An unexpected pregnancy can feel like your world’s turned upside down.

Learn about your options, including adoption

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“Being able to rely on The Cradle and their knowledge...they really, truly at the end of the day were a rock of support.”

- Michelle, who chose adoption for her son

24/7: 800-272-3534  www.cradle.org
How Adoption Works at The Cradle

We will be at your side to help you decide what’s best for you. We will provide you with all the support and resources you need to make your decision. If you decide that adoption isn’t a good choice for you, that’s okay.

1. Connect with The Cradle anytime.
   When you are ready, call, text, email, or IM. Most women consider pregnancy options completely on their own and her call to us is the first time she’s told anyone she’s pregnant. You do not have to do this alone.

2. Meet with your cradle counselor anywhere you are comfortable.
   We will never pressure you into choosing adoption. We just want to make sure you understand all of your options, rights and responsibilities.

3. Select your family – you can see pictures, read about them, and even meet them if you’d like

4. Take your time to make your decision – if you need some time to think things over after your baby is born, The Cradle Nursery is here for you.

5. Complete the process and make the plan permanent, but keep in touch as long as you like. If you are ready to proceed with adoption, your Cradle counselor will meet with you to sign all of the documents that make it legal and permanent. Remember you may take as long as you need.

6. Support after placement
   We encourage you to continue to meet with your Cradl e counselor after placement. Our doors are always open to you.

www.cradle.org
The Cradle Nursery provides temporary care for your baby while you think over your decision.

YOU are our priority. This is your decision; we are here for support no matter what you decide.

We have wonderful, diverse families waiting to adopt.

We have been here for 90 years. Rest assured you have a place to turn for support well into the future.

“You don’t have to do this just because you’re talking to a counselor. It’s always your choice. It’s your decision.”

-Whitney, who chose adoption for her son

Contact The Cradle to learn more about your legal rights and our pledge to protect your privacy.

24/7: 800-272-3534

www.cradle.org
If you choose to parent:

• You will be treated with respect and dignity
• Your decision will be supported
• You will not be pressured into making an adoption plan
• If you have received financial support during your pregnancy, you are under no obligation to place your child or repay the agency

If you choose adoption:

• In many states, you must wait a certain number of days after giving birth before signing the legal documents for adoption
• You may change your mind at any time during the adoption process up until the legal documents are signed
• You may sign legal documents that designate the adoptive family for your child
• Once the legal documents are signed, your adoption decision is final and permanent

Your baby’s father has rights too:

• Whatever your relationship or involvement with the baby’s biological father he has specific legal rights
• We encourage fathers to be a part of adoption counseling and planning, but if he is not involved or cannot be located we can still help
• Rest assured we possess the expertise to guide each parent through the legal process required

www.cradle.org
How much does it cost?
Our services to you are free, and The Cradle can help with expenses and medical care.

What about the baby’s father?
We can work with you no matter what your relationship is with your baby’s father. The Cradle will take the necessary steps to follow the law, even if he cannot be located, so that you can be assured of a legally secure adoption plan.

Can I change my mind?
When you are working with The Cradle, there is never any pressure on you to choose adoption. You can change your mind at any point in the planning process up until the time you sign the official legal paperwork. Once the legal documents are signed, however, the decision is permanent.

Can I choose the family? What is open adoption?
The Cradle has a large group of waiting families of varying races, ethnicities and religions. You will have a chance to review letters and pictures from them. All have been thoroughly and carefully screened. You can stay in touch with your child and the adoptive family if you wish. This is called an open adoption.

Do I need to come to your office?
No. We will meet with you in a place that is convenient to you.