

Cover:

## **The Ardythe & Gayle Sayers Center for African American Adoption at the Cradle**

Inside copy:

### **Placing Children First Since 1923**

For nearly 90 years, The Cradle has been highly regarded as one of the country's foremost adoption agencies. Over the years, we have placed more than 15,000 children into permanent, loving homes.

The Sayers Center is part of The Cradle's domestic adoption program. It is one of the only programs in the country that promotes adoption and adoption awareness specifically within the African American community. The goal of the Sayers Center is to find safe, loving, permanent homes for African American babies. The majority of babies placed through the Sayers Center are newborns.

### **Who Can Adopt**

The Cradle welcomes prospective parents of all religious, racial and ethnic backgrounds, couples and singles. Prospective adoptive parents must be at least 25 years of age.

*Many families who adopt through the Sayers program become parents within a year.*

### **African American Adoption**

- More than 35 percent of the adoptions at The Cradle are African American babies
- Only 15-20% of Cradle adoptive parents are African American
- There is a great need for more African American adoptive parents

### **Our Philosophy: Open Adoption**

The Cradle embraces an open adoption philosophy for all domestic adoptions. This means that birth parents and adoptive families have the opportunity to get to know one another before and after placement, and to agree upon the level of any ongoing contact.

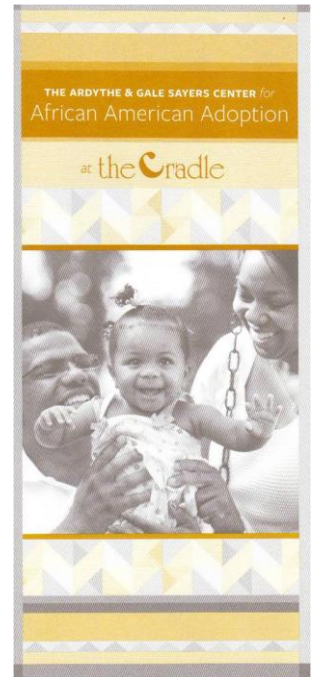
### **Affordable Adoption Fees**

As a not-for-profit child welfare organization, The Cradle makes every attempt to make our fees as affordable as possible. Because of generous donations, the cost of an adoption through the Sayers Center is less than \$14,000 – just 35 percent of the actual expense. A variety of financial assistance programs are available, including the Federal Adoption Tax Credit.

*The Cradle is the only agency in the country to maintain a 24-hour, fully staffed on-site nursery.*

### **Next Steps**

We invite you to attend one of The Cradle's in person or on-line informational meetings, so you can get better acquainted with us and learn more about the adoption process. Should you choose to move forward, a personal counselor will guide you through all the steps needed to become an adoptive family.



## **Why Work with The Cradle?**

- We are a mission-driven, not-for-profit adoption agency.
- We offer nearly 90 years of experience and have placed more than 15,000 children.
- We are the only agency in the country to offer a 24-hour, fully staffed, on-site nursery.
- You will be personally guided through the adoption process by an experienced counselor.
- You can take advantage of a wide range of educational opportunities to prepare for the adoption experience.
- You can share with, and learn from, our extensive network of adoptive families.

## **Are you ready to take your next step on the road to your new family?**

Call The Cradle at 847-475-5800 or visit us on the web at [www.cradle.org](http://www.cradle.org).

Back cover copy:

Gayle Sayers, a Cradle adoptive dad and member of the NFL Hall of Fame, and his wife Ardythe both serve on The Cradle Board of Directors. The Cradle's African American Adoption Program was named in their honor in recognition of their commitment to, and work on behalf of, adoption and adoption awareness.

Logo: The Cradle

Tag line: Placing children first

2049 Ride Avenue

Evanston, IL 60201

847-475-5800

[www.CradleFoundation.org](http://www.CradleFoundation.org)

[www.AdoptionLearningPartners.org](http://www.AdoptionLearningPartners.org)

Editorial by: Sylvia Alston, Write2Win Communications ([www.write2win.com](http://www.write2win.com))

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