

*Ben + Carly*





We'd like to express our gratitude to you for considering adoption and taking the time to learn more about us. We understand that this is an incredibly difficult decision that will involve a range of emotions, and we want to assure you that we approach this process with utmost respect, sensitivity, and openness.

**Our names are Ben and Carly, and we have long dreamed of expanding our family through adoption.** We've always discussed adoption, even early on in our relationship. Adoption has always been our plan, not a fallback. Since then, we've moved states, started a business, and built a partnership and life together. It's been a long journey to get to this point, but we've never wavered on our commitment to providing a loving and nurturing home for a child.

**As prospective parents, we believe that every child deserves a home filled with love, support, and opportunities to thrive.** We are committed to creating a warm and secure environment, where a child can grow, learn, and flourish. Our home is full of laughter and unconditional love.

**We understand the importance of openness in the adoption process, and we are committed to maintaining a relationship that feels right for you.** We believe in transparency, honesty, and open communication as we navigate this journey together. Your comfort and well-being are important to us.

**If you choose us as adoptive parents, we promise to dedicate ourselves wholeheartedly to the well-being of your child.** We are ready to embrace the responsibilities and joys that come with parenthood and to create a life filled with love, laughter, and endless possibilities.

Thank you for considering us as potential parents for your precious child. We would be honored to embark on this journey with you and look forward to the opportunity to share more about ourselves in person.

Wishing you strength, peace, and comfort as you navigate this important decision,

*Ben and Carly*



# Our Love Story



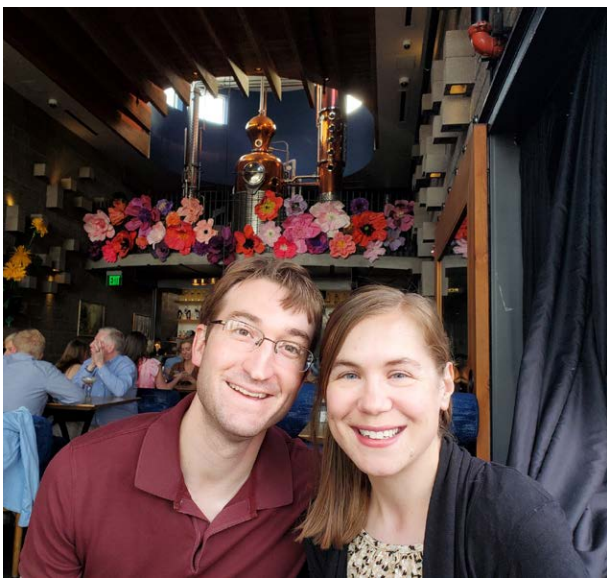
We met in law school in 2009. We were friends and a coffee date turned into dinner and we've been together since.

