



FamiliesFirst

**FamiliesFirst Adoption
Homestudy Program**

*A Collaboration with
California Counties*

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FamiliesFirst

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Post-adoption Services

FamiliesFirst merged with EMQ Children & Family Services. in January of 2009. Our combined agency, now called EMQ FamiliesFirst, is well known and respected in the communities we serve. The breadth of programming at EMQ FamiliesFirst allows us to connect families with other needed community and mental health services, prior to and -adoption. In addition, families can always contact their adoption social worker or local office for ongoing assistance post-adoption.

www.familiesfirstinc.org



FamiliesFirst

**Counties we are licensed for
Adoptions**

Alameda, Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tuolumne, Tulare, Ventura, Yolo, Yuba.

Foster Care and Adoption Offices

located in:

Campbell	Modesto
Concord	Oakland
Fairfield	Sacramento
Fresno	Stockton

Private Adoption Agency Reimbursement Program (PAARP)

FamiliesFirst is reimbursed by the State of California for each completed adoption. No funding is required upfront by the referring county.

How We Assist Families

- Facilitate adoption process including background checks, home study, and finalization.
- All FamiliesFirst trainings and groups are open to county families to attend.
- Our social workers help translate forms and explain procedures for Spanish-speaking families.
- FamiliesFirst's paperwork standards for county home studies combine state regulations with components of our foster-adopt program, ensuring a thorough home study.
- All adoption social workers are trained on the SAFE Home Study model which uses a psychosocial assessment

Services to the Referring County

- If the family is out-of-county, FamiliesFirst offer courtesy home visits and post-Adoptive Placement visits upon request by the county. *FamiliesFirst now serve over 30 counties in California.*
- **Our goal is to complete the home study within six months.** FamiliesFirst monitors cases and helps the family prioritize home study tasks.
- FamiliesFirst maintains regular contact with the county, including an update on each family's progress.

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- FamiliesFirst takes pride in being responsive and communicative with County partners and families. Adoption social workers communicate efficiently by email, or use their cell phone when in the field.
- Adoption social workers are experienced at filing for adoption finalization out-of-county, and have built relationships with county clerks, judges, and social workers.
- FamiliesFirst conducts quarterly peer reviews of all finalized cases to ensure quality of files.