



andrew and brian

# thank you

We want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for taking a moment to consider us as potential parents for your child. This is a difficult time for you, and we admire your bravery in setting out on this journey.

Know that it is our commitment to you, if you choose us to parent your child, that he or she will be unconditionally loved, and raised in a happy, nurturing, healthy, and loving home.



# Who We Are

On these pages, we hope to share some of who we are and how we live our lives.

We are Brian and Andrew; we're in our 30s, and we have been together for more than 10 years. As long as we have been a couple, we have

known in our hearts we want to be parents. We both have younger siblings and cousins, and have enjoyed being a part of their lives and watching them grow up. Whether attending school or church events, or just playing in the yard, we know that the experience of being involved and nurturing older brothers will serve us well as parents. For us, building a family through adoption offers us the opportunity to extend that love and support to our child.

We are fortunate enough to come from large, supportive families and have worked hard to build a strong financial foundation for our futures. We are also a bilingual couple – Andrew grew up speaking English, and Brian grew up speaking Spanish with his parents and extended family. Our intent is to raise our children bilingually—learning English and Spanish—not only because of the way knowing Spanish will help our child connect with Brian's family and culture, but also to share in our love of world languages and cultures.



Hanging out with friends just after we met in 2005



We also intend to raise our child with the full understanding that he or she has become part of our family through adoption. We want you to know that we are open to having in-person visits, sending you photographs and letters, and generally helping you and your child stay connected over the years.

We want to know more about your personal wishes, but, want you to know that we see you as part of our family and are interested in hearing what would meet your needs and be meaningful to your child as well.



With Andrew's family in Michigan at Thanksgiving

Family means so much to us

Our families are both incredibly excited for us as we make plans to become parents through adoption. Our siblings can't wait to be aunts and uncles, and our parents are so excited to spoil a new grandson or granddaughter. Even Andrew's 92-year-old grandma is thrilled—she has been knitting baby blankets for us!



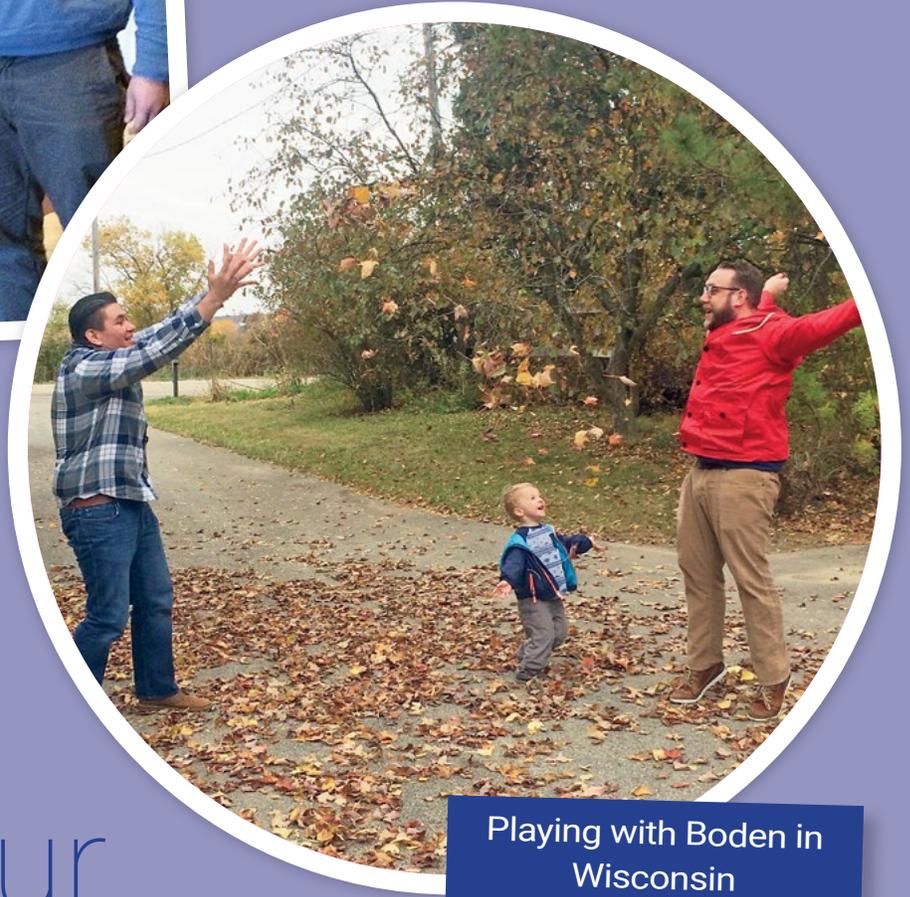
Big smiles with Andrew's Grandma at our wedding



