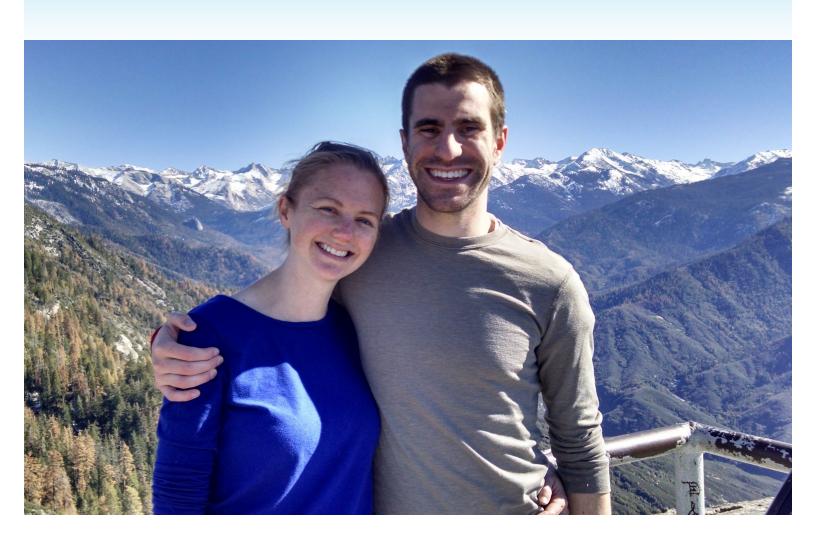
# Lauren & Kevin

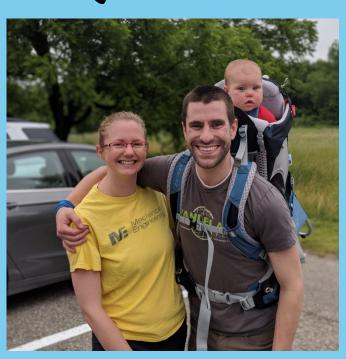


#### Dear Birth Parent,

While we can't understand the wide range of emotions you're experiencing, we do know that your decision is driven by love for your baby. Since Lauren was adopted as an infant, we know first-hand how rewarding and yet incredibly difficult adoption can be. Through adoption, Lauren grew up surrounded by love, family, and amazing opportunities. If you choose us your child will experience that same love every single day. We have a daughter, Emmy, who is an energetic, outgoing, chatterbox of a toddler with an infectious smile. Being parents is the greatest joy in our lives and we are beyond excited for the chance to give Emmy a sibling to grow with. We know you want nothing but the best for your child, and we have plenty of love to share. We are excited to have you participate in your child's life as much as you are comfortable with. We hope we can meet you and hear your story.



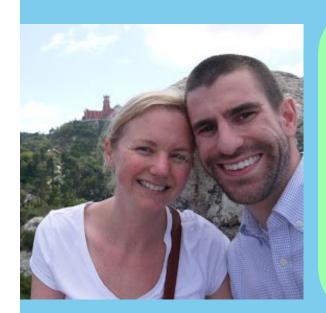
# sincerely **Lauren & Kevin**



# Our Story

We started dating in 2008 during graduate school. For our first date Kevin surprised me with a dinner of homemade steak and potatoes at my apartment. I knew then that I had found someone special! We have spent the years since not only improving our cooking skills, but solidifying our relationship by learning, laughing, and growing together. Our favorite activities involve being outdoors. Hiking, kayaking, running, or even blowing bubbles with our one-year-old Emmy make for an ideal day. We love listening to and playing music (Kevin plays the drums and Lauren plays the piano). We're also not afraid to bust a move in the kitchen as we're cooking dinner. We make a great team, and our days are filled with smiles, laughs, and love.

### About Lauren



I was adopted as an infant, grew up in Wisconsin, and eventually found my way to Michigan where I earned my PhD. I am a research scientist at a public university and conduct research on how to keep people safe in automotive collisions. I enjoy the challenge of my work and hope to instill the same zest for learning in our children. I like to relax by baking, running, or reading. Springtime is my favorite time of year because that's when I can start working in my garden! I grow flowers and lots of fruits and veggies that end up in Kevin's homecooked meals. Being a mom is the most fulfilling thing I've ever done - I love seeing Emmy grow and learn, and I make it a goal every day to make her laugh. I am excited to expand our family and share that love with another child.

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#### About Kevin

adore being a dad and can't wait for another child to share our life with. I grew up with a close family, ncluding a twin brother, a little sister, and role model parents. Learning has been an important part of my life. I received my PhD from the University of Michigan and currently work as a research scientist at an automotive company, developing technology for self-driving cars. I enjoy tinkering with electronics and learning new skills. I like to relax by running or rock climbing and look forward to sharing those hobbies with Emmy. I am the cook of the family and enjoy experimenting with new dinner recipes. Lauren and Emmy at least claim to love eating all my creations.





#### Further inquiry contact Hands Across the Water

hatw.org info@hatw.org 734-477-0135 781 Avis Dr. Suite 200 Ann Arbor, MI 48108

## About our Family

The both come from small, close families. Most of our favorite memories involve visiting our families throughout the idwest, which we do as often as we can. We have five nieces and nephews who we love playing with. In the immer we love spending time swimming and enjoying the sun at Kevin's family's lake house. We have two aristmas celebrations every year, one with Kevin's family and one with Lauren's. Both are filled with fun tradition and holiday recipes that we will pass down to our own children. Every member of our family has seen how positive loption can be, and they are all ecstatic that we are going through the adoption process. They all adore Emmy and lower her with love and are very excited for another child to dote over.

### About our Community

e live in a suburb outside of Ann Arbor at the end of a cul-de-sac next to a large, empty field with plenty of outdoc acce for kids to play. We often see our neighbor's children riding bikes or flying kites; we can't wait for our childre join them. We often visit the local parks for hiking, running, and playing. We are a short drive from a handful of rge towns which we like explore for good restaurants, farmers markets, and local shops. We are glad that we live ear diverse cities so that we can explore multicultural communities with your child and help them learn about anot preciate not only their own culture and heritage but those of others.





