

St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society

Background Information

St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society was founded in 1955 as a response of the Catholic Church in Scotland to the need for adoption. At that time there was a real demand for adoptive parents for babies, and St Margaret's became firmly associated with the placement of babies for adoption. In more recent times, as fewer babies have been available for adoption St Margaret's has developed an expertise in the field of adoption and we now find that we are placing children including sibling groups with more complex needs and often from a background of social deprivation and need.

We offer a Counselling in Search of Origins service to people who have been adopted and who wish to research their early childhood, and also to those birth mothers who return to the Society in search of information about the child they have placed for adoption. The volume of this type of work is quite unique and greatly informs our professional practice.

As a voluntary adoption agency we work with adoption agencies throughout the UK. We make placements from various parts of Scotland as well as from England. This gives a unique opportunity to link in with other organisations and to experience a broad range of practice across the UK. Our social workers have the opportunity to tap into a broad range of training opportunities in different parts of the country which helps to develop their expertise in adoption practice.

As an adoption agency we offer a unique opportunity to our social workers to concentrate on and to develop an expertise in the field of adoption. This is supplemented by good supervision, a generous individual training budget, and conditions of service which are conducive to the development of high standards of professional practice.

St Margaret's has retained its identity as a Catholic adoption agency. We welcome applicants from all faiths and none, although staff must understand and respect the ethos and values of the Society. The Presidents of the Society are the four bishops of the dioceses which support us. The Church takes pride in the Society fulfilling its mission to children in need of adoption. We provide a positive input to the Church's marriage preparation course to promote the needs of children and models of positive parenting.

St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society offers a unique opportunity to Social Workers seeking to further develop their skills and expertise in adoption work. We offer a professional working environment, competitive conditions of service and excellent opportunities for continued professional development.

Michael Mesarowicz
Director