

## **Adoption Authority Statement on the publication of the Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill 2016**

The Adoption Authority welcomes the publication of the Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill 2016.

The publication of the Bill today does not bring any immediate changes to current arrangements. Birth mothers and fathers, adopted people, or anyone affected by or concerned about the publication of the Bill can contact the Adoption Authority at the telephone numbers and email addresses below. A number of bodies accredited by the Adoption Authority to carry out information and tracing services can also be contacted for support and advice.

### **National Adoption Contact Preference Register**

The Adoption Authority continues to operate the National Adoption Contact Preference Register (NACPR). This is a voluntary register which checks for connections between an adopted person and birth family member.

If you are an adopted person or a member of the birth family of an adopted person, you can choose to put your details on the register. You can state who you would like to have contact with, or who you would like to share information with. You can select the kind of contact you would like or you can select not to have any contact at all.

When you join the register your details are checked against other people on the register to see if there is a match. In other words, this check will find out if there is someone on the register who is looking for you, or willing to share information with you. Click here to find out more <http://www.aai.gov.ie/tracing/contact-preference-register.html>

### **Information and Tracing Service provided by the Information and Tracing Unit in the Adoption Authority**

If you were adopted, if you are a birth parent, or other family member of an adopted person and are interested in getting information or starting to trace a relative this service is normally provided by the agency that arranged the adoption. You can apply to the adoption information and tracing service in Tusla –Child and Family Agency as they hold a large number of records for agencies that are now closed. They have provided details of their adoption service offices and the location of files in a notice on their own website <http://www.tusla.ie/news/publication-of-the-adoption-information-and-tracing-bill-2016> You can also contact an accredited adoption agency, contact details are provided further down this page.

The Information and Tracing Unit in the Adoption Authority can help you make contact and reunite you with family members if your adoption was

- Arranged by **St Therese Adoption Society, Whitefriar Street, Dublin 8** (also known as Father Flanagan);

- If the adoption was **third party** (for example, if an adoption was not arranged by an agency);
- If the adoption was a **direct placement** (for example , your birth mother placed you with your adoptive parents);
- If the adoption was a **family placement** (for example , you were placed with relatives);
- If the adoption was a **step-parent** adoption (for example, you were adopted by your step-father or step-mother).

Please note that the Adoption Authority holds records for legal adoptions that took place in Ireland **only** from 1953 onwards.

### Adoption Authority – Duty Social Work Phone Line 01 2309 306

#### Contact details for support and assistance:

<b>Adoption Authority</b> Information & Tracing Unit	<a href="mailto:tracing@aai.gov.ie">tracing@aai.gov.ie</a>  Freefone 1800 309 300
<b>Adoption Authority</b> Duty Social Worker	<a href="mailto:SW@aai.gov.ie">SW@aai.gov.ie</a>  01 2309 306
<b>Barnardos</b>  Christine Hennessey Project Leader Barnardos Post Adoption and Barnardos Origins Services, 23/24 Buckingham Street Dublin 1 Tel (01) 8134100	Christine's direct line : (01) 8134110  Post Adoption Helpline: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-1pm (01)4546388  <a href="http://www.barnardos.ie/what-we-do/our-services/specialist-services/adoption.html">http://www.barnardos.ie/what-we-do/our-services/specialist-services/adoption.html</a>
<b>St Brigids Information and Tracing Agency</b> Aylward House Glasnevin Dublin 11	Telephone (01) 8372426  Email <a href="mailto:aylward@eircom.net">aylward@eircom.net</a>
<b>Clarecare</b> Clarecare Adoption Services Harmony Row, Ennis, Co. Clare V95 F8CN  Hold Records for St. Catherine's Adoption Society	Opening hours 9.30am – 5pm Mon-Fri  Tel: (065) 68 28178  Email: <a href="mailto:info@clarecare.ie">info@clarecare.ie</a>
<b>Cunamh</b> <i>Previously known as Catholic Protection &amp; Rescue Society of Ireland (CPRSI)</i>	00353 (0)1 6779664  <a href="http://www.cunamh.com">www.cunamh.com</a>

Julie Kerins Principal Social Worker Cúnamh 30 South Anne Street Dublin 2	
<b>Here2Help</b> 18D Nutgrove Office Park Rathfarnham Dublin 14	Telephone (01) 296 2200  Email: <a href="mailto:Tracing@here2help.ie">Tracing@here2help.ie</a>
<b>St Brigids</b> Aylward House Holy Faith Convent Glasnevin Dublin 11	Telephone (01) 8372426  Email <a href="mailto:aylward@eircom.net">aylward@eircom.net</a>