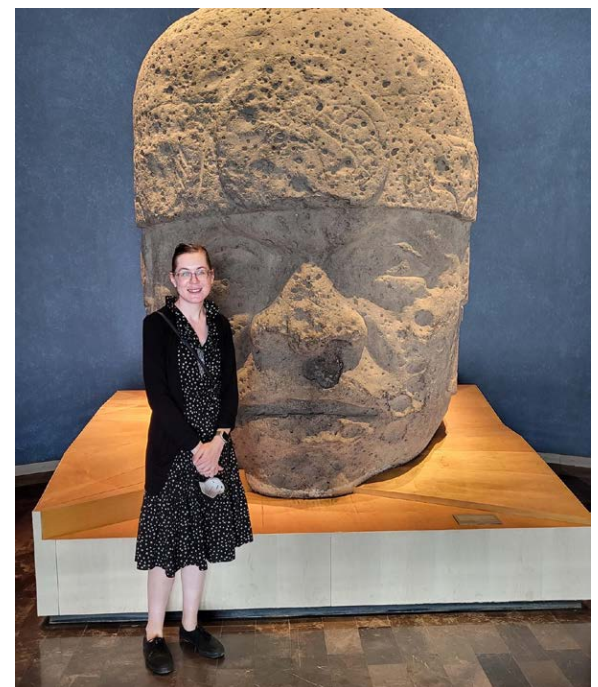
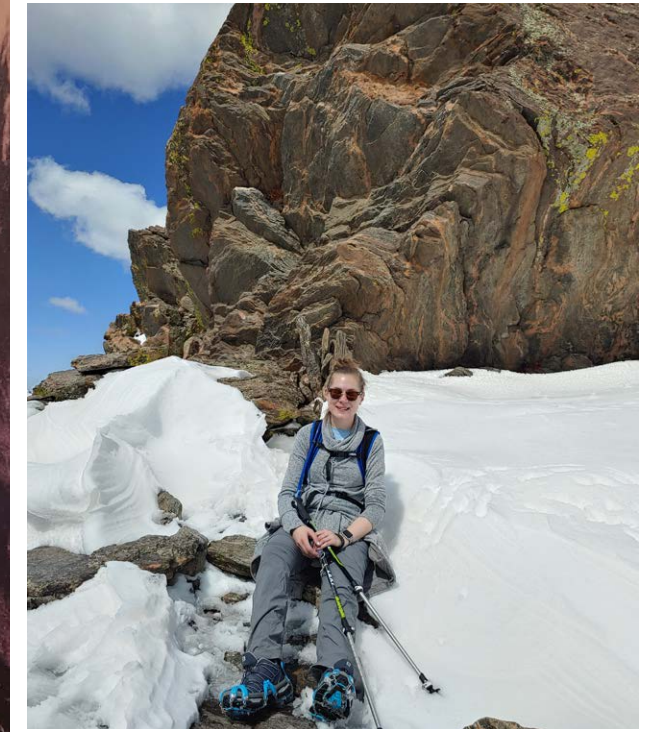
During law school, we attended Ben's cousin's wedding in Colorado and fell in love with Denver. It took quite some time to adjust to our new jobs and new city. This was an extremely stressful and challenging time, but we made it to the other side stronger than ever. However, those are now some of our fondest memories and Denver truly feels like our lucky city.

We've always been quite practical and decided to establish our lives together before having a wedding. We bought our first home and got our rescue dog, Bo, in 2015. Although we've been common law married since moving to Denver, we had a formal ceremony and reception in 2016.

We continued to thrive together and opened our own business in 2018. Time flies and 2024 marks our 15th dating anniversary. There's been a lot of changes, and we can't wait for even more as we expand our family.







# My name is Carlene but most people call me Carly.

I grew up in a small town in Michigan. After college, I jumped at the chance to escape the cold and I attended law school in Arizona.

I enjoy hiking and long walks with Ben and our dog, Bo. On our walks, we get to explore so many cute neighborhoods. I also love indoor plants – I stopped counting when I hit 50. I hope to try to extend my green thumb outdoors, but that hasn't been successful yet. I like to bake. I also run. I'm not athletic and I quit a lot of sports growing up because I hated running. But it's something I enjoy now and am pushing myself in. My favorite activity, though, is hanging out with my friends and family. My closest friends live within walking distance and we get together weekly. They all have children and it's been a joy watching them grow up.

# What Ben Loves best

Carly has so many wonderful qualities. She is incredibly empathetic, loving, kind, and supportive. She feels like my perfect match in so many ways. She can be shy at first, but once you get to know her you realize that she is very outgoing, and has an easy time connecting with others. I think this may be because she is very good at viewing things from the perspectives of others. She's extremely insightful, and often picks up on things that I would miss on my own. She's also selfless, prioritizing the needs of others above herself. I think that all of these qualities will make her an excellent mother.



