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May 10, 2017 Contact: Shawn Kane 800.875.2229

AMERICAN SURROGACY OFFERS ANOTHER PATH TO MOTHERHOOD

Overland Park, KS – With Mother's Day fast approaching, many of the <u>10 percent</u> of U.S. women facing infertility are still waiting for a child — but there are generous surrogates who want to help.

<u>Gestational surrogacy</u> is an increasingly common path to motherhood for women and couples facing infertility, said Angie Newkirk, Program Director of American Surrogacy. Newkirk said many couples who contact the organization do so after years of struggling to grow their families.

"By the time these families get to me, they have had a long journey and just want to become parents," Newkirk said.

As a full-service surrogacy professional, <u>American Surrogacy</u> works with gestational carriers across the country and intended parents around the world, providing all of the necessary services to successfully complete the surrogacy process. The organization is currently working with several pre-screened surrogates who are ready to help those struggling with infertility realize their dreams of parenthood.

One of those surrogates, Jewel* from Missouri, said she was inspired to pursue surrogacy after completing her own family, recognizing that many women struggle to conceive and carry a pregnancy on their own.

"I had such a wonderful experience with my first pregnancy and had no complications during pregnancy or during labor and delivery," Jewel said. "I have always wanted only one child, and once I saw [my son], I knew he was it for completing our family — but I know many women struggle with pregnancy and would love to help."

Now, with an active <u>surrogate profile</u> on American Surrogacy's website, Jewel is finalizing the screening process and awaiting a match with a couple who is ready to become parents via surrogacy.

Using a state-of-the-art matching process, American Surrogacy will connect her with hopeful parents based on each party's preferences for their surrogacy experience. These could include financial requirements, their desired level of contact during the pregnancy and more. Each party will have an opportunity to view profiles for their prospective matches, and when a surrogate and intended parent express mutual

interest in one another, American Surrogacy will coordinate contact so they can get to know each other better.

Even before this matching process begins, every surrogate is <u>thoroughly screened</u> to ensure she meets requirements set by the American Society of Reproductive Medicine, including at least one previous pregnancy with no complications.

"It is important to us that each surrogate is fully screened with an in-home assessment, background checks, psychiatric evaluation and a Reproductive Endocrinologist looking through her medical records before we connect her with a family," Newkirk said. "We would hate for everyone to fall in love with each other, and then for some reason she is not able to move to the next step. We understand that infertility is a stressful journey, so our screening process is something we take pride in completing before the match."

With the help of these pre-screened gestational surrogates and a professional like American Surrogacy, Newkirk said the hope is to help more struggling parents grow and complete their families.

"The American Surrogacy staff has been in the family-building field for more than 15 years, and we understand the long and exhausting road families have been on," Newkirk said. "We want to do everything we can do to make them parents or add to their family."

*Jewel is identified by her first name only to protect her privacy.

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About American Surrogacy

American Surrogacy is a family of surrogacy specialists, assisted reproductive attorneys, licensed social workers, professional media specialists and more, all who contribute to various steps of the surrogacy process and beyond. For more information about American Surrogacy, please visit http://www.americansurrogacy.com.