### **AUTOBIOGRAPHY GUIDE**

Please write separate autobiographies, each of you sharing your childhood and adulthood experiences that have contributed to who you are today.

#### Birth family

- \*State your birth date and place of birth, siblings' names, your birth order of siblings. Note your parent's names and descriptors of each.
- \*Describe your relationship with your parents during childhood. Also, describe their marriage. If divorced, what age were you and how this impacted your life.
- \*How were you disciplined as a child? By whom? Do you feel it was fair?
- \*Who in the family did you feel closest to and why?

#### **Growing Up**

- \*Describe yourself and your feelings about the following: School life: most/least enjoyable; Outside of school: interests, activities, dating
- \*List your highest level of education or degrees and the name of the school (REQUIRED)
- \*What are your happiest childhood memories, saddest, and angriest?
- \*Describe any abuse history you may have/had; explain any treatment or counseling pursued.

## Courtship and Marriage

- \*Describe how you met, how long you dated before you married.
- \*What were the attractions to each other? Explain your mutual and separate interests.
- \*List previous marriages; briefly outline the situation leading to its dissolution.

## Religion

- \*What was your religious orientation during childhood and adolescence?
- \*What do you consider to be your current religious faith?
- \*How do you practice it? Outline its importance in raising children

# **Health and Medical**

- \*Do you currently take any prescription medicine? If so, explain the reason.
- \*Have you had any recent surgeries? Explain.
- \*Have you ever had a drug or alcohol addiction or any substance abuse history?
- \*How do you handle stress? What activities help with stress? (REQUIRED)

#### <u>Finances</u>

- \*Do you have a budget? Please outline on the Financial Assessment form
- \*Are you/have you ever been a defendant in any lawsuits or legal action? Explain
- \*Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? Explain

# Motivation/Readiness for Adoption

- \*Describe your motivation for adoption. Explain how you are preparing for adoption.
- \* What are your plans for childcare if needed? \* Do you have support of extended family?
- \*If you are guardians, describe the situation leading up to the guardianship
  - List biological parents and the relationship with them (visits, amount of contact, etc.) Describe the child's relationship with family members