

Hello I am...
Stacey



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My Hopes and Dreams...

I consider myself very fortunate. I have a loving family, an incredibly supportive and diverse group of friends, a stable, fulfilling job and I live in a vibrant city just a short drive away from the ocean and the mountains. My cozy and sun-filled home is in a safe, beautiful, and family friendly neighborhood. All that is missing is a child to share it with!

For as long as I can remember, I've loved children and looked forward to one day becoming a mother. I started babysitting when I was 12 and worked as a camp counselor, nanny and at an after school program all through high school and college. About 8 years ago I became a Big Sister for a little girl (who is not so little anymore!) through the Big Sister, Little Sister Program. These days there is nothing I enjoy more than spending time with my friends and their children.

I strongly believe that sharing DNA is not a requisite for parental love and as I began exploring ways to create a family as a single mother, adoption always felt like the right path for me. I am so excited to dedicate my life to a child through adoption.

I always assumed that after working hard to achieve my professional goals, I would meet the right man, get married and start a family. But as they say, things don't always go according to plan... And though I haven't yet found the man I wish to share my life with, in every other way, I've never felt more ready for motherhood. I know that if at some point I do meet that special someone, he will be someone who truly shares my values and who treasures my child as much as I do.

I know that we are strangers, but as I write this, possibly hundreds of miles away from you, I am thinking of you. I am thinking of the deep love you have for your child that makes you want the very best for them. I can only imagine how challenging it is to make the kinds of choices you are facing and yet, here you are, courageously facing them. That takes tremendous strength and heart.

There is so much more I'd like to share with you about my hopes and dreams but I think the most important thing I can tell you is this: If you decide that adoption is the best plan for your baby and you choose me as the adoptive mother, I promise that I will devote my whole life to creating a beautiful life for your child. I promise your child will be surrounded by so much love from me and my family and we will hold you in our hearts every single day.

With gratitude,
Stacey


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My values and beliefs as a parent...



Relationships - “Being loved deeply by someone gives you strength while loving someone deeply gives you courage.” - Lao Tzu. This is really who I am, how I live my life, and how I will raise my child. Appreciating and valuing people is something I learned from my parents and has been the foundation of my life for as long as I can remember. I hope that by providing a loving and safe environment for my child and modeling respectful and loving relationships, they will have the courage to explore who they are and to value the relationships that nourish and nurture them. I look forward to my child developing special bonds with family and life-long friendships that celebrate who they are.



Kindness - I have always believed that it doesn’t take much to make people feel valued by showing a little kindness. It is witnessing the transformative power of kindness that led me to a career focused on helping others. Whether it is giving up a seat on the bus to a pregnant woman, spending time with an elderly person who is alone on a holiday, writing a thoughtful thank you note, picking up trash at the park, calling a friend who is going through a hard time, collecting blankets and jackets for the homeless, making animal treats to give to dogs at the animal shelter, or helping a neighbor shovel snow, I will encourage my child to value and exhibit kindness and compassion towards others.



Education - I believe that a life-love of learning starts in the home. I feel very fortunate to live in an area that has great early education, public schools, and neighborhood programs like toddler drumming class and multicultural storytelling. A good academic education is important, but I believe much of our education occurs outside of a classroom. Staying curious about the world around us and stepping outside of what is familiar often has the biggest impact on who we become. I believe in the importance of helping children develop their own interests and talents, whatever they may be, so they can build confidence and share their unique gifts with the world.



Laughter - I believe it’s important to laugh at ourselves and avoid taking ourselves too seriously. Children seem to inherently understand the value of fun and laughter and I’ve tried not to lose the ability to be a little ridiculous from time to time. Last year at my sister and brother-in-law’s wedding, instead of a traditional Maid-Of-Honor speech, I dressed up as their favorite Boston street performer (a “bear” who plays 70’s funk on a keyboard guitar) and sang a song with lyrics I wrote about their relationship. They could not have been more surprised! I hope to nurture my child’s sense of delight and joy and fill our home with the sounds of silliness and laughter.

Mindfulness - “Mindfulness is simply being aware of what is happening right now without wishing it were different; enjoying the pleasant without holding on when it changes (which it will); being with the unpleasant without fearing it will always be this way (which it won’t).” - James Baraz. Meditation and mindfulness have helped me become more accepting, present and grateful for life’s blessings. At work, I teach mindfulness exercises to people with serious illnesses to help them cope with self-judgment and fear. There are some wonderful mindfulness exercises for children and studies have shown just a few minutes a day can really help children learn how to manage challenging emotions and build self-esteem.

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My home...

I live in a beautiful, family-friendly neighborhood which is tucked away from the busier parts of the city. There are parks, playgrounds, spray parks, and basketball courts on just about every block and there's a library right around the corner from my home. The city has so much to offer but I also love spending time in nature. I feel lucky that it's just a short drive away to the beach or the mountains.

