











## FRIEND

We hope this snapshot gives you a sense of who we are and what we value. We recognize this is an incredibly difficult decision and we would like to share with you how we can provide a loving home for your child. If you choose our family, know that we will do everything possible to provide a loving, safe place for your child to become the best version of themselves.

We promise to love your child unconditionally, provide a warm, happy home, and encourage them to become whatever they want to be. We value an open adoption and believe telling them the story of your decision and the special way we became a family is in the best interest of your child and everyone involved. We will be forever grateful for the chance to complete our family and promise they will be given every opportunity to thrive and grow.

With Love,

#### ANDY & DARCIE

#### OUR STORY

We met when a mutual friend set us up on a blind date. It was clear from the beginning we both shared a passion for education, • a love of family, and an appreciation for a great laugh. We enjoyed getting to know each other by exploring the city and taking trips to the coast and mountains. It didn't take long to realize we were meant for each other. After a couple of years, we were married in a beautiful ceremony with our family and closest friends.



Since getting married, we have spent time remodeling our house and making it our home. We lived in our finished basement while the construction project was going on, the pandemic hit, and we were working from home. Throughout this time, we learned how to cope with the stresses of raising two boys and learning a whole new way to do our jobs. We grew closer to one another and discovered we can handle anything thrown our way. Now that our home project is completed and we are slowly getting back to life as we knew it, we are ready to welcome a new member of our family.









#### FUN FACTS ABOUT US



Andy loves ice cream almost as much as he loves Darcie!







We aren't afraid to tackle a project together - like tiling a floor, building a deck, or painting a house.





We enjoy going crabbing and making delicious crab melts.



The person who introduced us also married us!





### DAPCIE

#### BY ANDY

Darcie is one of the most admirable people I've met. One of her biggest strengths is raising two impressive young men who are kind, confident, and genuinely good people. She is an amazing mom who does everything she can to make sure the boys are happy, successful, and thriving. Another strength is how caring she is. Whether it is with our family or the students at her school, she goes above and beyond to do what is best for others.

Aside from Darcie's kind heart, she is incredibly funny. Her sense of humor makes being together so much fun. She truly values the importance of laughter and enjoying life to the fullest. Darcie lives life intentionally – making time for family, work, and fun, which helps us live a balanced life. These are some of the qualities that make me unbelievably lucky to have her as my partner.







Occupation: School Counselor
Favorite Movie: Karate Kid II

**Favorite Place:** A warm beach with mu favorite people!

Can't Live Without: My boys, Andy, coffee, and dark chocolate.

My Perfect Day: An adventure with my family, followed by a delicious meal, and a relaxing evening together.

Whether it's her compassion, humor, or love, those who are lucky enough to know Darcie are better off because of it. 99

-Andy

## ANDY

#### BY DARCIE

Imagine meeting someone who can immediately put you at ease with an inviting smile and warm personality - that's Andy! He's got this incredible way about him that draws people in and leaves them feeling seen and heard. Andy is thoughtful, authentic, witty, and sees the best in everyone. He is always up for an adventure and lives life to the fullest. Andy loves to travel and enjoys all things outdoors!

Beyond Andy's adventurous side, he's a dedicated partner, step-dad, and teacher. He's committed to building trusting relationships with students and families. Andy's students love his humor and his positive mindset about what they can achieve. Within our family, Andy has worked hard to develop a strong relationship with my boys and introduced them to new adventures. He's so hopeful and excited about the chance to nurture a little being into a healthy and happy bigger person who follows their dreams.





Cuddling with my nephew



Occupation: Teacher

Favorite Movie: Dumb and Dumber
Favorite Place: Any new place I can

explore.

**Can't Live Without:** Our family and ice cream!

My Perfect Day: Going rafting with the family, cooking a delicious meal, and then making s'mores around the campfire.

6 6 Andy has the ability to make each person he comes in contact with feel seen and cared for - whether that is family, friends, his students, or the barista serving up his morning mocha!

- Darcie

## CADEN

## TANNER



Caden is creative, funny, and spontaneous! His creativity shows up in sketches, photography, sculpture, Lego creations, and fashion. He also combines his creativity with his wit. You might catch him busting out a dance move from the kitchen to his bedroom or doing a silly impersonation. These moments make us belly laugh or pull out our phones to capture it! He's always willing to try something new! Like any teenager, he loves his phone and friends, but he's incredibly sweet with older folks and little kids. When he's not at school, he is working at a sandwich shop or running track and cross-country.

**Age:** 16

**Occupation:** Sneaker collector, Tik Tok creator, Sandwich Maker

Can't Live Without: My phone!