A wedding celebration with Brian's Family



Boden taking Uncle Drew and Tío Brian for a walk

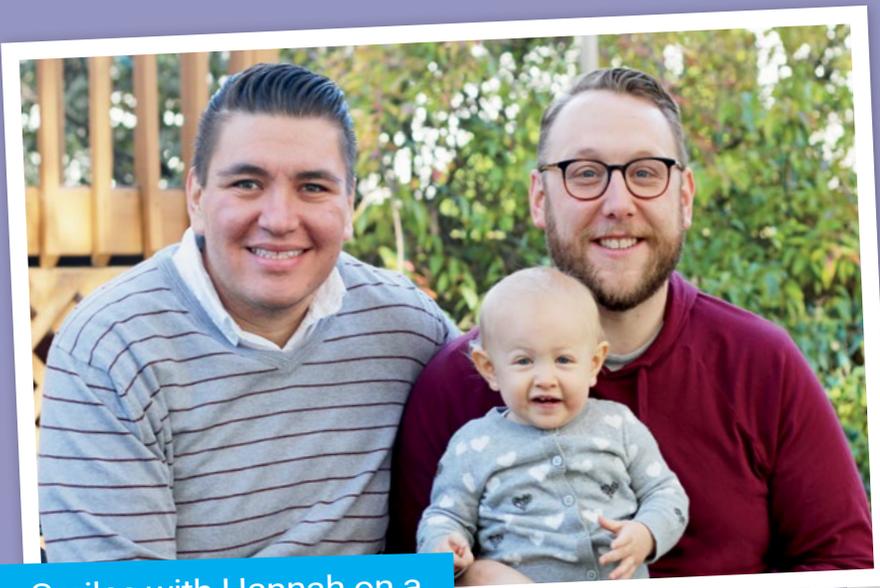


Playing with Boden in Wisconsin

# Some special kids in our lives

In addition to the many nieces, nephews, and cousins in our lives, there are some very special children with whom we have particularly close relationships.

Our godson Boden is two-and-a-half years old, his favorite color is red, and he likes trains and trucks. He calls us Uncle and Tío (the Spanish word for “uncle”) and although he lives in Wisconsin, we see him just about every-other month. He likes it when we read to him or play trains, and we love making up silly games with him. This summer, we took him on his first trip to the beach near our house and he loved it!



Smiles with Hannah on a visit to Michigan

We are also the uncles to our beautiful little one-year-old niece, Hannah, who is Andrew's brother's daughter. Andrew was able to be in Chicago, where his brother and sister-in-law live, to be present for Hannah's birth.

