

Dear Birth Parent,

Thank you for taking the time to consider us as adoptive parents for your child. We can only imagine being in your shoes right now and we admire your courage and strength as you consider adoption. We are grateful to be given this opportunity to share a little about ourselves with you.

About Us

We met more than ten years ago, when we were still in high school. We have been married for almost three years now. Ryan is currently working part-time as a personal care provider and also attending college classes to become a nurse. Beth is working full-time as a physical therapist. We love what we do in our careers. We both have the opportunity to work with many different people and hopefully help to make their lives a little better. Aside from work, we really enjoy being active in our community. We are Catholic and are very involved in our church. Ryan is a member of the choir and Beth is a member of the youth group leadership team, working with high school students as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Beth also volunteers with our church's Emmaus meal program, serving a meal to homeless people in our area. We both feel that serving others is a great part of our lives and we are fortunate to be able to do so.

When we are not working or participating in church activities, we are likely out doing something fun! Living in Wisconsin, we enjoy every season outside. Beth is an avid runner. From spring to late fall, she runs half marathons. She's now up to 13 completed! Ryan is a great support to Beth during her long races. Together, we enjoy hiking, biking, disc golfing, and playing softball in the warmer months. In winter, we enjoy snowshoeing. We are lucky to have several beautiful wooded trails as well as lakefront trails near our home. We love to get out and enjoy Wisconsin weather, no matter what season it is. When the weather is not so nice (and even when it is!), we both enjoy music. Ryan is a gifted trombone player and is involved in several local jazz groups. Beth plays the flute and occasionally plays at church services.

Our family

Family is very important to us. Ryan is an only-child. Beth has one younger brother, with whom she shares a close relationship. Our parents are people we admire and love. We are blessed to live near to both Ryan's parents and Beth's parents. We see our parents about once a week and enjoy spending time with them. We frequently have dinner together with our parents or just stop by their homes to chat. Our families are actually very close; many times we all gather together, Beth's family and Ryan's, for holidays and other celebrations. Both Ryan's parents and Beth's parents are excited to become grandparents someday. They are also eager to baby-sit whenever possible! Any child that we welcome into our home will be spoiled by all four grandparents; that's for sure! Beth's brother is also eager to become an uncle.

Though our immediate families are smaller, we both have large extended families. There are many, many cousins, aunts, and uncles that would joyously welcome our child into the family.

We also welcomed a four-legged family member to our home about six months ago. Our labradoodle, Bella, is energetic and fun-loving. She will surely love a playmate in the house someday!

Our home

Our home is located in a quiet neighborhood. The subdivision where we live is full of families with young children; any children we are blessed with will have many playmates and friends nearby! We have a large yard with plenty of space for games and fun.

Recently we have remodeled our basement and created a sizeable play area there that we hope to someday fill with children's toys and games.

What adoption means to us

Adoption is something that we have discussed and had on our hearts since before we were even married. We always dreamed of having a large family and we wanted to build that family through having biological children as well as adopted children. We were unable to conceive on our own for many years. We did get pregnant once. We were overjoyed, but we soon lost that child through a miscarriage. The loss of our child was devastating to us, but we trust that God has a plan for us to be parents someday. We believe that children are a gift and we feel called by God to become parents through adoption. We chose to pursue adoption because we dream of having a family of our own and to us family is defined not by genetics and biology, but by love.

We understand that this decision is not easy for you. There are many things we'd like to tell you about our hopes and dreams for our future child, about how we would parent a child, or about what morals and values we would instill in a child. We think the most important thing for you to know about us is that any child we are blessed with will be loved unconditionally, more than words can say. He or she will be surrounded by affection and love from all angles: from us, from our families, and from our friends. He or she will know God's love and will be celebrated and cherished as the very special gift that he or she is to us. Our greatest hope as future parents is to raise a happy and healthy child who is able to explore his or her own interests, develop strong friendships, and grow into a confident, compassionate, and respectful young person.

If you choose us as adoptive parents for your baby, we are open to an ongoing relationship with you. We are committed to keeping you updated on your child's growth and development if you wish. We also would like to have visits with you if you are comfortable with that idea. We believe it is so important for our child to know his or her history and life story, and you are an important part of that. We look forward to developing a special and unique relationship with you should you choose us as adoptive parents for your baby.

Thank you for taking the time to consider us as adoptive parents for your child. We can only imagine what you are experiencing right now, and we want you to know that we are thinking of you and praying for you and your baby. May God bless you with His peace.

Sincerely, Ryan and Beth