Directly across the street from where I live, is a park where I take my dog Wilbur to play fetch. It's a perfect place for making a snowman or just running around. Next door to the park is the community garden where I've had a plot for the past 6 years. I am so excited to dig in the dirt with my child so he or she can begin to experience the wonders of nature. There are also so many neighborhood activities that I can't wait to share with my child: ice skating rinks, bike paths, children's science museums, ice cream shops, picnics, Halloween parades, story time at the library, art and music classes, concerts, and family movie night in the park. So many things to look forward to!



My home is warm and friendly, a good reflection of my personality. There are lots of plants and cheerful colors like my kitchen that's painted pumpkin orange. Throughout my home there are knickknacks and art from all different parts of the world. Some of my favorites include a large drawing of a dancing woman that I bought in Thailand, a colorful embroidery of birds that my sister brought me back from Guatemala, and an image of Frida Kahlo that I found at a market in Mexico City. I have a large collection of books that reflect my life-long love of reading. I still have many of my favorite books from childhood which I'm really looking forward to reading to my child at bedtime or as we're swinging in the hammock together on the back porch.

It brings me joy to welcome people into my home. I'm always having people over for dinner, long talks, holiday celebrations, and to watch big events together like political debates, professional sports, or a royal wedding! My friends' kids LOVE coming over to play with Wilbur who is like a big teddy bear. It's also fun for the kids to pick berries, herbs and veggies in my garden. Freshly picked berries make me so happy and I must say, I make a pretty amazing strawberry rhubarb pie!

- Non-smoker

Hobbies:

Drawing, gardening, baking, listening to music, attending concerts, (favorites are indie rock, 90's/00's hip hop and classical), social justice and community advocacy, travel, theatre, reading, yoga, going to museums and other cultural events, improv classes, hiking.

Profession:

Clinical Social Worker

Education Level:

Master's Degree

I have awesome neighbors and they are all so excited to welcome a little one to our community. We're a diverse group of smart, caring young professionals who enjoy getting together for BBQ's and potlucks and we've become close friends over the years. This year I celebrated my birthday with our biggest BBQ yet. Family and friends of all ages ate delicious food, played lawn games like corn hole and whiffle ball, made giant bubbles, and had a great time.

I have great memories from my childhood of spending Sunday morning's making pancakes or waffles with my dad, heating up some maple syrup and eating all together as a family. I look forward to having Sunday mornings like those with my little one- teaching him or her about the right time to flip the pancakes, listening to music, letting things move at a slower pace and just enjoying our time spent together.



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My family...

For as long as I can remember, I've always wanted to be a mother. One of my first memories is from when I was three years old, sitting outside in the July sun holding "my baby Emma" while my mother nursed my newborn baby sister Emily who was brought home from the hospital earlier that day. As the years passed, I realized my desire to be a mother was just the beginning of my interest in helping others.

In high school there were the "normal" activities like football games and prom but for those who marched to the beat of a slightly different drummer, as I did, there was also poetry night, music classes, peer counseling, theatre, art, and after school volunteer and service projects. I've always been drawn to individuals who are creative, ambitious, compassionate, and a little quirky. I met some of my closest friends during those high school years and I feel so lucky to have them in my life.

I always loved to read but school didn't come easy to me and I struggled with subjects like math and science. Fortunately, my parents and my high school provided opportunities to develop my creativity and find other areas of strength. I believe the culture of tolerance, peer support, and community there helped pique my interest in social justice and psychology which eventually led me to my career as a clinical social worker. For the past ten years, I've worked at a large hospital providing support and counseling to people with serious medical illnesses. I love my work. Plus, I never have to work in the evenings or on weekends and the hospital is just two miles from home!

My parents were married for 38 years. They were a rare example of a couple that truly loved each other and taught me and my sister what a healthy partnership looks like. I am grateful to have grown up in a home grounded in their affection and commitment to one another. My dad was one of the most patient, hardworking, loving, and goofy people I've ever met. He had an incredible childlike sense of wonder about the world. I hope to parent by his example and pass along these wonderful qualities to my child.

My family lives close by and we get together often- for dinner, a trip to a museum or botanical gardens, a theatre outing, a birthday celebration or just to hang out. My mother still lives in the home where I grew up, just about 25 minutes away. She is a retired 4th grade teacher, a wonderful cook and an avid gardener. She will be the best grandmother and truly cannot wait to have a grandchild to love! My sister and brother-in-law live in a neighboring area of the city. They are hoping to become parents soon too so there may be cousins in the near future!

My family is lucky to have a very large group of friends who feel like an extended part of our family. They have known me since I was very young and have always been there for me. We spend all our holidays together, my favorite being Thanksgiving. Every year our friends Roz and Neal (who is like a second father to me) host Thanksgiving "Pie Breakfast." They make about 30 different types of pies for all of us to enjoy and my mouth starts watering just thinking about it! Everyone is ready to welcome my child with open arms, especially Neal who has already told me how much he is looking forward to teaching my child how to ski.



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