

Hello we are...

Andrew & Sherstin



Graceful
adoptionsTM



Our Hopes and Dreams...

We hope to have a large family someday. We dream that we will be chosen by birth parent(s), like yourself, for the opportunity to raise your child with love and care. Even before learning about our fertility issues we knew we wanted to do an adoption at some point. We find adoption to be beautiful and a wonderful way to start our family.

We started trying for children after our first year of marriage. After a couple years, we learned we will never conceive a child. We have friends and family members who have adopted. When we discovered we could not have biological children, we knew we wanted to pursue adoption.

We believe in love, forgiveness, and sharing what we have with others. We promise that your child will have a home and family filled with love and joy. We will do everything we can to help them make their own dreams real. We will be there to help them every step of the way.

If you select us to parent your child, we want you to get to know us, and vice versa. And, we want you to stay involved in your child's life, if you are open to such a relationship.

Thank you for considering us. We do not pretend to understand what you are going through. We admire the strength and courage you have and hope you can find peace in this journey.

Respectfully,

Andrew & Sherstin



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

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Our values and beliefs as parents...



Acceptance - We do not judge others and always accept people for who they are. We will share this value with our child by helping them to see the good things about the people around them. When we focus on the good and don't nit-pick at our weaknesses, we are less likely to judge others for their differences.



Faith - Faith comes from hope and is believing in something that you cannot see, feel, or touch. We can hope that something is true and that hope may turn into faith or belief. Faith in people, relationships, systems, and values help us all to live more fulfilling lives. We have had to show faith in each other many times. We have believed the best of each other, giving us strength in those moments. With our children we will inspire them to believe, to have hope, and to show faith towards all the good things in life. We do not always know what is going to happen but we can have faith that it will work out in the end.



Charity - Charity is a combination of love and service and are essential to the way we live. We aspire to be more selfless and help others on a daily basis. We do all of this out of love. We have been fortunate enough to both work in the service industry. Andrew helps others understand technology and use it more effectively. Sherstin works in healthcare, helping her patients get the most out of life. We are happier when we help others improve their lives. We will model love and service, in our home, at work, and with friends and family. In modeling and helping them to see the good that comes from love and service, we hope that our children will practice charity.



Commitment - Commitment is a combination of hard-work and determination. Commitment means not giving up. We never want a child or family member to think we are not committed to them. We believe in following through in being good friends, family members, and co-workers. We strive to always show up when we commit to help someone. We know that we are ready to be fully committed to our child. We are committed to loving and guiding our child to a happy and fulfilling life.

Forgiveness - Forgiving others means that we are willing to set aside whatever negative things they have done to us and not hold it against them. As we forgive others we let go of the pain and the anger we feel surrounding those events and let healing and comfort have a place. If we never forgave, we would almost always be angry and resentful. Being able to set aside differences and wave the white flag of forgiveness has made our home the loving and peaceful place it is today. We want our children to have a forgiving attitude towards others and that means that we must show the same towards them. We will always forgive and encourage them to continue trying.

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Our home...

We live in a small town where so many people know each other, a place with a great sense of community, and where everyone is willing to help each other. There are many children that love to play together, often riding their bikes around the neighborhood. We also have the advantage of being close to a large city with one of the best zoos in the nation. There are also great parks and lakes nearby for hiking, swimming, and water sports.

We have a fenced in backyard for fun and entertainment. Our deck has a grill and patio set for gathering with friends to eat and chat. We have a swing for an infant or small toddler on our pergola, a big tree for climbing, and plenty of space for playing soccer or running around. Our front yard is the school bus stop so children often play there in the morning.

Our home is cozy. People feel at ease here and they know they're welcome to be themselves. We usually welcome everyone into the kitchen first because it's our center of coming, going, eating, drinking, and enjoying everyone. When family and friends visit, we talk and eat something fun. We love to cook ethnic food, bake cookies, or grill out. If the weather is nice, we will hang out on the back porch and watch the squirrels, birds, and rabbits that frequent the yard.

We love to have family time watching movies, TV, playing games, and reading. We love to make a Hawaiian meal of chicken katsu with rice and cabbage. Andrew spent two years in Hawaii and asked me if I could learn to make this meal. I took the challenge and have steadily improved the dish over years. It is a little challenging and fun and it invites a feeling of love and community every time we make it. However, our favorite time of day is after dinner when we get to hang out and relax.

Our child will become a part of everything we do. They will be involved in our family time in the evenings. One of us will be with them during the daytime if day care is not right for our child. They will enjoy time with us learning to play and grow as a family with a structured and loving home.

We've already decorated our child's room with a cherished rocker given to us by a close friend and the room has neutral blue colored walls. We have a child's size rocker in our reading corner in the living room that was passed down from one of our grandmothers. We have a bookshelf in the nursery and look forward to supplying our child with all the things they need.

Most of all, we look forward to helping a child learn, grow and follow their dreams. We hope to see them become the best they can be, and being a part of this miracle is what we most look forward to.

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Wood carving, music, gardening, baking, cooking, photography, playing video games, community work, spending time with friends and family.

Adoptive Father:

Dungeons and Dragons, gaming with friends and wife, Rubik's cubes, music, computer networking, spending time with friends and family.

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Director of Pharmacy

Adoptive Father: Help Desk Technician

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Doctoral Degree

Adoptive Father: Some College



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Our family...

We've been married for about five years. We met at a young singles conference hosted by our church. When we attended the conference, neither of us were looking for a relationship, we just wanted to make some friends. Andrew was sitting in a row of empty chairs before one of the events, hoping that people would come and sit nearby. There was however, one empty chair in front of him between two girls. So he tapped the shoulder of the girl in front of him and asked her if the seat was taken and she invited him to sit by her. She introduced herself as Sherstin. We quickly discovered we shared the same goals, values, and tastes in music.

Sherstin is a master at organizing her time, she prioritizes family first and then moves down the list from there. She takes care of the home, garden, and all of her work duties. She is always willing to help her friends and family. She enjoys making cookies for her co-workers or 'talking trash' while playing games with her husband. Andrew's strengths are his ability to help others and his openness to strive to be the best worker, father, and husband that he can be. As a couple, our strengths are our consistency and trust. We are consistent in the way we support each other and would do anything for each other. We will be as consistent with our children as we are with each other so that when our child asks a question they can expect the same answer from both parents.

We love to read, play board games, listen to audio books, and listen to music. We also love to travel, visiting; Hawaii, Florida, Arizona, Minnesota, Missouri, Texas, Illinois (Chicago), South Carolina, and Toronto, Canada. We actively participate in youth programs at our church. Working together at the same hospital, we like to drive to and from work; and, when we get the opportunity, we like to have lunch together. We still like to go out on dates and usually end the evening with a rented movie online and some popcorn or ice cream.

We have large families we enjoy spending time with. Sherstin's family has a big reunion every three years where we all get together in a central location for a week of fun and games. Andrew's family likes to get together on holidays for smaller reunions. We enjoy exchanging gifts and doing secret Santa's - sometimes even if it isn't Christmas yet.

We would love to have 'gotcha day' or an adoption day celebration with our child to celebrate their arrival into our family. We love to celebrate holidays and can't wait to make fun family memories with our child. We always try to appreciate what we have and the good things that are coming.

Our family will be very open and ready to embrace any child into our family. We have wanted to adopt a child for many years and our family has had a lot of time to discuss adoption openly. We and our extended families will love our child unconditionally. We are ready for new traditions, challenges, and moments of brilliance together.



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