

Hello we are...

Nick & Kelsey



Graceful
adoptionsTM



Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our dream is for each family member to feel loved unconditionally, and to know the story of how we all came together and the people who are a part of that story.

We are sure that your decision does not come easily and can only be made from a place of love. Regardless of the family you select, we hope you will feel the sense of peace knowing your child will be raised in a loving home. If you select us to raise your child, we will work to maintain a relationship with you as you desire.

We have always viewed adoption as a part of what makes a family and we have always hoped to expand our family through adoption one day. Adoption already plays a significant role in our lives which we are so grateful for. Nick's grandparents adopted Nick's dad and Nick's aunt as newborns and Nick's best friend was also adopted. Even more so now as we're going through this process, we think often of their birth parents. We imagine the very difficult decision they made out of selflessness and love which is why we are all together today. We know that our adoptive child will have great role models in his or her life that can directly relate to them.

We look forward to providing for our child's needs, spending individual time with him or her and ensuring they always feel our unconditional love. We spend a lot of time together as a family and we cannot wait to have another child joining us in that family fun. We believe it will be the simple moments of playing in the yard, painting a picture, eating popsicles in the summer, or helping make dinner together that we cherish most. We look forward to celebrating their milestones of growth and development and birthdays for years to come.

We want you to know that we respect you more than you know. If you select us to parent your child, we will always speak of you with respect and seek to have our child know how much you love them. We hope that as you get to know us you will always be confident your child is secure and loved with us.

Respectfully,

Nick & Kelsey


Graceful
adoptions™

We focus on what matters to make every adoption a beautiful experience.

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Our values and beliefs as parents...



Love and Belonging - We believe no matter how we are all brought together, we belong together. We love one another unconditionally and show our love for each other each day by telling each other, spending quality time together, and providing for our child's needs and attention first. We are open-minded and regardless of one's beliefs, we believe everyone deserves to be and feel loved and accepted. We will continue to display love for one another and do everything we can to ensure our children feel secure.



Partnership - As parents, we believe in partnership and teamwork. Although non-traditional, we both pitch in around the house. Nick cooks, Kelsey does the dishes. Nick grocery shops and Kelsey likes to mow the lawn. We don't know if it's equal or not, but we don't care because we know there's always a balance to our parenting. We will work together to make sure our child's needs are provided for and both will be active in nighttime feedings, diaper changes, playing and caring for our kids. We communicate suggestions to one another and adapt our parenting style to our children's age and developmental phase.



Quality Time - We believe that we're better together as a family and truly like spending time together. We read together every day and enjoy spending time with our son. We eat dinner together each night and enjoy doing activities to play and learn, such as the library and splash pads. With each child we will ensure he or she are provided individual time with both parents and that their unique needs are met so they may thrive to be the best person they may be.



Routine - As parents, we believe for all children there is a sense of security in having consistency and routine. Our nighttime routine is the same nearly every night. After dinner we play for a bit, get pajamas on, brush teeth, read books, and give kisses goodnight. However, occasionally we get spontaneous and go out for ice cream after dinner or stay up a little later with friends. We believe when children know what to expect day-to-day, they can start to learn planning and problem-solving skills and when something doesn't go as planned, they can use those skills and our guidance to adapt to the change.

Play - We like to have fun together as a family. We get on the floor to play Legos, games, cars, and draw with our son. Sometimes, we just do a family pretend hike through the house or the backyard or pretend to go on a camping trip in the basement. As our children get older, we look forward to taking them to our favorite college's football and basketball games. A "broken" television has led us to many adventures together that we'll continue as our family grows.

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Our home...

We really love our home and our neighborhood. We live in a college-town, in an older neighborhood about 1.5 miles from the city’s downtown area. Our neighborhood is a great mix of young families and retirees. There’s a playground just around the corner from our house and we are within walking distance of the grocery store, school, and playground.

Off our kitchen/dining room, we have a large patio and a decent-sized fenced in yard. On the patio we have a mini basketball hoop, tricycles, and a large box of outdoor toys. At the back of our yard is a small hill which is great for sledding down in the winter. In the summertime, we like to get out our small kiddie pool to cool off and enjoy popsicles and ice cream together.

