

Jason
& Kim



Dear Birth Parent,

We are Jason and Kim, and we are grateful for the chance to tell you about ourselves.

We are happily married and enjoy being active, spending time with family and friends, and traveling as often as we can.

We enjoy our life together and dream of becoming a family through adoption.

We hope that the following pages give you a glimpse into our lives and the love we have to offer your child!



Jason & Kim

About Us

We met online and immediately hit it off. We feel there was a bit of luck involved in our meeting, and believe timing was everything in our case!

Our 2nd date was a very special night under the stars – we went to a park nearby to watch a movie with a nice picnic and a beautiful view of Manhattan – with hundreds of our closest friends!

We got engaged after dating for about a year - *with a special engagement ring that has been in Jason's family for over 100 years!* - and started planning our wedding.

Jason's first visit to Kim's family's house



Our engagement party



Movies at the park – our 2nd date



Our Wedding Day

We got married on a beautiful day in October of 2013.

We were blessed to have many of our family and friends there to help us celebrate!



Our Honeymoon

We honeymooned in Italy – a place we both had on our bucket lists for years!
We visited Rome and Florence, where we saw a lot of beautiful sights and ate a lot of gelato. Probably more than we should have!



Taking in the sights and enjoying the food in Italy



Our Parents

We are lucky to have all of our parents, and all living within driving distance



Kim with her Mom, Florence, and Dad, Robert.

Kim's Dad owns his own sales business and hasn't retired yet!
Kim's Mom is a homemaker, and helps her Dad with his business too.



Jason with his Mom, Dona, on our wedding day. She was very sick a few years before we got married. She is healthy now, and retired, after working in education many years. It was very special to have her there for the wedding!



Jason with his Dad, Bud, and his Stepmother, Bridgette. His Dad is retired from his own restaurant business, and his Stepmother is a minister.

That's five grandparents excited for your child to join our family when we are lucky enough to adopt!

Kim Growing Up

I am the youngest of 4 girls, no boys (my poor dad!).

Growing up, we celebrated everything together as a family (we still do today). My dad always kept us entertained – I think it was his way of staying sane raising four girls!

Our weekend traditions consisted of making breakfast together on Saturdays and playing with cousins outside as much as we could. Sundays included Church in the morning followed by a typical Italian dinner.

Each of my sisters are now married and have kids.

Jason and I have four nieces and one nephew.

We are lucky to have a very close relationship with each of them today.

In fact, I think it's safe to say that we are the favorite Aunt & Uncle!



Me and my sisters, back in the day.
I am on the bottom right with the white flowered shirt (laughing the most!).



Us with our nieces and nephew.
From the left, Rebecca, Joseph, Jillian, Victoria, Us and Jacqueline



Me with my sisters in April 2017.
Me in red, Debbie (closest to me), Karen & Barbara.

Kim's Family

Family has always been a big part of my life. Growing up, I lived just a few houses away from extended family. Being Italian and Irish, that was pretty typical.

As one of 14 grandchildren in my generation, there were always a lot of kids to play with in our shared backyard.

Weekends, summers and birthdays were celebrated in the backyard playing sports or in the pool and holidays were enjoyed with everyone together.

Looking back, I realize just how fortunate I was growing up with extended family living so close and enjoying the family closeness I had. We look forward to raising our family the same way.

My family is still a big part of our lives. We live just about an hour away from my parents, my sisters and my extended family.

We see my immediately family at least once a month and my extended family (cousins, aunts & uncle) every few months and enjoy a family reunion every summer - typically at my parents' or cousins' house in the suburbs.

At my grandmother's 90th birthday party – between all my sisters and cousins, there are 16 great-grandchildren today



Volleyball is a favorite family past time



Our family reunion in June 2016



Kim's Friends and Career

Over the years, I have been lucky enough to make a lot of great friends in college and at work. We spend time with them and their families when we can, visiting them, playing with the kids, going to the park and catching up.

I work in marketing at a media company, a career I have enjoyed since graduating college. Earlier this year, I celebrated 10 years at my company. One of the perks of working there for that long is that I will be able to arrange a flexible work schedule when a baby arrives.



Me with some of my girlfriends at our engagement party

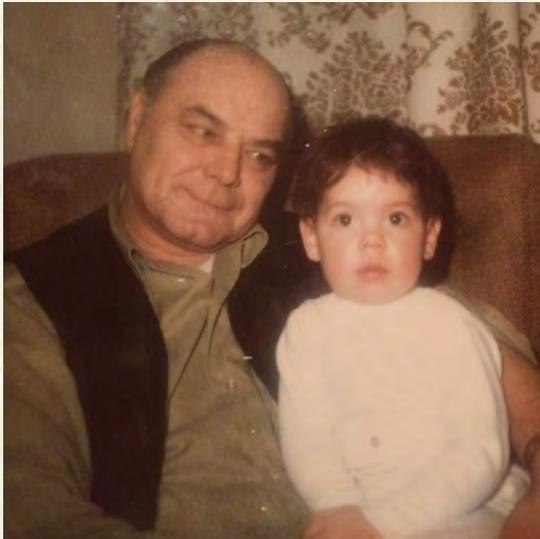


Me with my girlfriends at our wedding
Many of them are moms themselves!

