

The **BRIGHT FUTURES** Staff

Karen Cheyney, JD, LSWA

Karen is a co-founder and Director of Bright Futures and the mother of two children through open adoption. For more than 25 years, Karen has provided legal and counseling services for parents and children.



Tamara Cadet, LICSW

Tammy is a co-founder of Bright Futures and the daughter of an adoptee. Tammy has provided birth and adoptive parent counseling, training and networking.



Jodi Waddell, LCSW

Jodi works with birth and adoptive parents. Jodi has done academic research on transracial adoption and has clinical experience with both foster care and adoption. Jodi has worked in a variety of settings, and is an adoptive parent.



Wendy Vandenhoeck, LICSW

Wendy is the Clinical Supervisor for Bright Futures and has extensive experience working with all members of the adoption triad. She has worked in the adoption field for over 20 years.



Carolina Menendez, BSW

Carolina is the Administrative Assistant for Bright Futures and is working toward completing her Master's Degree in Social Work. Carolina is fluent in Spanish.



To talk to us about making an adoption plan for your child or building your family through adoption, please contact us at:

978.263.5400 (phone)
877.652.6678 (toll free)
978.266.1909 (fax)
617.447.3498 (text)
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Bright Futures Adoption Center
5 Broadview Street
Acton, MA 01720

www.rfkchildren.org/brightfutures



Bright Futures Adoption Center is a program of Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps, a non-profit agency licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to provide adoption related services.



Robert F. Kennedy
Children's Action Corps

Bright Futures Adoption Center



Infant Adoption Program

Building Bright Futures
for Children and Families
through Open Adoption

www.rfkchildren.org/brightfutures

We believe open adoption is usually the best process for children and all their parents because it gives them more options for exchanging information -- and for building positive relationships -- now and into the future.

OUR SPECIAL FOCUS



- We serve expectant and adoptive parents irrespective of race, ethnicity or any other characteristic – but with a special focus on welcoming families of color.
- We believe the choices for parents expecting babies of color should include prospective adoptive families who reflect their child’s heritage.
- We provide education and information about financial assistance and other resources to make the process as accessible and affordable as possible.

We are proud that we are a nationwide resource for other agencies seeking adoptive families of color.

We are dedicated to the principle that adoption should not just be about child placement, but should also include ongoing education, resources and services that enable children and all of their parents to go on to successful lives.

The BRIGHT FUTURES Philosophy

We believe that every adoption should:

- Focus on the best interests of the child.
- Provide expectant and prospective adoptive parents with an opportunity to get to know and respect one another.
- Encourage expectant and prospective adoptive parents to participate in the adoption process.
- Define roles and responsibilities for all the parents, understanding that circumstances may change over time.
- Begin with the knowledge that adoption is not a one-time transaction, but a lifelong process.
- Be honest and respectful of every participant’s feelings regarding openness and ongoing contact.



OUR SERVICES

We offer adoptive parents:

- Education, counseling and support throughout the adoption process and beyond.
- Homestudy, post-placement and legal finalization services.
- Contact with expectant parents and support creating an adoption plan and establishing a positive relationship.

We offer expectant parents:

- Information and non-directive counseling about all of your options.
- If adoption is your choice, the chance to choose, meet and have ongoing contact with the adoptive family.
- Education, counseling and support throughout the adoption process and beyond.
- Opportunities to talk to other parents who have considered adoption.

OUR PLACEMENTS

Bright Futures places infants born in the United States.

A vital part of our job is to enable each child’s birth and adoptive families to work together, with kindness and respect, to build the brightest possible future for their child.