervisory visits and reports during the pre-finalization period. This can sometimes be amended to meet sending state requirements which may be fewer than monthly visits. This fee does not include the social worker's mileage reimbursement. Payment is due at time of each post placement visit.	\$300/per in home visit

Waiting Child Adoption Program	
Home Study Fee: This is the standard fee for home studies to be used by Connecting Hearts placement services in CH Waiting Child Program. This does not include costs associated with criminal background checks and child abuse registry checks or social worker mileage and per diem rates. Full payment is due with contract for services.	\$950
Technology Fee: Connecting Hearts utilizes My Adoption Portal in the completion of the home study process in order to provide families with a secure and streamlined process for submission of required documents. This is a one-time fee covering the cost of that program for each family. Full payment is due directly to <i>My Adoption Portal/CAIRS Solutions</i> prior to start of home study.	\$250
Expedited Fee: A typical domestic home study takes approximately 3 months to complete, depending on client participation, background checks, references, and other factors. If your situation does not allow for that time frame and you require a completed home study prior to 3 months from the contract date, an additional fee will apply. Full payment is due with contract for services.	\$300 If Applicable
Out of Agency Review Fee: If a client has a valid and approved home study by a Wyoming licensed agency and wishes to participate in the CH Waiting Child Adoption Program, Connecting Hearts will assess a review fee in order to determine whether the home study is acceptable or will require an addendum or update prior to beginning services.	\$200
Pre-Adoption Education: Connecting Hearts requires families applying for Waiting Child adoption to complete training and be licensed as Wyoming Foster Parents. This cost represents the PRIDE training required by the State of Wyoming for foster parent licensing. Additional courses may be required if Connecting Hearts feels there is a need. Maintenance of Foster Parent Licensing requires annual training. CH will work with families to assist them in fulfilling ongoing training requirements, and additional costs may apply. Full payment is due at onset of home study.	\$500
Waiting Child Program Fee: Connecting Hearts requires a facilitation fee for waiting child adoption. This fee allows for CH to prepare family marketing materials appropriate to waiting child adoption and for staff to participate in networking and staffing activities to assist in matching.	\$1000
Mileage & Reimbursement: Charged per mile for all professional services on behalf of a client, including home visits. Includes required hotel stays and social worker meals for overnight trips. Rates within federal per diem limits.	Federal per diem rates
Post Placement Fee: The State of Wyoming and ICPC typically require monthly in-home supervisory visits and reports during the pre-finalization period. In waiting child adoption, these fees are typically paid for by the sending state and negotiation of the contract of these services will take place prior to placement. If a sending state refuses to pay for post placement services, adoptive families will be financially responsible for all post placement services at the above specified rate, including mileage and per diem reimbursement.	\$300/per in home visit Cost typically covered by sending state
Home Study Updates: When enrolled in the Connecting Hearts Waiting Child Adoption program, adoption home study updates will be provided by Connecting Hearts at no additional cost. This does not include mileage and social worker reimbursements associated with mandatory annual home visits. Home studies may be updated up to 5 times, or for up to 6 years from the original completion date before a new home study will be required, provided that significant changes to the family's circumstances have not dramatically changed the content of the original home study. This determination will be made by the agency director. Once a family has completed a waiting child adoption with Connecting Hearts, a new home study and program fee will be required.	Cost included in Waiting Child Program Fee. Clients responsible for mileage and reimbursement costs associated with required home visits.