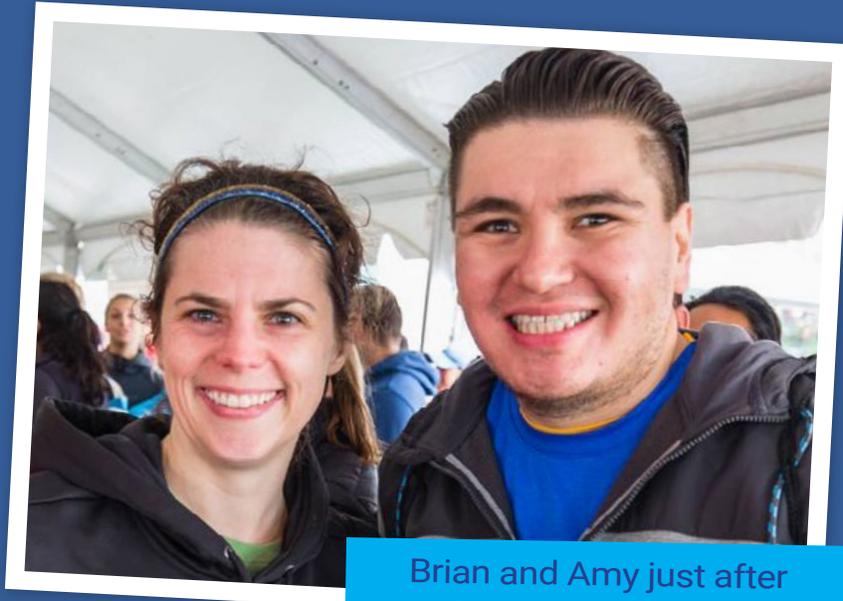
We have visited them several times since and love snuggling with her and watching as she discovers new things all the time. Recently, we visited for her first birthday party – it was a ladybug theme!

Since our families are so spread out, we are on video chat with them almost every week, checking in and having big “family gatherings.” We travel to see family many times throughout the year, to be part of family events or just to sit around and enjoy the warmth of the people we love.

And, our families love coming to visit us in Boston – we can always count on having visitors throughout the year. We have every intention of making sure our child knows his or her family and feels as loved as we do.



In Chicago for Hannah's first birthday



Brian and Amy just after finishing a 5K race!

## Our “family of friends”

In between family visits, we have a wonderful “family of friends” right here in Boston. Many of our friends live a short walk away and they are so happy to be part of our adoption journey. Among our very best friends are Jim and Amy, who we see almost every single week, sometimes two or three times! We have been friends for more than a decade, and we’re very lucky we have all ended up living just a few blocks apart here in Boston.



Out on the town with Amy and Jim

We have Sunday dinners together, go to baseball games in the summer, and Brian and Amy often run races together. They’ve also been there for us through tough times, providing us strength and a shoulder to lean on if we need it.



Brian playing in the park with little Noah

Besides Jim and Amy, we have a great tight-knit circle of friends, many of whom have their own small children – and they are eager to share the joy of becoming parents with us.

Our good friends Kathy and Josh had twin boys last year – their hands are pretty full, so whenever we can we walk over to their apartment to sit and play with the boys, just to give them a break! They are such cute, smiley little babies.



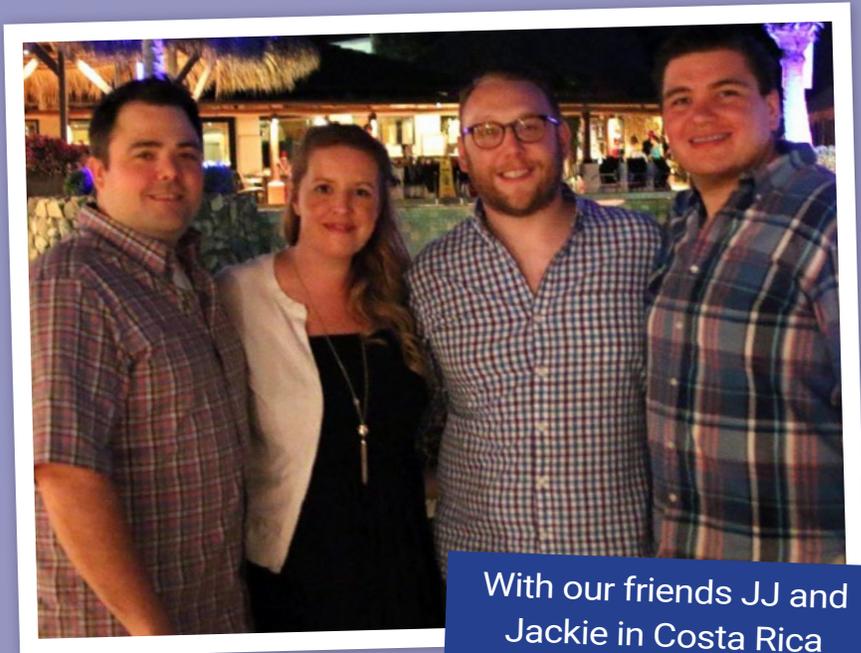
Apple picking in New Hampshire!