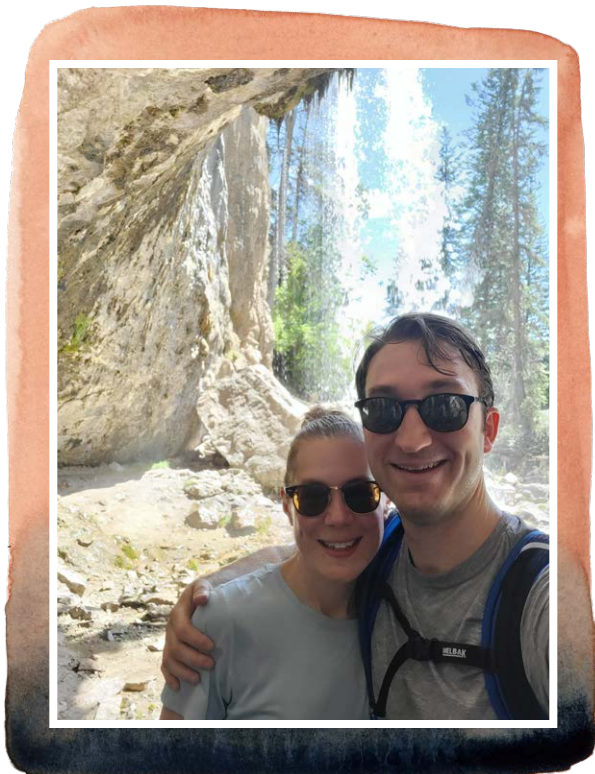


# My name is Ben and I am originally from Arizona and the youngest of three.

I moved to Colorado in 2012 with Carly, and absolutely love the life that we've built here. I enjoy sports and outdoor activities, which go hand-in-hand with life in Denver so close to the mountains. I also love to travel. During downtime I love spending time with family. That can be anything from hiking or taking long walks together, to just hanging out on the couch and watching TV. I also love hanging out with our friends.

# What Carly Loves best

Ben's been a wonderful partner over the past decade, and we've built a great life together. I don't think there's anyone else I could live and work with. He's incredibly kind and a hopeless romantic. He's funny and smart. He's very good at staying calm and positive in stressful situations. He listens and he's always there. Ben does work hard at his career, but it's not his main priority. He's going to be there for school plays, sports games, field trips, etc. He'll be a great dad because of these amazing qualities. He'll also be great because he's analytical. As parents, we'll have tough decisions to make and he's going to do his research to make the best decision he can such as reading, talking to our friends and family, and of course listening to our child.



# A few of our favorite things



## **We spend a lot of time with friends.**

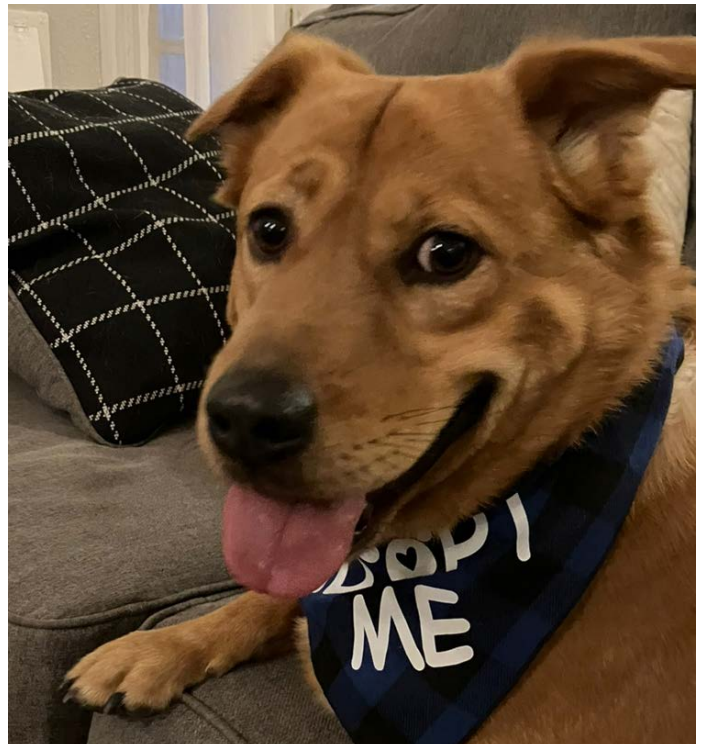
We're fortunate to live within walking distance of most of them. They feel very much like family. We spend as much time as we can with them doing all sorts of things from just hanging out, hiking, concerts, and even taking vacations together.