Tanner is grounded, humorous, and friendly. He's the kid who is confident to do what is right. When he sees or hears someone being picked on, he can be counted on to speak up. Tanner is incredibly friendly and easily makes friends. He loves to joke around and he can laugh at himself! When he's not at school he likes to play video games, or play on his football and basketball teams. He's also a fan of Master Chef and he likes to try out a few recipes of his own. Tanner's little cousins love to play with him and he's game for anything - piggy backs, hide-and-go-seek, dress up, or tag.

**Age:** 13

Occupation: Breakfast chef

Can't Live Without: My phone, pasta,

and pizza

### EXTENDED FAMILY

BY DARCIE I come from a strong and loyal Japanese American family. Most of us reside in Oregon and we get together regularly for birthday celebrations, holidays, BBQ's, camping trips, and our kids' sporting events. We love to put together a good home cooked meal, especially a delicious Japanese spread! At a family gathering you are likely to find us racing around with the kids, laughing hysterically together, or playing a good game of cards!



Sunriver with the fam









Holidays with cousins

family in Connecticut after we moved from the Chicago area. My extended family continues to live mostly in that area, so I don't see them too often. I've been fortunate, though, to have my brothers move here and to add Darcie's family as my extended family. I have regular contact with my parents and my mom often visits for extended periods. We enjoy going on camping trips, rafting, and having BBQs in the backyard.



Dinner with familu

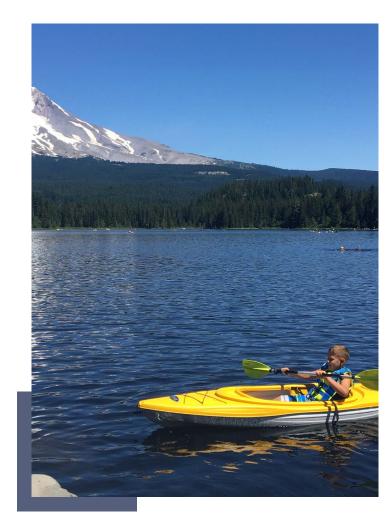
# HOME & COMMUNITY

We were fortunate to remodel our home in Oregon after we moved in together. We have a room for a nursery, a playroom for the kids, and a beautiful backyard to hang out and play in.

Our neighborhood is awesome! We are fortunate to have a mix of young families and people who have lived here for over 40 years. We have three neighborhood gatherings each year including a progressive dinner party over the holidays, a summer BBQ, and an Easter egg hunt. We live within walking distance of a couple of parks, schools, and restaurants.

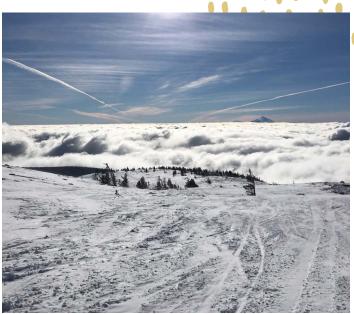












## FRIENDS

We feel incredibly lucky to have a close group of amazing friends. Our own family is diverse and it is important to us that our group of friends reflects that as well. Many of our friends are educators and have families of their own, with kids of various ages. We enjoy going to local restaurants, community and sporting events, and just meeting up to hang out. Our friends are our biggest cheerleaders and can't wait for us to be able to add to our family.



BBQ with friends



Bubbles in the backyard



Good times with friends



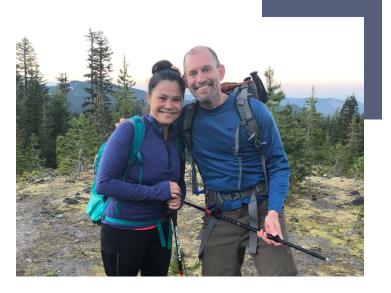
Color run with friends

## bbowl?t:

- > We will love your child unconditionally and fully:
- > We will tell them their story and where and whom they come from;

- > We will celebrate their unique gifts and foster their curiosities and interests;
- > We will surround your child with friends, family, security and safety; and
- > We will instill values of kindness, empathy, tolerance, and compassion.





Cour family is like a rollercoaster - some ups and downs, twists and turns, with a whole lot of fun!



#### WHY ADOPTION?

We started having conversations about the possibility of adoption over two years ago. Andy always wanted the experience of raising a child and being a parent. It took longer than expected to find the love of his life and, by this time, Darcie had two boys of her own. As our relationship progressed and we realized we were meant for each other, we had many conversations about raising a child together. Throughout this journey, we talked to several friends who have adopted and decided this made the most sense for us.



We are excited to share our life with another child and both enjoy the unique experience of parenthood from birth!



#### THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to read this and consider us! We hope this gives you a sense of who we are. We truly value an open adoption and believe it is in the best interest of the child and everyone involved, so we would be excited if that is what you're seeking as well!

We will be forever grateful for the opportunity to complete our family and for the trust you have placed in us. We promise to do everything in our power to provide a safe, loving home where your child's needs will be met and she/he will be given every opportunity to become whatever they want to be.

ANDY & DARCIE



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