We are fortunate that our network of friends is very diverse; some of our friends we've known since we were kids ourselves, and others we've met as adults.

We have friends who are from other countries and cultures, friends who have different family backgrounds and religious upbringings; friends who live on farms and friends who live in the heart of bustling cities.

All these people make up a wonderful circle of smart, caring people who will surround us and our child with support and love as we grow together.

The diversity of our friends is something we cherish. We both love learning new things about different cultures, and getting exposed to things we've never experienced.



With our friends JJ and Jackie in Costa Rica



Hanging out with friends in the park

# What we do for fun



Celebrating our 5th anniversary in Paris!



Being tourists in London

We have also had the good fortune to be able to travel together extensively – we’ve been to Mexico, Costa Rica, Spain, England, and France, and plan to share our love of travel and adventure with our child. It’s important to us that our child has both a strong sense of home and community, and feels connected to his or her world.

On a quiet evening at home, we’re both avid readers and plan to share our love of books with our child. We enjoy watching a classic movie together, or just sitting around playing fun card games and laughing about shared adventures. There are so many kid-friendly activities right outside our front door – we’re really excited to be able to start sharing them with our child.



In the kitchen preparing Easter dinner for friends and family

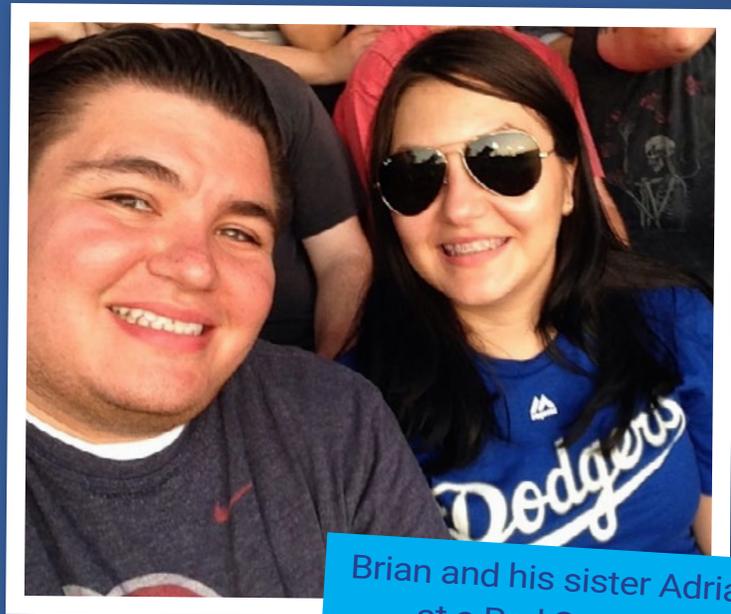
# Meet Brian

written by Andrew

I promise, if you hear Brian's laugh just once, you'll understand immediately what I love about him. He's always happy, always smiling, and his laugh is infectious. You can hear it two rooms away!

Brian is also the smartest person I know. He earned his doctorate in psychology from a highly ranked university in the Midwest, and, before that graduated from a top Ivy League university. He loves to learn! But, if you met Brian, you would understand right away that he is the most humble, loving, caring person you could know. He is always learning and always teaching, and that's how I know he will be a wonderful father.

Brian's family all live in California, and he has a large family! He has over 50 first cousins and many aunts and uncles who are always around for holidays and even just a Friday night in the backyard. His mom and dad grew up in Mexico, and came to the United States to live in California where Brian was born. Brian, his sister, and his brother still speak Spanish at home with their parents and extended families.