## **We also are involved in our community.**

We're members of our neighborhood's association, both as residents and as local business owners. We volunteer and support our local food bank and we recently started fostering dogs. We'll pause fostering when we have a baby until they're older. It's been great to see our dog do so well sharing and being okay with less attention.

**We also spend lots of time with just us two.**

We like outdoorsy activities, such as hiking or running. We like attending events Downtown. However, we also really enjoy our down time watching movies and TV. On weekends we love going on long walks with our dog Bo, hiking (also with Bo), or checking out new restaurants (sadly not with Bo). In addition, Ben enjoys watching sports, particularly soccer. Carly loves catching up on Bravo (reality TV) whenever she can.



# Home *sweet* Home

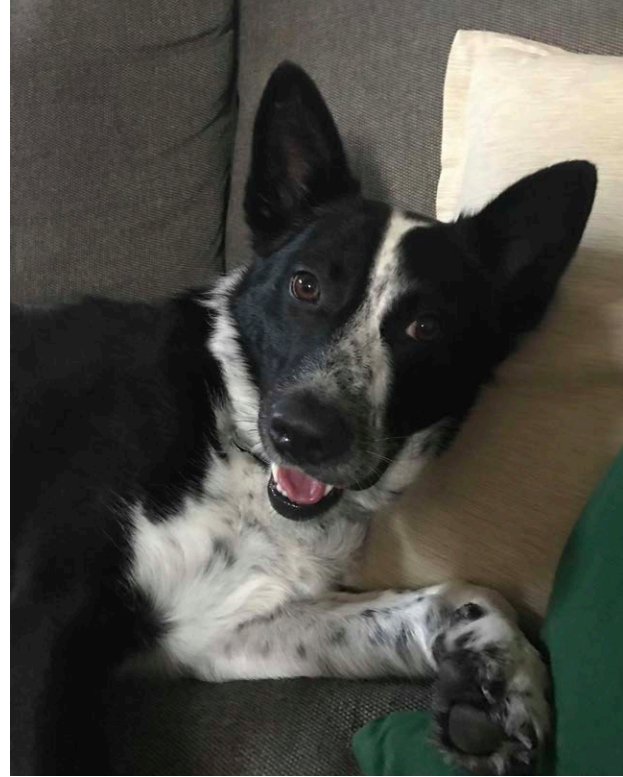
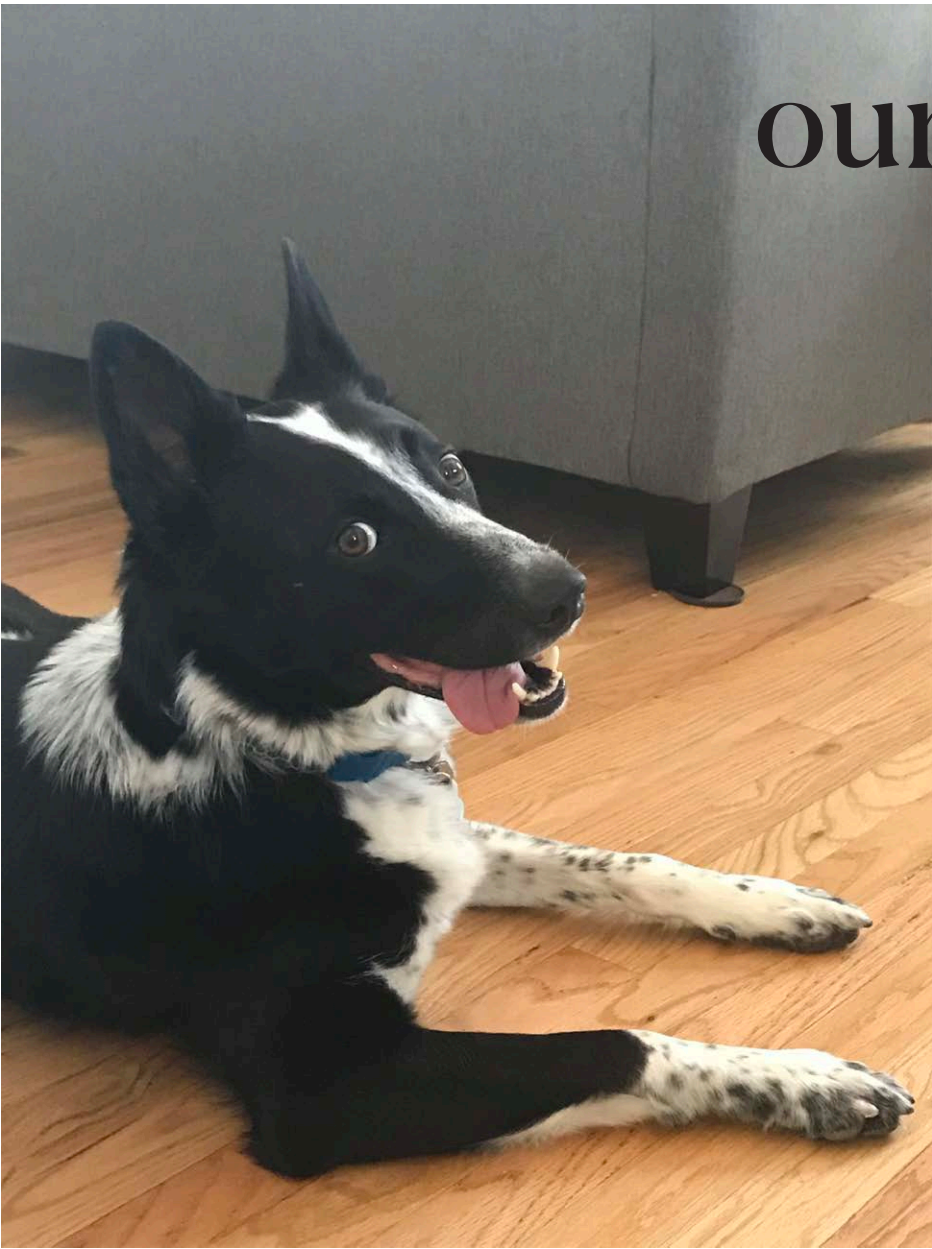


