









### Dear Friend,

Hello! We are Phil & Filip (yes, we do have the same name)! We have been together for 15 years and have built a strong relationship based on love, trust, humor, and kindness. We have been blessed with stable careers, loving families, and a son through adoption, but we are longing to find the final piece of our family. We admire you for making this difficult decision. We promise you that if you choose us, your child will be welcomed by two caring parents and an adoring big brother who has been asking for a sibling  $\mathfrak{C}$ !

With Love,

Phil + Filips









### about US V







We met on the first day of college, but it was another five years before we ran into each other again — literally — since we collided while jogging around the university campus! After reconnecting, we started running together and realized that we had much more in common than just our names.

We both studied science and were excited to change the world. We love adventure — whether exploring new cultures abroad or testing new recipes in the kitchen. We also

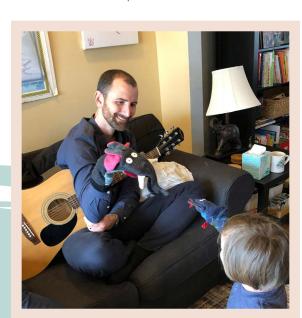
enjoy relaxing with friends and family on our porch over home-cooked meals and tasty desserts. We love the outdoors — running, biking, swimming, and hiking in the Sierras.

We added Miko to our family in 2019, and since then we have loved sharing our passions together as a family. From family dinners to beach days, Miko has made life more fun and fulfilling.



I feel lucky that I get to spend my life with someone as special as Filip. He has an enthusiasm for life that he shares with everyone around him. He is joyful, silly, kind and gentle. These qualities bring everyone closer to him, but especially children, who follow him around at family gatherings.

Filip was born in Europe before his family moved to Canada. He came to the US to study engineering and now works in a company that develops tools for doctors. Filip is also a musician who plays violin and guitar. He is an athlete who completes marathons. He is an artist whose paintings decorate our walls. He speaks three languages (English, Serbian, and Spanish).





**OCCUPATION** Engineer

**FAVORITE MOVIE** Star Wars

**FAVORITE PLACE** Camping in the redwoods

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Music, singing or dancing!

MY PERFECT DAY Biking around a new city with family, stopping for a delicious meal, and then relaxing in the hot tub while watching the stars above!

> "Filip is the most genuine, kind and warmhearted person you will ever meet!"





by Filip

What I love about Phil is he is a great listener and communicator. His heart has an enormous capacity to feel for others, and this makes him a fantastic partner and an even better father. Phil grew up in a large Portuguese family in Massachusetts with a brother, a sister, and a whole lot of cousins. That's probably where he picked up his people skills.

After graduating college as a biologist, Phil was hired to research treatments for breast and lung cancer. At home, Phil tends to tomatoes, beans, herbs and oranges in our home garden. He learned to cook from his Portuguese mother and now cooks up amazing dishes all week, which is one of our favorite family activities.





**OCCUPATION** Scientist

**FAVORITE MOVIE** Bridesmaids

**FAVORITE PLACE** Jumping into ocean waves

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Family hugs

MY PERFECT DAY An early morning run before a family picnic in the park!

> "Phil loves to experiment, by making new recipes in the kitchen, or developing new medicines at work"



## Meet

Four years ago, we were fortunate to adopt our son Miko, who has brought us so much love and joy. Miko is an energetic boy who likes to swim, play soccer and scoot around the neighborhood. He wants to be the funny guy, telling cute jokes or doing impersonations at family gatherings. Miko and his friends love to pretend to be super-heroes. He is very gentle with babies and a kind and generous soul. He is looking forward to having a little sibling to show his truck collection to and cook meals for in his play kitchen.





AGE 4

**OCCUPATION** Spiderman-in-training

**FAVORITE PLACE** A bounce house with his friends

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Lots of snacks!

**HIS PERFECT DAY** Pancakes in pajamas before a day at the beach!

"Miko is a gentle and loving boy who would make a caring older brother." "We are a tightly-knit, adventurous family that loves to laugh and explore the daily joys of life together!"









## our Home & community

Ever since we bought our Spanish style home in California in 2015, we worked to make it our own. We spent many weekends swinging hammers, bolting beams, and painting doors. Outside, Phil has made the backyard into a garden where we grow our own fruits and vegetables. Filip is an experienced beekeeper and makes wildflower honey that he also sells at the local farmer's market. We now have a cozy house and a mini-farm that is a nurturing place for children to grow up and learn about nature.

We are located close to both the beach and redwood forests. There is a Spanish language elementary school two blocks from our house, and we are walking distance to the main city park and the public library. Frequently, the kids on the block get together to scoot around, play tag, or dig in our yard. We feel lucky to be in such a wonderful place to raise our family.



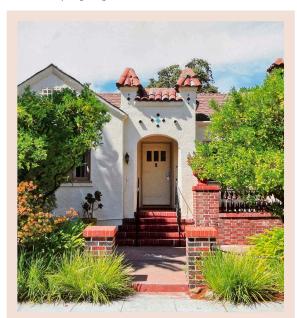
Friends over for dinner



Welcome to our home



Miko helping in garden



Our home



Future kids bedroom



Family picnic downtown



Neighbors over for playdate



Watching a parade downtown

### our families



Gondola ride with Auntie

When Filip was a kid, his parents and sister emigrated to Canada, where they currently live. Leaving everything behind and starting a new life grew his family closer together. These days family gatherings involve a lot of barbecued meat, folk dancing and music from the old country. Their family tradition is to hand color and decorate easter eggs.

Phil comes from a very large, and very close, first-generation Portuguese family. His parents were born in a small farming village in Portugal before immigrating to the United States as teenagers. Both parents came from families with 3-5 siblings, all of whom came to the US at the same time. This means huge family get togethers with aunts, uncles and cousins full of Portuguese food and music.



Miko with Grandma Olga



Phil's family visiting



Christmas pajama family photo

### our Friends

We have been fortunate to build strong group of friends during the last 20 years in California. These friends are like family to us, and we spend time with them and their kids during holidays and summer breaks to the mountains or beach. In some ways we have re-created the large family gatherings from Phil's childhood that includes not only blood relatives but also our close friends.



Our brunch community



Miko, Grandma and Grandpa



Miko with Grandma and Auntie



Dinner with our friends



Beach day with friends

As a gay couple, we are so grateful to be considered by you. We have so much love to give, and another sweet baby would make our family complete. Our experience with adoption for our first child solidifies our belief that adoption brings people together in a beautiful and powerful way. We value our relationship with Miko's birth mother, and we wake up thankful every day for her decision to make an adoption plan for Miko with us. We can't imagine growing our family in any other way.





Visting Miko's birth family

### We Promise:

- to love your child unconditionally.
- to honor you and your story, keep in touch and allow for as much contact as you desire.
- to nurture your child and help them grow, learn and explore the world.
- to give opportunities and allow the kids to become whatever they wish to be.
- to be there through hard times and good times, working together.

# about us



Phil and Filip used to keep chickens in their backyard in the city.



Phil and Filip got married in a barn at a goat farm.



Filip is a beekeeper who sells his honey at the local farmer's market.



Phil made our wedding rings at a jewelry class.





Miko had visited five National Parks by the age of 2. 





Thank you for taking time to read our profile and consider our family as you make this important decision. We can't wait to share our love with another child. We would be honored, overjoyed, and immensely grateful should we be fortunate enough to be your choice.

Phil, Filip + Miko