Brian and his sister Adriana at a Red Sox game



Brian and his family at his sister's birthday



Visiting Brian's mom means eating some delicious tamales



Brian and his mom on Brian's first birthday

When you visit Brian's family, you understand right away why he is so full of love and caring – they are very welcoming, and you will never go hungry! He has learned to make many of his mom's Mexican dishes, although he says he'll never make them as well as she does.

Brian is an excellent cook; he loves being in the kitchen cooking foods from all over the world, and I love eating them! I am so excited that we will be able to raise our child in a home full of tastes and smells from so many different cultures and countries.



Brian with his parents at his college graduation



Brian finishing his very first 10k race in Boston!



# Introducing Andrew

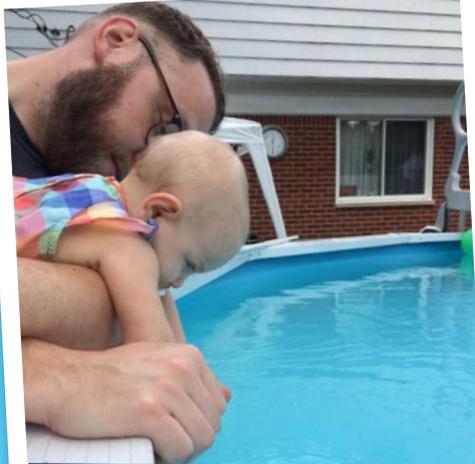
written by Brian

There's an expression that says someone is so generous he'd give you the shirt off his back—I'm convinced they were talking about Andrew! He is one of the most caring, charitable and genuinely selfless people I know. Andrew has a sympathetic heart and loves to help others. He spent many summers as a teenager, not goofing around, but, rather, helping families by building homes or cleaning up neighborhoods.

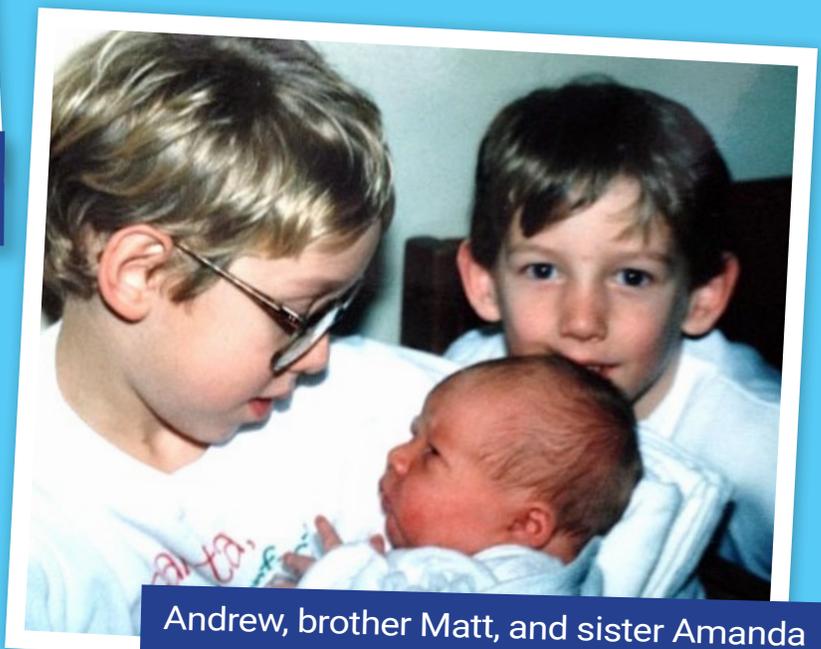


Visiting Andrew's sister Amanda in California  
– we love to go walking by the ocean

Andrew gets this strong sense of generosity and community from his tight-knit family. He is very close with his parents and his brother and sister and they have video chats almost every weekend to keep in touch. Family is very important to Andrew, and is one of the first things I noticed and loved about him - since I come from a large, but very close extended family. His family quickly and genuinely included me in family events and made me feel welcome in their home! I know they can't wait to do the same with our child.



Andrew and niece Hannah  
exploring the pool



Andrew, brother Matt, and sister Amanda  
when Amanda was just a newborn!



