

Catholic Charities' Guide to Search and Reunion

Important Points

- Locating individuals depends on the availability of historical documentation.
- Documentation in the record of the identified individual's medical and social history can be limited.
- When Catholic Charities is unable to locate an individual after reasonable efforts, the search services end.
- When an individual is located and does not agree to contact, identifying information is not released.
- When an individual is deceased, Catholic Charities cannot release identifying information.
- If the identified person agrees to contact, Catholic Charities is only responsible for facilitating the contact. Catholic Charities has no way of controlling the nature or extent of the relationships. All relationships can vary tremendously depending on a large variety of factors.
- When considering a search, it is helpful to explore your expectations and consider all possible outcomes.
- A search and subsequent contact can change your life and the lives of others.
- Catholic Charities encourages the utilization of resource services such as adoption support groups, conferences and current literature.

Getting Started

- Fill out the enclosed application.
- Have the Consent Form notarized.
- Enclose a check made out to Catholic Charities.
- Consider requesting non-identifying information first.
- Consider having the agency review the record to see if there is a consent on file before pursuing other search services.
- You may schedule an appointment with one of our adoption professionals at any point in the process.
- All requests for service are honored in the order in which the applications are received, except for those constituting a medical, psychiatric or legal emergency.
- Due to the volume of requests, it can take several months to get non-identifying information or to begin a search.
- Catholic Charities will discuss your financial situation if needed.

Any questions or uncertainties? Give us a call at 617-464-8510 and ask for someone in adoption search.