

***QUESTIONS TO ASK***  
**About Surrogacy Programs (#17)**

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For couples who are considering either traditional or gestational or donor egg surrogacy, the following questions may be helpful.

- § How long has the program been in operation?
- § Does the program maintain a referral listing of previous client couples?
- § What are the costs of surrogacy (traditional, gestational or donor)? What is the fee payment structure?
- § How long are medical records kept on the surrogate?
- § How are surrogate=s expenses handled? Is there a cap on these expenses?
- § Does the program recruit its own surrogates? Through what means?
- § Will they work with a surrogate recruited by the couple themselves?
- § Does the program offer psychological screening and counseling to surrogates? To what extent?
- § What type of emotional support does the program offer for the couple? Counseling or support groups?
- § Does the program offer medical screening of the surrogate? To what extent? Who does the screening?
- § Does medical screening include an AIDS test of surrogate and her partner?
- § Is gestational surrogacy (also called surrogate IVF, surrogate GIFT, surrogate ZIFT, host uterus) as well as traditional surrogacy available?
- § Does the program offer on-site medical services (insemination or IVF) or do they work with local physicians and hospitals?
- § How many babies have been born through the clinic=s surrogacy programs?

- \$ To what extent is contact between the surrogate and the couple encouraged? (By letter, meeting face-to-face, on-going?)
- \$ Can the couple be present at the birth?
- \$ What type of legal counsel is offered to the surrogate and the couple? Does this include the drawing up of contracts?
- \$ Does the program offer adoption finalization services?
- \$ What are the fees for informational meetings or interviews?
- \$ What are the financial obligations incurred by the couple? What is the payment schedule?
- \$ If the surrogate does not get pregnant over a certain number of cycles, what is the clinic's policy regarding refund of fee paid?
- \$ In the event that the contract is not honored, what are the financial obligations for the couple?
- \$ In the event that the surrogate has a pregnancy loss, what are the financial obligations for the couple?
- \$ Does the program have a Medical Registry for updating the medical history of the surrogates or the children?
- \$ Does the program have a registry for the donor and children to exchange information when the child reaches maturity?

***Further information on this topic is available through RESOLVE fact sheets. For a publications order form, please contact the local chapter or National RESOLVE Office at 1310 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144-1731 or 617/623-0744.***

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