



# Adoption ARC

*Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware Licensed*

*Founder*

Tara E. Gutterman, Esquire

*Executive Director*

Merle Gutterman Parker, M.Ed., MS

*Social Work Supervisor*

Laura Hoffman, LSCW

February 1, 2013

Dear Colleagues:

We are hoping that this letter finds you doing well, and enjoying the beginning of the fall season. Autumn is a time of change, and we at Adoption ARC have some wonderful changes to report to you!

At Adoption ARC we focus on meeting the needs of the adoption triad, the Birth Parent(s), the Adoptive Parent(s) and the Adoptee. We meet face to face with each one of our Birth Parents and provide comprehensive options counseling, along with completing a unique needs assessment for each Birth Parent. The Birth Parent's needs assessment leads us to create a specific treatment plan for each Birth Parent. The treatment plan assists Birth Parents with many social issues that they are dealing with, as well as creating an adoption plan that they feel good about.

We have some excellent new staff, and we continue to provide comprehensive clinical trainings and supervision on a regular basis to our Birth Parent Counselors. Our staff is multicultural and quite diverse. This is a true asset to our Birth Parents and Adoptive Parents, as we serve a diverse and multicultural population.

Our founder and former Executive Director, attorney Tara Gutterman continues to consult with Adoption ARC on a regular basis, and legally represent adoptive families through their journey of creating forever families. Ms. Gutterman, who is a member of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys brings over twenty years of legal and adoption experience to the agency. She has also been recognized as a congressional "Angel In Adoption".

Adoption ARC's Executive Director, Merle Gutterman Parker, M.Ed, MS, has expertise in leadership, technical and grant writing and counseling psychology. Ms. Gutterman Parker continues to manage the agency with excellence, and she has spear-headed the process that lead Adoption ARC to becoming Hague Accredited by the U.S. State Department, as well as receiving continued license renewal in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.



Laura Hoffman, MSW, LCSW our Social Work Supervisor has now been with Adoption ARC for over three years. She brings 20 years of clinical experience and expertise. Laura has worked in both public and private sectors with adults and children. Laura has a small private practice, and she supervises area graduates towards obtaining their clinical license. She, herself is a proud adoptive mom of a beautiful 3-year-old boy.

Adoption ARC welcomed Mary Kasper, BA, MA, as our new Adoption Coordinator in March 2012. Not only does Mary have excellent experience in the social service arena, she is also an adoptive mother of two beautiful children. Mary oversees the vast responsibilities of assisting potential adoptive parents through the process of becoming approved to receive their child and be a forever family.

We have two new Birth Parent Counselors who joined the Adoption ARC family in February, 2012. Both Birth Parent Counselors are Social Workers and skilled in working within the world of adoption.

Lisette Sanchez, BSW graduated from LaSalle University and worked within the adoption and foster care system prior to coming to Adoption ARC. Lisette has been very well received by our Birth Mothers, and she successfully treats each and every client with the utmost respect and dignity.

Jenna Perez, MSW, LSW graduated from Rutgers University and worked with youth students who were transitioning out of foster care into independent living situations, as well as going to college. Jenna also has excellent rapport with Birth Parents, and she is a gifted Social Worker who believes in creating healthy forever families.

Finally, Adoption ARC would like to introduce our Office Administrative Assistant, Zoe Chronis, BA, MFA. Zoe is such a bright and creative asset to our Adoption ARC family. She has continued to beautifully manage the ongoing correspondence between Birth Parents and Adoptive Parents with great pride. Zoe has assisted Adoption ARC staff with accessing excellent resources and services for the women, men and children that we serve.

It is our hope that we will be welcome to meet you face to face and collaborate together to continue to offer excellent adoption services to women and families who chose to pursue the selfless journey of creating an adoption plan.

The Adoption ARC Family