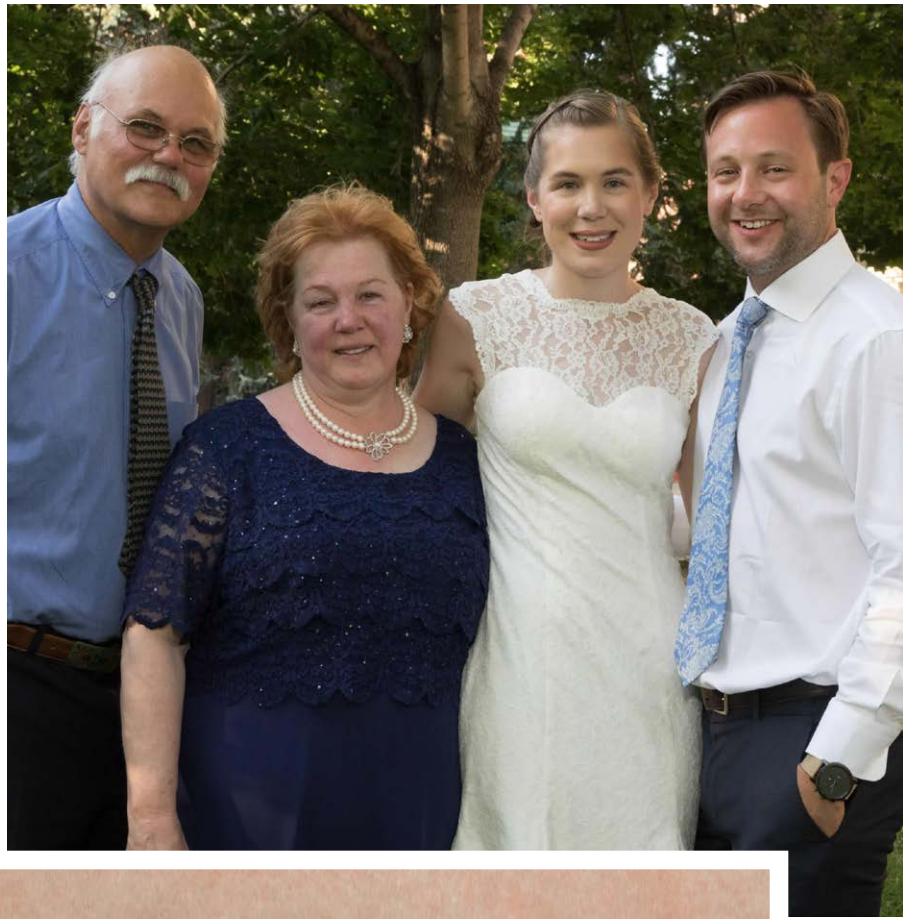
**We live in an urban and diverse community. So much of our life is focused around the walkability of our neighborhood, which makes it feel much easier to be part of our community.** We can walk to lots of amenities, including our local elementary school and a large park. We even walk to work. In addition, we're really fortunate to have developed a close sense of community with several friends that also live in our neighborhood. Each of