Cheese! Andrew's often making memories with his camera

Whether we're traveling across the country, world, or enjoying the city back home in Boston, you can rest assured that Andrew is taking a photo of the sights around him. He loves photography and is fascinated by camera technology. His love of photos helps us capture memories so that we can treasure them forever.

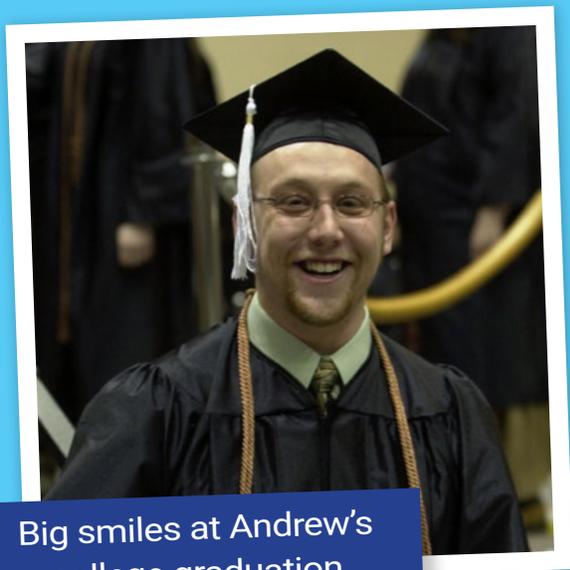
Andrew not only likes to take pictures, he's really good at it. Photography lets him capture the beauty in everything, even in the most ordinary moments.

Photography also demonstrates Andrew's creative side: he attended a performing arts-focused high school and loves music and the arts. While he's the natural artist between the two of us, we both love visiting art museums and watching plays or musicals.

It is exciting to think that our child will have the opportunity to live in an environment that gives them the opportunity to be inventive, creative, and imaginative!



Andrew with Hannah only a few hours old



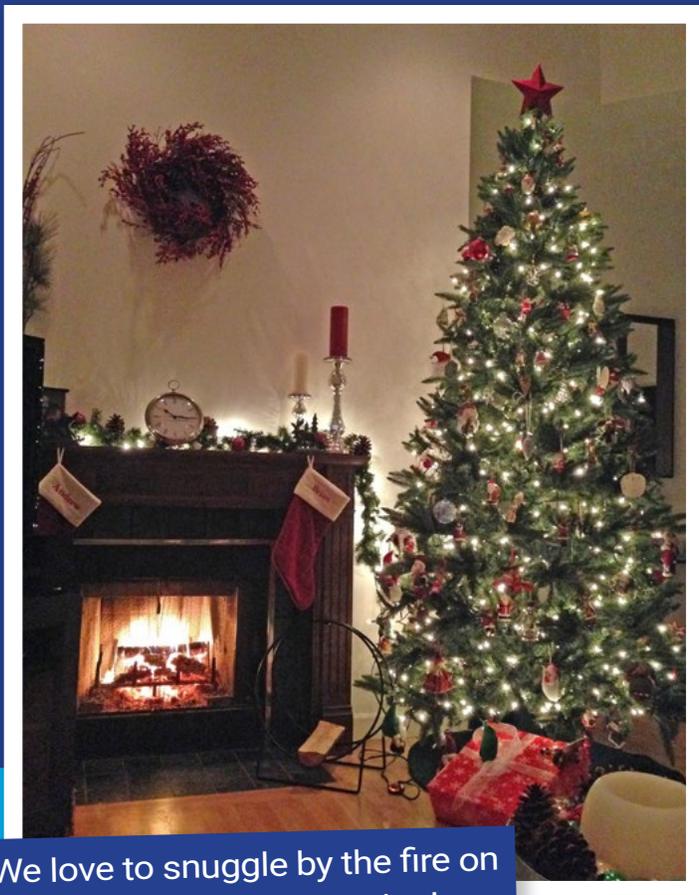
Big smiles at Andrew's college graduation

We look forward to learning what interests our child has and supporting them in exploring their passions – whether they are sports, arts, music, tinkering with computers, or exploring the outdoors.

