

**Bethany Christian Services  
Post Placement and Post Adoption Monitoring  
Policy and Procedure  
(Domestic Infant, Inter-Country and Foster Care Adoption)**

## INTRODUCTION

Bethany monitors and supervises adoptive placements to ensure that the placement remains in the best interest of the child and that it meets state, federal and country legal requirements.

For direction regarding the provision of broader post placement and post adoption services to families, including steps to address problems or crises in the adoptive family, Bethany Christian Services workers should refer to Bethany's Post Placement and Post Adoption Services Policy and Procedure.

## POLICY

It is the policy of Bethany Christian Services (Bethany) and its subsidiaries that, in the post placement or post adoption phase, the assigned Bethany Christian Services worker will monitor and supervise the child's placement in accordance with Bethany standards, applicable state and federal law and the laws of the child's country of origin.

This monitoring and supervision will continue until all applicable supervisory requirements have been met. The Bethany worker will document all contact in the Adoption Management System (AMS).

## GENERAL PROCEDURES

The assigned Bethany Christian Services' worker will visit with the family after arrival and/or initial placement, in accordance with Bethany standards, applicable state law and the child's country of origin. The assigned worker will document contact in the child's record and the family's record.

The assigned worker will have personal contact with the family and child at least quarterly in the absence of a state or country requirement for more frequent contact. This schedule of contact will continue until all supervisory requirements have been met. In the event of problems or crises in the adoptive family, the worker should refer to Bethany Christian Services' Post Placement and Post Adoption Service Policy & Procedure. For Intercountry Adoptions, Bethany Christian Services will also take steps to ensure that an order declaring the adoption as final is sought by the prospective adoptive parent(s) and entered in compliance with section 301(c) of the IAA (42 U.S.C. 14931(c)). Bethany Christian Services will notify the United States Department of State of the finalization of the adoption within thirty days of the entry of the order.

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Services workers should refer to Bethany Christian Services' Post Placement and Post Adoption Services Policy and Procedure.

## **Criteria for Visits**

Prepare the family in advance of the visit about the following expectations:

- Each post placement visit should take place inside the family's home and with both spouses (if applicable) present.
- In addition to a joint conversation, speak with each spouse separately during the visit.
- Direct observation and interaction (if age appropriate) should take place with the newly adopted child during part of the visit.
- Other children in the home need to be present for at least part of the visit.
- Interactions with children will be in compliance with Child Protection Policy.
- Observe areas in the home commonly used by the child such as bedroom, playroom and eating areas.
- In cases of single parent adoption, Bethany staff should obtain the parent's written consent to contact one of their previously identified support team members and conduct a phone interview with that person to discuss their support for the newly adoptive parent.

## **Areas of assessment during the visit**

- When preparing the post adoption/post placement report, provide behaviorally specific examples to address content outlined in the Post Adoption Report Template (link).
- During each formal post-placement contact with the family, Bethany staff will assess the adoptive parents risk for depression as outlined in the Depression after Adoption Policy.
- Additional areas for assessment are outlined in the post placement/post adoption supervision framework for assessment.

## **Timing of Visits**

### **FOSTER CARE ADOPTION**

1. Staff will follow standards determined by individual State law for all post placement/post adoption monitoring and reporting.
2. In the absence of State requirements for more frequent contact, the Bethany Christian Services worker will have personal contact with the family and child at least quarterly until all supervisory requirements have been met.

### **DOMESTIC INFANT ADOPTION**

1. Once physical placement of a child has occurred, Bethany staff will contact the family by phone within the first 48 hours of their arrival home.
2. Bethany staff will conduct the first post-placement face-to-face visit in 4 weeks or less of physical placement.
3. Bethany staff will conduct two additional post-placement visits prior to finalization. Also, based on staff assessment additional visits may also be required.

4. If state requirements requires visits at additional intervals the state's supervisory schedule will be followed.

## **INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION**

1. Once physical placement of a child has occurred, Bethany staff will contact the family by phone within the first 48 hours of their arrival home.
2. Bethany staff will conduct the first post-placement face-to-face visit in 4 weeks or less of physical placement or arrival in the United States.
3. Bethany staff will conduct three additional post-placement visits. Those next visits occur just prior to 3 months, 6 months and 12 months post placement/post adoption. Also, based on branch staff assessment or the recommendation of BCSG staff, a 9 month post placement/post adoption visit may also be required.
4. If the country in which the child was born requires visits at intervals other than 6 months and 12 months post placement/post adoption, that country's schedule will be followed.

## **Submitting Reports**

1. Staff are responsible for ensuring reports are submitted in a timely manner.
2. Reports will be completed using the areas outlines in the Post Adoption/Post Placement Adoption Report format.
3. Visits will be scheduled well in advance of date reports are due.
4. For Inter-country adoptions, draft reports will be submitted for supervisory approval at least 10 days prior to submission at BCSG. Five days prior to report due date, the report will be sent to BCSG.

## **Regulatory Compliance for Inter-Country Adoption**

- During initial post placement visits, work with family to ensure that an order declaring the adoption as final is sought by the prospective adoptive parent(s) and entered in compliance with section 301(c) of the IAA (42 U.S.C. 14931(c)).
- Bethany Christian Services will notify the United States Department of State of the finalization of the adoption within thirty days of the entry of the order.
- Assistance with completing regulatory documentation as applicable
  - Applying for medical subsidy
  - Obtaining a passport if due to delay in issuing the adoptive birth certificate
  - Obtaining a copy of the adoptive birth certificate

COA AS 9.06(a) Placement and AS 12 Post Adoption Services

COA ICA 7.03(a)

COA Hague 96.50(b) (g) (h)

*Replaces Bethany Christian Services International Policy: Placement and Post-Placement Monitoring Until Final Adoption in Incoming and Post Placement and Bethany Christian Services Global Post Adoption Monitoring and Reporting Policy and Procedure.*

Approved: 6/28/2007 by International Leadership Team

Approved: 4/1/2009 by TQM Committee

**Approved: 11/19/2015 by PQI Committee**