Our home feels cozy, inviting, and relaxing. The layout is intimate in that the kitchen and dining room aren’t fully open to the living room. We are pretty laid back with gentle demeanors which allows our guests to feel relaxed and welcomed each time they come to our house. We have a big comfy couch in the living room. Our main playing area is in the living room, where we keep our toys for easy access. We enjoy getting on the floor and playing with our son and we look forward to continuing to be active in play as our family grows.

A typical day at our house involves waking pretty early with our son, eating breakfast and getting prepared for the day. Because we both work from home, we have flexibility in our morning routine before we all set out on our days. We wrap up work late afternoon and most often in the warmer weather, we both walk to daycare to pick up our son and walk back home. Conveniently there is a city-owned playground right next to daycare, where many of the parents and kids from daycare gather after school to play some more. We plan to carry on the tradition of walking or riding our bikes to and from school as our family grows and as our kids get older.

Nick most often cooks dinner. Kelsey pitches in with helping prep by cutting up veggies or other ingredients, and as our son has gotten older he likes to help mix the ingredients too. Nick has gotten pretty good at barbequing meat on his smoker, so on the weekends he’s usually conjuring up some ribs, pulled pork, or chicken wings to enjoy. After we eat dinner together, we all play in the yard or in the living room.

Our most treasured part of our house is the feeling we get when we’re all together. We thrive on the day-to-day and making small memories together that we know our children will look back on one day. We will continue to create memories together from making Jell-O at the kitchen table to playing in the living room. When we’re away from our home for any extended period of time like vacation, we miss it and we know that’s because of the memories made there and the feeling of “being home”.

We know we will be in our home for many decades to come and we’re so thankful to know our children when grown will be able to look back at all the memories we made in our home. Our home won’t be the biggest house on the block, but it will hopefully be the place our kids can always feel like they can come home to throughout their lives.

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Spending time with family and friends, reading - especially non-fiction books, learning to computer program, playing outside at our house, hiking, riding bikes, playing basketball and soccer

Adoptive Father:

Spending quality time with family and friends, going on small adventures with the family, playing and watching sports, outdoor activities, being creative in the kitchen, and taking cooking classes

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Chemical Engineer

Adoptive Father: Chemical Engineer

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Master’s Degree

Adoptive Father: Master’s Degree



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Our family...

We met more than 13 years ago in engineering classes in college. We worked on a lot of group projects together, learned to communicate well with each other, and built a great friendship. Over three years, our friendship grew into a relationship where we couldn't see life without the other in it.

We dated another four years before we got married after Nick proposed on a weekend getaway, along the shores of Lake Superior. We've been married for more than five years. Kelsey thinks of others before herself and prioritizes her children, family and friends. She is a kind, genuine, and reserved individual that loves to learn and teach others. Nick has a great love for his family and friends, and he's a great role model. He is a very passionate, loving, and fun husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend.

We have a determined and independent son, Carson, who will soon be four years old. He is a kind child who loves to look out for the younger children around him. He likes to ride his bike and play with Legos and Hot Wheels. He is excited to be an older brother, have a life-time playmate, and share everything he has with his new sibling, including our family. We enjoy taking family vacations together. Some past trips include visits to waterparks, to a national park, and a trip to the West coast.

We are close to our extended large families and celebrate life together - holidays, birthdays, weddings, graduations, and also visit each other regularly. There are more than 50 first cousins! We have some fun traditions we look forward to continuing to share. Each fall we meet at Nick's grandparent's house and visit the local apple orchard to pick apples and eat apple cider donuts. Every Labor Day we get together with Kelsey's family for a 3-day reunion that is never short on laughter or love.

We've always envisioned having multiple children and we look forward to sharing our time, attention and unconditional love. We can't wait to make memories as we spend time together as a family. We have a special place in our hearts already for another child and when he or she joins our family we know our hearts will only grow more. We will adapt to his or her unique needs and use the support of our immediate family to watch our oldest son so we can have individual time with our new son or daughter.

For each new addition to the family, Nick's grandma crochets a baby blanket and Nick's sister knits a personalized Christmas stocking which they are anxious to make for our next child. Our families are very excited and supportive of our journey to grow our family. Our children will have very active grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins cheering him or her on through life.



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