Changes in Local Adoption Services

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) became the sole provider of local adoption services in NSW on 1 July 2024.

Anglicare and Family Spirit contracts to provide local adoption services expired on 30 June 2024. DCJ will progress all local (voluntary) adoptions in NSW from this time, including pre-adoption enquiries, counselling and support for families considering local adoption.

**What do these changes mean?**

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| ***I am a parent considering adoption for my child…***  | If you are considering adoption for your child, you can contact DCJ local adoption program on 9716 3003 or visit https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/children-and-families/adoption/about-adoption-for-birth-parents.htmlAlternatively, there are support services that focus on early intervention and family preservation which include therapeutic, parenting and family support. To find more information on how to connect with a family preservation service, visit: <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/service-providers/deliver-services-to-children-and-families/family-preservation/family-preservation-programs.html> |
| ***I am an individual/couple considering becoming an adoptive parent…***  | Anglicare and Family Spirit are no longer accepting applications to become a prospective adoptive parent for local adoption. If you are considering becoming an adoptive parent for local adoption, you can start this process by contacting the DCJ adoption team on 9716 3003 or adoption.permanentcare@dcj.nsw.gov.au  |
| ***I am an adopted person and want to access information and support about my adoption made by Anglicare or Family Spirit…***  | There are no changes to accessing post-adoption support for information about your adoption and reconnecting with birth family. To access post-adoption support, you will need to apply for an Adoption Information Certificate (AIC) from the DCJ Post Adoption Information Unit:<https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/children-and-families/adoption/finding-information-on-past-adoptions.html>Once you have received your AIC, post adoption support can be accessed through The Benevolent Society Post Adoption Resource Centre (PARC) and DCJ Post Adoption Information Unit. These post-order support services can assist in providing access to information and counselling support. |