Domestic Infant Adoption Program	
Home Study Fee: This is the standard fee for home studies to be used by Connecting Hearts placement services in CH Domestic Infant Program. This does not include costs associated with criminal background checks and child abuse registry checks or social worker mileage and per diem rates. Full payment is due with contract for services.	\$950
Technology Fee: Connecting Hearts utilizes My Adoption Portal in the completion of the home study process in order to provide families with a secure and streamlined process for submission of required documents. This is a one-time fee covering the cost of that program for each family. Full payment is due directly to <i>My Adoption Portal/CAIRS Solutions</i> prior to start of home study.	\$250
Expedited Fee: A typical domestic home study takes approximately 3 months to complete, depending on client participation, background checks, references, and other factors. If your situation does not allow for that time frame and you require a completed home study prior to 3 months from the contract date, an additional fee will apply. Full payment is due with contract for services.	\$300
Out of Agency Review Fee: If a client has a valid and approved home study by a Wyoming licensed agency and wishes to participate in the CH Domestic Infant Program, Connecting Hearts will assess a review fee in order to determine whether the home study is acceptable or will require an addendum or update prior to beginning services.	\$200
Pre-Adoption Education: Connecting Hearts requires families applying for adoption to completed courses through Creating a Family in order to best prepare them for the adoption process. This cost represents the standard set of courses required by Connecting Hearts. Additional courses may be required if Connecting Hearts feels there is a need. Full payment is due directly to Creating A Family at the onset of the home study process.	\$100
Profile Development: Connecting Hearts works with Parent Profiles to develop and present professional and effective marketing materials for your family. This includes consultation, website profile preparation, printed profile flipbooks, journaling/blog materials, and videography services. Full payment is due directly to Parent Profiles/CAIRS Solutions at completion of home study process.	\$700
Advertising Fee: This fee covers adoptive couple and agency promotion, internet marketing, out-reach to potential birth families, clinics, schools etc. Full payment due at completion of home study process.	\$3000
Domestic Infant Adoption Program Fee: This fee covers Connecting Hearts costs associated with working with birth mothers and adoptive couples. This includes providing appropriate counseling and support to all parties involved in the process, working with physicians, hospitals, and ICPC entities and legal representatives involved in the process. This fee helps to defray overhead costs associated with maintaining appropriate infrastructure required to maintain a domestic infant program. This fee does not include birth mother expenses, legal fees for finalization, and mileage and per diem costs for associated travel required for placement. 50% payment is due at time of matching and remainder of payment is due prior to birth parent relinquishment and placement.	\$13,000
Estimated Birth Mother Expenses: This is an estimation of costs only and is variable depending on the situation. Costs may include necessary living expenses, nutritional support, and medical costs. Connecting Hearts will make every effort to connect potential birth mothers with any applicable sources of support in order to minimize the costs passed along to adoptive families. \$1500 deposit is due at time of matching and further installments when necessary. Any unused funds will be refunded at 6 weeks post-natal.	Variable
Legal Fees: Adoptive families are responsible to obtain competent legal counsel for the purpose of finalization and responsible for all personal attorney costs	Variable

associated with the finalization process. Connecting Hearts can support families in the process of selecting an attorney for this purpose.	
Mileage & Reimbursement: Charged per mile for all professional services on behalf of a client, including home visits. Includes required hotel stays and social worker meals for overnight trips. Rates within federal per diem limits.	Federal per diem rates
Post Placement Fee: The State of Wyoming and ICPC typically require monthly in-home supervisory visits and reports during the pre-finalization period. This can sometimes be amended to meet sending state requirements which may be fewer than monthly visits. Post placement fees (not including social worker mileage and reimbursement costs) are included in the Domestic Infant Adoption Program Fee.	Included in Domestic Infant Adoption Program Fee Federal per diem rates apply
Home Study Updates: When enrolled in the Connecting Hearts Domestic Infant Adoption program, adoption home study updates will be provided by Connecting Hearts at no additional cost. This does not include mileage and social worker reimbursements associated with any required home visits. Home studies may be updated up to 5 times, or for up to 6 years from the original completion date before a new home study will be required, provided that significant changes to the family's circumstances have not dramatically changed the content of the original home study. This determination will be made by the agency director. Once a family has completed a domestic infant adoption with Connecting Hearts, a new home study and program fee will be required.	Included in Domestic Infant Adoption Program Fee Federal per diem rates apply

Additional Charges (if applicable)	
Clinical Services: Professional clinical counseling services for birth parents or adoptive families. Services open to any adoptive family, domestic or international adoption. Appropriate referrals for clinical services may be provided if appropriate.	\$90-\$120/hour
Hourly Charge: Sometimes adoption work does not fall under a specific service. If you require professional services not otherwise described above, an hourly fee may apply. All hourly work must be agreed upon prior to commencement with client understanding of any potential charges that may be incurred.	\$45/hour
Court Testimony: When Connecting Hearts is asked to testify on behalf of a client or in representation of a client, a fee shall apply. All courtroom appearances must be procured through a subpoena.	\$100/hour