



## Fact Sheet

- In October 2006, Spaulding for Children was awarded the National IAATP grant to provide Infant Adoption Awareness Training. This free training is approved for Continuing Education Credit for nurses, psychologists and social workers. It is designed for health care staff (nurses, nursing students, social workers, social worker students, psychologists, technicians, physicians, receptionists, patient advocates, medical assistance, et cetera) employed by or doing placements at:
  - Public/Community health departments
  - Public hospitals
  - Nonprofit hospitals
  - Nonprofit clinics, (e.g. Planned Parenthood Agencies, Migrant Health Centers, Health Centers for the Homeless, Teen Health Centers)
  - Maternal Support Services Programs/Infant Support Services Programs affiliated with public health departments or private, non-profit agencies
  - School based health clinics (public and private schools)
- Since 2004, Spaulding for Children and its partners have trained over 24,000 helping professional.
- Spaulding for Children is one of five organizations funded in FY 2006 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a training curriculum on counseling adoption as an option. **“Understanding Infant Adoption”** is the name of the national unified curriculum.
- The project is based on a set of values and beliefs that include:
  - Health care and helping professionals are partners in the process of disseminating information on options counseling and the adoption option.
  - Providing neutral, factual information and nondirective counseling on options and referrals.
  - Providing services without subjecting individuals to any coercion to accept any specific method, and in a manner that protects individual dignity and respect.
- The curriculum was developed in accordance with DHHS issued guidelines and was approved by DHHS.
- The goal of the training is to enhance the ability of health care and helping professionals provide adoption information and referrals to pregnant women & teens and men who are experiencing an unplanned/unintended pregnancy on an equal basis with all other courses of action in a nondirective, non-coercive manner.
- There are one-day, two-day, 4 hour, online workshops and self paced materials available that are approved for contact hours.
- Our most current evaluation findings reveal:
  - that participants reported that they are more knowledgeable and comfortable/confident presenting adoption as an option in pregnancy/family planning/options counseling.
  - that prior to training, 25.4% of respondents (n=2500) *strongly agreed* and *agreed* that they felt knowledgeable enough to present adoption as an option in family planning/options counseling. This increased to 89.3% post training.
  - our *Follow-up Survey* revealed that a very high percentage of the respondents, 95.6% reported that information gained from the *Infant Adoption Training Initiative* was useful to them as a practitioner.
  - *the vast majority of participants (94.8%) reflected a rating of excellent and good for the achievement of objectives.*
- What are participants saying:
  - *“Some of the language used gave me a new way to approach patients”*
  - *“I feel more confident in talking to parents about adoption”*
  - *“This was a good training. It was valuable and practical and I was encouraged and felt like I got good information to use at work.”*
  - *“This is an excellent training for nurses”*
  - *“I was uncomfortable with adoption, now I’m not”*

- *“Phenomenal conference, the presenter’s sense of humor and expertise blended to make this conference very informative”.*
- *“Prior to this training I didn’t feel equipped to answer questions about adoption – now I do!*
- *I am more aware of the importance of eliciting the family's needs, desires, and goals instead of just leaping into a plan based on what is important. Also, I learned phrases that are less value-laden, especially aware of some words that are negative-value laden.*
- *I do not participate in adoptions but as a nurse I am asked about this option. I am better prepared to present information about this pregnancy option than I was BEFORE the seminar. Thank you for updating my knowledge with this EXCELLENT class!*
- *I have a better understanding of the various pieces of adoptions: legal, emotional, organizational.*

### **Philosophy Underlying the Curriculum:**

The ***Understanding Infant Adoption (UIA)*** curriculum is based on the belief that in the situation of an unplanned/ unintended pregnancy women, men and teens should be provided information and counseling in a nondirective, non-coercive manner in order to make an informed decision.

***For more information about the project or to sign up for one of these valuable trainings, please go to our website at: [iaatp.com](http://iaatp.com)***

“This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Michigan Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.”

“Spaulding for Children, provider # 1146, is approved as a provider for social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) [www.aswb.org](http://www.aswb.org), through the Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Spaulding for Children maintains responsibility for the program.”

“Spaulding for Children, is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for Psychologists. Spaulding for Children maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

For instructions on how to access special accommodations for disabilities, please visit our web site at [iaatp.com](http://iaatp.com)