

ADOPTIVE PARENTS COMMITTEE MINI CONFERENCE
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18 2023

5:00-5:45: Welcome		KEYNOTE: CONNECTIONS THROUGH COMMUNITY <i>Zachary Fried, Executive Director, Adoption STAR</i>
6:00 PM- 7:00PM	1A	MEDICAL ISSUES IN DOMESTIC ADOPTION <i>Melissa Jill Goldstein, MD, Carnegie Hill Pediatrics</i> This workshop will focus on issues relating to some of the medical risks prospective parents may encounter when matching with an expectant mother. We will explore drug exposure, infections, chronic medical conditions, and social characteristics. Being aware of the risk factors will help you be more prepared when making decisions about the kinds of issues a child may have as they grow.
	1B	ADOPTION ADVERTISING FOR THE BUDGET & TIME CONSCIOUS FAMILY <i>Ben Santiardo, Founder of Tekk Adoptions</i> This workshop will explore everything you need to know about adoption advertising on the web. We will talk about the differences between digital and print advertising. We will discuss Facebook and its pitfalls, using a profile vs. using a website. We will also cover the average budget for advertising and what you need to know about online security.
	1C	IS IT JUST ADHD? UNDERSTANDING YOUR ADOPTED CHILD'S BEHAVIOR <i>Elaine Schulte, MD, MPH, Medical Director of the Adoption Program, Children's Hospital at Montefiore</i> We all want our kids to be successful and happy at home, in school and with friends and family. Whether you adopt an infant, toddler, preschooler, or older child, it's important to observe and be aware of their behavior. In this interactive discussion, Dr. Schulte will help parents to identify what are developmental issues in childhood and when you may need to seek professional help. Areas covered will include attachment, PTSD, and attention and learning challenges.
7:15- 8:15PM	2A	DOMESTIC ADOPTION HOMESTUDIES IN NEW YORK <i>Kathy Ann Brodsky, LCSW</i> What is the social worker really looking for? How many interviews are there and with whom? Get an in-depth overview of the home study process and learn how to take the anxiety out of the experience.

		<p data-bbox="313 174 354 205">2B</p> <p data-bbox="391 174 902 205">INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION 101</p> <p data-bbox="391 212 1352 317"><i>Sama Alghali, MSS, LSW Northeast Branch Director, Holt International Children's Services, E. Stefani Moon, MA LPC IMH E , Associate Director, International Programs Spence Chapin Services to Families and Children</i></p> <p data-bbox="391 359 1406 573">Each year thousands of children join their family through international adoption from Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe. Who are the children? What are their needs? What countries are currently placing? What is the process? When you leave this workshop, you will know the answers to these questions. This workshop will lay a foundation for someone new to adoption or help the initiated learn about countries now placing children.</p>
		<p data-bbox="313 615 354 646">2C</p> <p data-bbox="391 615 1252 646">NY DOMESTIC ADOPTION: AGENCY VS. INDEPENDENT</p> <p data-bbox="391 653 1273 684"><i>Brian Esser, Esq, Zachary Fried, Executive Director, Adoption STAR</i></p> <p data-bbox="391 726 1414 867">There is no “right” answer as to which path to adoption is best for you. In this workshop, we explore the pros and cons of agency vs independent adoption, and what considerations about you in particular might make one path rather than the other the right one for you..</p>
<p data-bbox="142 1308 253 1377">8:30-9:30PM</p>		<p data-bbox="313 947 354 978">3A</p> <p data-bbox="391 947 802 978">DOMESTIC ADOPTION 101</p> <p data-bbox="391 984 662 1016"><i>Rebecca Mendel,,Esq</i></p> <p data-bbox="391 1022 1382 1163">Come and learn about the path to a successful domestic adoption. Topics will include emotions and legalities involved, potential adoption costs, birth parents' rights, waiting periods, red flags and “how to's” with a full explanation of the process involved, before, during and after the adoption.</p>
		<p data-bbox="313 1241 354 1272">3B</p> <p data-bbox="391 1278 1265 1346">USEFUL ANSWERS TO PRACTICAL QUESTIONS: ESTATE PLANNING AND MORE</p> <p data-bbox="391 1352 662 1383"><i>Herb Piktowsky, Esq.</i></p> <p data-bbox="391 1390 1403 1604">This workshop will focus on a discussion of basic estate planning: Why you need a will, and what happens if you don't have a will. We will also cover how to designate a Guardian and Trustee for your minor child's person and property, as well as , the need and benefits of having a Durable Power of Attorney, and various types of Trusts. Finally, we'll talk about availability and eligibility criteria for Adoption Tax Credits. Bring your questions.</p>