them have children of their own which really helps cultivate the sense of community and support amongst young families.

We live in a single-family home with a fenced yard, which is great for our dog Bo. We also have plenty of room to grow our family - we've already picked out the baby's bedroom. We also have space for a playroom.

our dog  
**Bo**





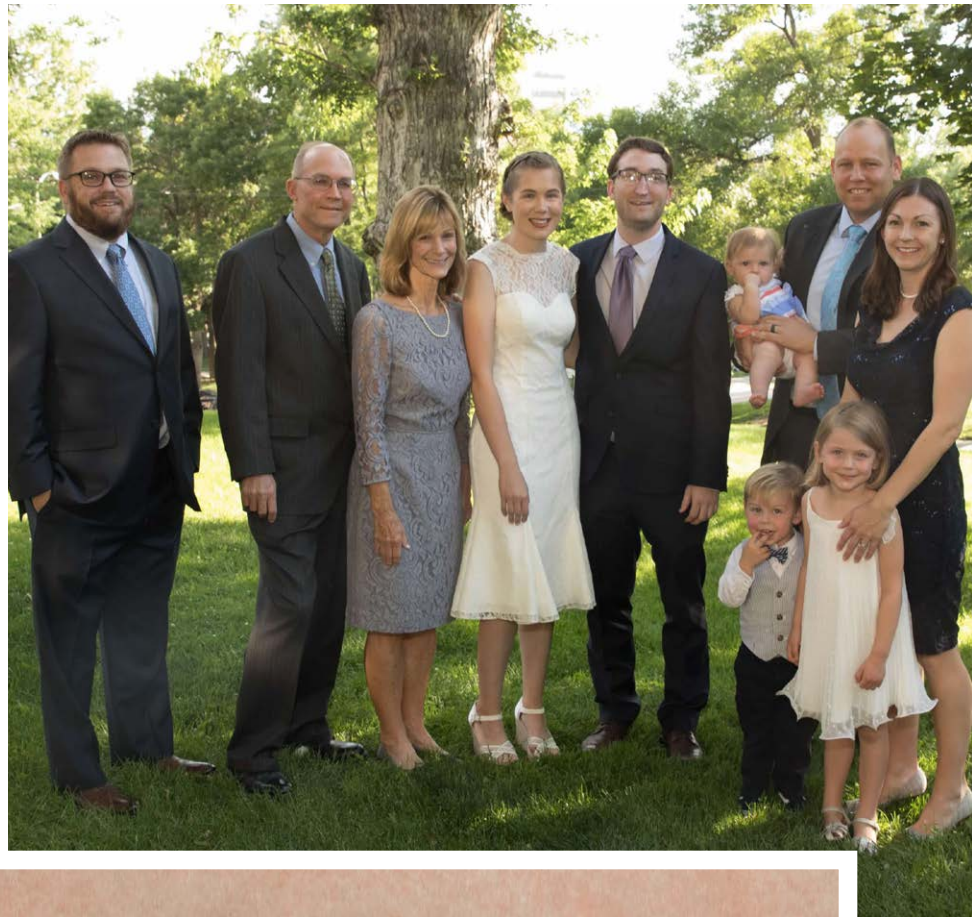
## Carly's Family

# I have a small, but close-knit family.

It's my mom, dad, and older brother. They all reside in Michigan. My parents are now retired and enjoy gardening. My dad still plays music (guitar) with his high school friends.

My brother is in special education, specifically children with emotional disabilities. He's been married for about 15 years to his wife, Christina. They are child-free by choice and love traveling.

I visit Michigan once a year, and my parents try to come out every other year. I obviously would like to see them more, but we maintain a strong bond by staying in regular contact (phone calls, texts).



# Ben's Family

## I am the youngest of three children.

I'm originally from Phoenix, Arizona, and the rest of my family still lives there. My parents are mostly retired and started a vineyard in Northern Arizona. Luckily, their free time allows them to visit us all the time. My sister still lives in Phoenix with her husband and three children (2 girls, one boy). It's been a lot of fun getting to see them grow up and develop their own unique personalities. My brother also still lives in Phoenix, where he works as a social worker.

Although there's now more distance with me living in Colorado, I speak to my family all the time. I also visit Arizona once or twice a year to spend time with my family, and they visit us often. I feel very close to each of them, and they are very supportive of our adoption journey.

# Traditions

(we love making memories)

Carly's family tradition is that each Christmas her family cooks a different country's food. This year was Spain, and we had paella as the main dish. It's a fun way to try new foods and it's fun voting on the next year's event. Ben's family always makes buckeyes around Christmas (small peanut butter balls dipped in chocolate), and has a white elephant gift exchange.

We also have created traditions here with our close friends. For example, we attend Easter Brunch every year at our friends' home. It's a huge event and everyone they know who is in town is invited. Everyone decorates eggs and we vote on the best ones (there are separate contests for adults and kids). We also have separate adults and kids Easter egg hunts.

