

CONNECTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS TO PERMANENT, LOVING HOMES SINCE 1995

The Special Needs Adoption Program at Spence-Chapin began in 1995 to help ensure that children with severe medical challenges have the opportunity to thrive in a permanent, loving family who can care for their ongoing needs. The program offers the following: free counseling and support services to parents who are considering adoption for their child and no professional service fees to adoptive families. It is the only program of its kind in the country.



CONTACT US

Available 24/7

Phone: 1-800-321-LOVE (5683)

Text: 646-306-2586

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www.sc-youhaveoptions.org

Office locations in
New York and New Jersey.
Visit our website for more information.



OUR LOCATIONS

Spence  Chapin
YOUR JOURNEY. OUR PURPOSE.



**SPECIAL NEEDS
ADOPTION**
with
SPENCE-CHAPIN

CHILDREN

The infants and children we serve have a variety of special needs, from significant developmental delays to serious medical and congenital conditions.

The conditions usually require therapeutic and/ or medical interventions during the child's entire life.

These conditions can include:

- Genetic Disorders
- Brain Anomalies
- Neurological Disorders
- Rare Syndromes
- Cardiac and Pulmonary Disorders
- Shortened Life Span
- Excessive Drug and/or Alcohol Exposure
- Significant Risk of Psychiatric Disorders

Children may be eligible for early intervention services, Social Security Disability, Adoption Subsidy, and Medicaid.



BIRTH PARENTS

Expectant parents who are given an unanticipated diagnosis, or who experience a complication during pregnancy or after birth and are unsure about parenting may not be aware of all their options. Spence-Chapin is available to help families consider and explore all permanency options for their infant or child. Our social workers will meet with parents in a confidential and convenient location in New York or New Jersey, or virtually.

Spence-Chapin's services are confidential and we can work with any client regardless of age or immigration status.

ADOPTIVE PARENTS

Adoptive parents live across the country and often have experience caring for or parenting a child with medical needs. Their wish is to provide a loving home for an infant or child who is medically fragile or terminally ill. Adoptive families are carefully screened and receive specialized training to ensure they are well equipped to be excellent parents to the child they adopt.

There are no professional service fees to adoptive families. The only fees incurred by adoptive families are for getting a home study and finalizing the adoption.



HISTORY OF SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTION

In 1995, the Special Needs Adoption Program was created to serve families of children born with special needs. Over the last 25 years, we have found loving and supportive adoptive families for over 500 infants and young children with a wide range of significant medical needs. These families are prepared and eager to parent and help these most vulnerable children develop to their full potential.



In 2011, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand acknowledged the efforts of this program by honoring it with a Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute Angels in Adoption Award, which recognizes the extraordinary efforts of organizations and individuals whose contributions to adoption have an impact on a national scale. We have a strong understanding of the needs of these children and the qualities needed by adoptive parents to successfully care for them

