



Our mission

Our mission is to act on behalf of children to help create permanency in their lives. Our ambition is to empower those touched by adoption to make informed choices and maintain control of life-altering decisions. We recognize and value the lifelong connection between adoptees, birth and adoptive families and pledge to promote attitudes, laws, policies, and practices that encourage truth and openness in adoption. We acknowledge and respectively embrace the diversity of religion, race, and culture between and within families. Because we believe the spirit of openness and candor begins with the professional, we are committed to creating a climate in which honesty is encouraged and reinforced.

To learn more, call the Adoption Center at Bellefaire JCB
Cleveland/Columbus/Central Ohio area: 216-932-2800
Toll free: 800-205-8534
Email: infoADP@bellefairejcb.org

“We are strong advocates of Bellefaire JCB. When problems arise with our children, our workers are open and communicate well. They try to resolve the children’s issues and are supportive to our children as well as to us, the parents. Our workers are cooperative and professional, making appropriate referrals and sending documents in a timely manner. Bellefaire provides its own services, such as therapists and training. We would definitely recommend Bellefaire JCB to anyone considering foster or adoptive parenting.”- Lisa & Cornell, parents of 3 adopted daughters, 3 adopted sons, and one foster daughter.

“I use Bellefaire JCB’s adoption services as the guide for quality against which I measure all other agencies.” – Adoption Supervisor, Ohio Public Agency

“My daughter’s counselor was really wonderful. The counselor was an advocate for my daughter and the baby’s father. I would absolutely recommend Bellefaire JCB to anyone. It is really an excellent program.” - Ann, mother of a birth mother who chose adoption

To learn more, call Intake Services at Bellefaire JCB.
Cleveland area: 216.320.8502
Toll free: 800.879.2522
Or email INTAKE@bellefairejcb.org

Bellefaire JCB is accredited by The Joint Commission, has Hague Accreditation through the Council on Accreditation, and has commendation from the Ohio Step Up to Quality System. It is licensed by the Ohio Departments of Job and Family Services, Mental Health, and Developmental Disabilities. It is certified by the Ohio Departments of Mental Health, and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and chartered by the Ohio Department of Education.



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Adoption



/to  life.../


Bellefaire JCB

for excellence... for wellness... for children



/mission.../ Bellefaire JCB is an innovative organization that provides exceptional care, education and advocacy to enhance the emotional, physical and intellectual well-being of children, young adults, and families in the Jewish and general communities. In addition to providing direct services, Bellefaire JCB is committed to: 1). remaining on the forefront of the youth service and child caring fields, 2). responding to emerging needs, 3). building knowledge which contributes to service to children, youth and their families, and 4.) advocating on behalf of children, youth, and their families. Bellefaire JCB provides its services without regard to race, religion, sex, or national origin, and encourages all clients to develop positive identification with their religious and ethnic backgrounds. *Founded 1868.*

Bellefaire JCB has a centralized intake department that assists families, referring professionals and/or guardians in determining the right program within its array of services. Once an appropriate program is determined, an intake worker will help the family, guardian or referring professional complete the admissions process.

You can reach our Intake Department by phone or email:

Cleveland (local): 216.320.8502 | Toll-free number: 1.800.879.2522 | Email: intake@bellefairejcb.org

The Adoption Center at Bellefaire JCB provides comprehensive adoption services, offered through three placement programs. They include: adoption of children waiting in foster care; international adoption; and domestic infant adoption.

It offers:

- Programs which put the interests of children first;
- Complete and comprehensive adoption services including: home study, post-placement supervision, and court finalization of the adoption;
- Post-finalization services;
- Connection to Bellefaire JCB's wide array of supportive services for children, youth, and their families;
- Pre- and post-adoption counseling and support for birth parents and for those who are considering adoption.

The Adoption Center at Bellefaire JCB works closely with local, state, national and international agencies to bring waiting children together with adoptive families. Bellefaire JCB helps families move through the adoptive process, providing support to parents and children through every step - from the initial inquiry to post adoption.

Our adoption specialists are degreed, licensed social workers, and certified adoption assessors. Each is committed to delivering individualized support and counsel to address the needs of children, adoptive families and birth parents – those considering placing a child into adoption.

Placement programs

Waiting Child Adoption

Adoption can provide waiting children with the love and security they need to grow and thrive. Waiting children, who typically reside in foster homes, include those of all races, older children and sibling groups. The Adoption Center at Bellefaire JCB works closely with public and state agencies to match children with prospective parents.

International Adoption

The Adoption Center at Bellefaire JCB holds Hague Accreditation as a primary provider of international adoptions from the Council on

Placement programs, *continued*

Accreditation. Our program helps families adopt infants and children from around the world. Those awaiting international adoption typically live in orphanages, foster homes, or group homes in countries in Eastern Europe, South and Central America, Asia, and Africa. During the home study, parents will learn about such things as the effects institutionalization has on children and how to help an adopted child thrive in the adoptive home. We are able to facilitate international adoptions from both Hague and non-Hague countries.

Infant Adoption

Infant adoption begins a lifelong journey for the adoptive family, the birth parents, and baby. The Adoption Center at Bellefaire JCB provides adoption services of infants whose birth parents have contacted us directly or have been referred to us by other sources. Throughout the process, we provide prospective adoptive parents with preparation, education and support, and offer birth parents ongoing counsel and preparation for a safe and legal adoption plan. We encourage openness in adoption, but also respect the birth parent's choice of confidentiality.

Who can adopt?

Married couples, same sex couples, singles, retirees, experienced or first-time parents, all can be adoptive parents. What's essential is the desire and commitment to provide a loving, permanent home to a child. Every adoption is as individual as each family and child. Just as there is no single "type" of adopted child, there is no "model" adoptive family. We recognize each situation is unique.

Bellefaire JCB believes preparation is a key factor that contributes to an adoptive family's success. Our intensive pre-adoption training and education helps prospective parents prepare for the child or children they ultimately adopt and helps provide the tools for success after the child arrives. Participants consistently rate our training and education programs as "excellent."

Options for birth mothers and birth fathers

Bellefaire JCB's adoption professionals have extensive experience and remain current regarding adoption practices and issues related to birth parents. A birth parent's ability to make the best decision depends on understanding the adoption process. From the time of the initial contact, a birth parent counselor will offer information and support.

Support and referral is offered to birth parents who choose to parent their infant and for those who choose adoption.

Adoptions may be fully open, in which the birth parent and the adoptive parents and child maintain direct contact, or they may have openness through the agency. Whichever choice is made, Bellefaire JCB provides birth and adoptive parents with personal attention, education and preparation. And after the adoptive placement, adoption staff is available to help launch the adoption constellation on its open adoption journey.

How are services funded?

Adoption can sometimes be a costly process. However, there are a variety of ways to positively manage adoption expenses. Employee benefits, income tax credits, loans, and federal and state adoption assistance are just a few.

Bellefaire JCB's costs for services related to recruiting, training, placing and supporting prospective adoptive families, when adopting a waiting child, are typically paid by county or state agencies. We work in collaboration with public agencies in the shared mission of permanency for every child. Costs related to international adoptions are charged on a fee-for-service basis. In the case of infant adoptions, homestudy and post placement costs are covered by the adoptive family and placement costs are determined on a sliding fee scale according to family income.

We believe every child deserves a welcome home.