We live in a beautiful neighborhood in the heart of Boston, just steps from everything the city has to offer. Our home is a two-bedroom apartment inside a converted old school building, which we think just fits who we are so well. Our home is warm and comfortable, and the building is quiet and very family-friendly.



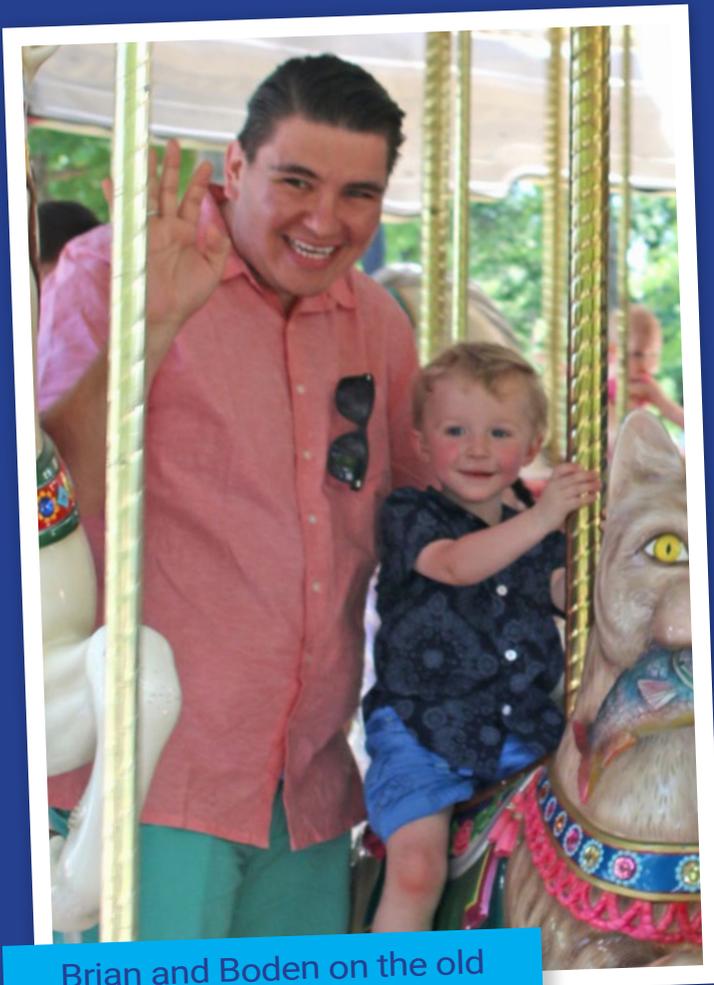
Our apartment is in a renovated school building from the 1860s



We love to snuggle by the fire on a Boston winter evening!

Our apartment is on a tree-lined cobblestone street, surrounded by young families just like we hope to be. There are parks to play in, schools with an excellent reputation for strong education, and kid-friendly activities all within a short walk from our home.

# Our Home



Brian and Boden on the old fashioned carousel in Boston

We love to just go walking to wherever we need to be! Often, we go on long walks to enjoy the many neighborhoods of the city. When friends and family come to visit, we take them all over town exploring the fun things that Boston has to offer – our favorites for kids are the swan boat rides in the Boston Public Garden, and the old-fashioned carousel in the Boston Common, both less than a 10-minute walk from our house.



We love a quiet evening with a home cooked meal



Visiting the beach in  
Maine with Boden

When it's time to get out of the city, we love to go exploring around the beauty of New England. Whether it's apple picking among the autumn leaves, splashing in the waves of the Atlantic Ocean on a hot summer day, or doing a puzzle by the fire on a snowy winter afternoon, the beauty of our surroundings is something we love to share with each other and with our friends and families.

A little fun  
outside the  
city

We also think it's wonderful to live in the backyard of some of the country's leading colleges and universities. Our kids will always be connected to education and will grow up with parents who love learning and exploring.

We are committed to helping our child attain his or her dreams, and have already started an education fund that will provide the financial support our child will need to make his or her educational or vocational goals a reality.