Jason Growing Up

I was raised in upstate NY, with my younger brother Joshua. My Mom, Dona, raised us by herself after my parents separated when I was 11 years old.

My Grandpa John, my Mom's father, played a big role in our lives. Though he passed away when I was 21, I still remember many of the things he taught me, and I look forward to the chance to share what I've learned from him – hard work, education, thoughtfulness and optimism – with your child.



Me and my Grandpa John



Me with my brother Josh (Superman),
brother-in-law Kris, and my Mom, Dona.
Josh and Kris live in Colorado.
We see them at least once a year.



Me with my adopted cousin Jana, and
brother-in-law and brother

I have adopted cousins in Colorado and Utah. My Aunt and Uncle have offered great advice about the process, and about parenting adoptive children.

My cousins are adults now - and one is a Mom herself!

Jason's Family and Heritage

My dad's family is in upstate NY. We get together with them every few months and at the holidays.

My family history: On my Dad's side, my great grandma Sabina immigrated from Cuba with her family one hundred years ago, to upstate NY. She married an Irish man.

On my Mom's side, my grandmother was Italian, and my Grandpa John was Prussian/German. They met in New York City and eventually moved upstate, which is where I was born.



Sabina, my Cuban Great-Grandmother

My background and heritage mean more to me as I've gotten older, and especially now, planning to become a parent.

With Kim and I open to a transracial adoption, we understand how important it will be to connect your child to their heritage/culture.

We are committed to learning about, honoring and sharing your child's heritage and history with them and our entire family.



Me with my brother, brother-in-law, Dad and Uncles



Me and my Grandma Blanche & my Dad. My Dad and Grandma owned and ran a diner together upstate NY for many years.

Jason's Friends and Career

My closest friends are like family. We try to see them often, visiting them where they live in the suburbs, or meeting in the city, maybe even seeing a concert together over a weekend!



My friends Mary & Steve, and their daughter Isabella at our wedding reception



Me and Brett at my wedding. We needed a break from the serious pictures!



At my brother's wedding, in NYC with Sara & Brett

Growing up, I went to a private Catholic school through 8th grade, then public high school. I was a good student, striving to remember what my Grandpa John said: "Education is something you always keep."

It led me to pursue a career in education, and I have been working at colleges since I graduated. I enjoy supporting and challenging students year after year.

About Each Other

Kim about Jason: Jason is the guy that everyone likes. He's friendly, good hearted and truly genuine.

I know that Jason will be a great father. Kids like him, he's incredibly curious and although he's super smart, he can be very silly at times. He really is a big kid at heart!

It is heartwarming to see Jason interacting with students in his role in education. It is clear that many of the students he works with see him as a mentor and have a lot of respect for him.

I know that Jason is excited to become a father, to share his love and never ending curiosity with.

Jason about Kim: Kim has a lot of love to give; I think it comes from the big, close family she grew up in.

She has had many children in her life thanks to her sisters and cousins. I became an instant Uncle to a nephew and four nieces when we got married!

Adopting will not just change and enrich our lives immeasurably, being a mother will also allow Kim to share all that love she has with the child we are lucky enough to adopt.



Jason in Florence, Italy



Kim at Machu Picchu, Peru

Our Home & Neighborhood

We live in a 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment with friendly neighbors and lots of fun kids' activities to do in the neighborhood.

One of the many playgrounds nearby - there's one right next door



Our favorite bookstore – they have fun kids events



Sledding at the neighborhood park, a few blocks away



The farmer's market at the park



There's lots to see and do within walking distance of our home; restaurants, markets, playgrounds, and more importantly, schools, doctors, and daycare close by. It's a great place to raise a family. We can't wait to enjoy the neighborhood with your little one!

Our Home Life

At home Jason enjoys reading, music, playing guitar, playing basketball, and watching educational TV – PBS and Discovery Channel.

Jason: "I look forward to sharing my love of music and learning with your child!"

Kim: "He's really good at Jeopardy! I'm always amazed at how many questions he gets right."

Kim enjoys working out, watching TV and cooking – fish, burgers, lots of veggies, and baking too.

Kim: "I've gotten better since getting married. Although I'm still learning, it's fun to try new recipes and foods."

Jason: "She's better at cooking than she thinks!"