We host a gingerbread/cookie event each Christmas. We also have a rotating Epiphany dinner on January 6th. We weren't familiar with Epiphany, but it's become a fun tradition that helps to extend the Christmas season, which we both love. At the end of each epiphany dinner, the host serves a King cake with a trinket placed inside. Whoever receives the piece with it hosts the next year.





# Our promise to you...

First off, we'd like to take the opportunity to commend your strength and courage. We can only imagine how difficult this process is for you, and we are honored that you are considering us for the adoption of your baby. We want you to know that we are committed to offering your child a loving, stable, and nurturing home.

## **Here are the promises that we make to you:**

**UNCONDITIONAL LOVE:** We promise to love your child unconditionally, just as you do. We will provide a safe and nurturing environment, where they can grow, learn, and flourish.

**OPEN COMMUNICATION:** We are seeking an open adoption. We believe that it is important for your child to know their roots and heritage. So, we are committed to maintaining an open and honest line of communication with you.

**SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE:** We will provide your child with all the support, care, and guidance that we can possibly provide. We will be there through every milestone, offering a helping hand and a loving heart.

**FAMILY AND COMMUNITY:** Your child will be welcomed with open arms into a warm and loving community, including our extended families and friends. We will work to help instill in them a sense of belonging.

**EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITIES:** We will do everything that we can to ensure that your child receives every opportunity to pursue their dreams and passions.

**RESPECT FOR YOU:** We promise to always treat you with the utmost respect. Your selflessness and love will forever be vital to your child's life, and we will ensure that they know that.

We are committed to helping you through this process in whatever way is comfortable for you. If you choose us to be the parents of your child, we will be eternally grateful and honored.



Thank you  
for getting to  
know us bit.



*Wishing you all the best,  
Ben & Carly*