Catch the apple! Having a little fun apple picking in New Hampshire.

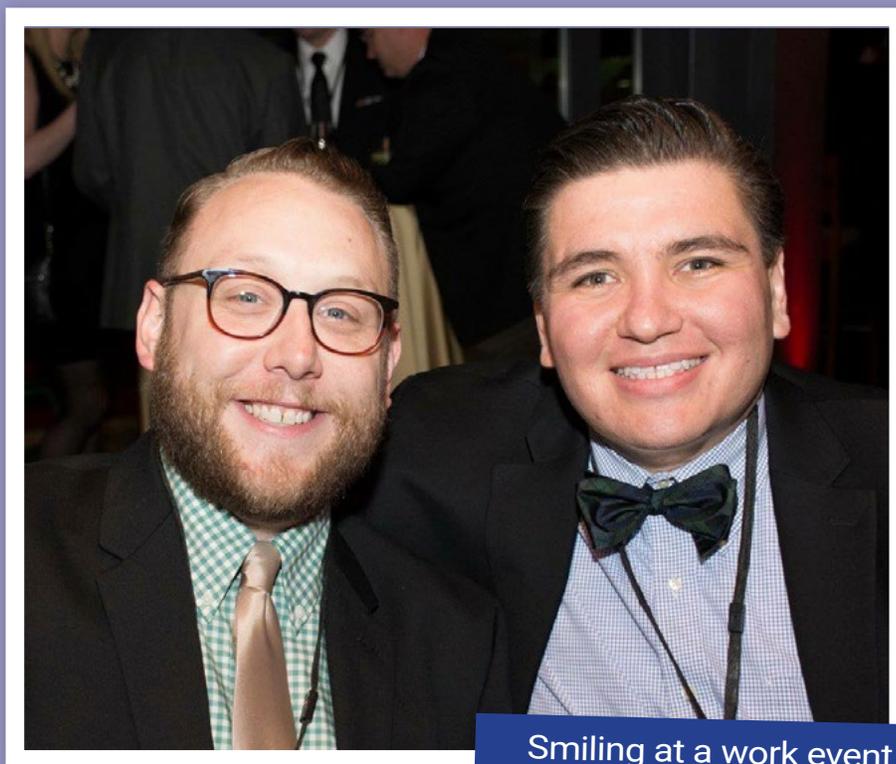
# Our Jobs

We both work in the human resources field, which means we spend our days helping people in the work world.

Andrew's work is focused on helping people understand things like their health benefits or other kinds of complex information that they might not otherwise be able to interpret.

And Brian does work to make sure that companies are creating diverse, inclusive workforces and that everyone has an opportunity to succeed.

Fortunately, our jobs are both extremely flexible. We both work within walking distance of our home, and can frequently work from home or adjust our schedules as necessary. Since we plan to continue working after we start our family, it was important to both of us that we have jobs that are supportive of us as parents.



Smiling at a work event



Andrew's mom – the kids call her Cece – taking her granddaughter Hannah for a walk

We will always be able to attend school events and come to school for kindergarten lunch! In fact, both our jobs provide some great benefits to parents of young children, including paid paternity leave that will make sure we have plenty of time to bond with our child!

When we are at work, and when our mothers aren't spending the week with our child, we'll have loving in-home child care. Since both of our mothers work in schools, they are very excited to spend summers in Boston with their newest grandchild.



With Brian's mom at a family wedding



# we thank you so much

Thank you for reading about us. We know you're on your own incredible journey, and we are happy to have been able to share a little bit about who we are, and how we plan to raise our child. Our child will always know a home filled with love and laughter, and we can promise you will always be a part of our child's life. You have our heartfelt gratitude for considering becoming part of our family's story.

We look forward to hopefully having a chance to talk with you. Please feel free to reach out to Marla or Meredith at our adoption agency, Full Circle Adoptions, at 1-800-452-3678 to learn more about us or to ask to speak directly with us.

Warmly and with gratitude,  
Andrew and Brian