Kim working out



Jason on his six string



Chef Kim



Jason playing basketball with some neighborhood kids

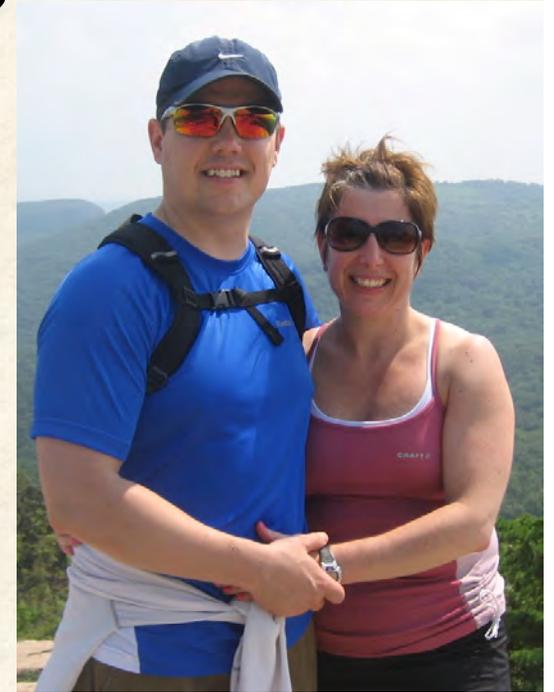
Our Hobbies and Interests

We enjoy working on our fitness together – that’s actually part of how we met! The online dating site we met on was for active singles.

We work out at home together regularly and enjoy going on hikes, bike rides, going to concerts and on ski weekends.

We both grew up with a love for the outdoors and being active, a passion we look forward to sharing with your child.

Our typical weekend is spent exploring our neighborhood by foot or bike, or spending time with family or friends.



Hiking at Bear Mountain, NY



Hiking in Canada



Skiing in Massachusetts



Canoeing in the Adirondacks

Our Travels

We also enjoy travelling and have been very fortunate to see a lot of the world together -- around the US, Rome, London, Spain and even Peru!



Philadelphia



Florence, Italy



In Peru, with a local & a llama!



Machu Picchu, Peru



Washington State



Paris

Travel is another thing we look forward to sharing with your child.

We are excited to continue learning about new places and new people, and connecting to their culture with them.

Our Traditions

Every summer Kim's family vacations in upstate NY, in a house on a lake. We've been going since I was a little kid!

We swim, hike, canoe, and even paddle board. When we aren't outside, we play games (my family loves Dominoes), eat out and just spend quality time together.

Jason is a big music fan! We try to see a few local concerts a year. We also enjoy traveling upstate NY in the summer to see one of Jason's favorite bands.

It's a really fun experience – we hang out on the lawn with friends and other families who bring their kids to enjoy. We look forward to bringing your little one as well!



Our family vacation at the lake



Enjoying a few concerts



Paddle Boarding



Being silly in the Adirondacks



Our Holidays

Holidays are always celebrated with family. We are lucky enough to have both our families nearby.

We get to see everyone either on the holiday itself or during the holiday weekend.

Kim's dad is a huge fan of Christmas (really any holiday!). He goes all out decorating the house and making everything festive!

We even have a tradition where everyone gets together in early December to decorate the family Christmas tree – something we've been doing together since I can remember!

Easter at Kim's parents house



Our annual family tree decorating party



Thanksgiving with Jason's family

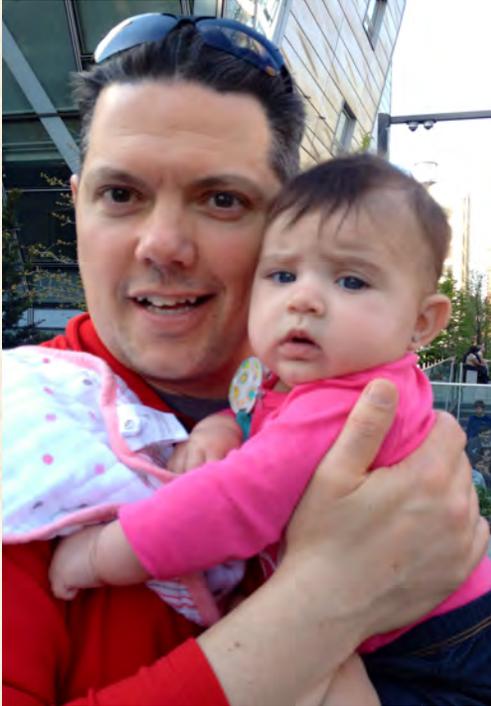


Christmas with Kim's family



The Little Kids in Our Lives

Jason with Isabella,
Mary & Steve's daughter



Kim and Olivia,
adopted by friends Jane & Brendan



Us with Maya – her mom Gina, Kim's best friend,
passed away in 2011 – since then Maya comes to
stay with us every other summer from CA



With Ryan, Kim's friend's son



Kim and Isabella



Kim and Lila, Maya's sister adopted from CA



Future Play Dates

We have many family members and friends with kids, some young, some older. Here are a few photos of our friends and their children, who are excited for play dates!

Mary, Steve, Isabella and Nicholas



Owen and Olivia, Jane & Brendan's kids.
Olivia was adopted as an infant in NJ



Amy, Mike, Gavin and Logan



Darcy, Craig with Dayne & Braiden

Our Interest in Adoption

After getting married, we tried becoming parents the traditional way, but we weren't successful. We considered IVF, but decided it wasn't for us.

We knew we wanted children in our lives to share our love with. Once we considered becoming adoptive parents, we knew it was the right option to make our family dreams come true. We are both very excited about the opportunity and can't wait to become parents!

We have family and friends who have adopted, and know there is a child in need of a forever family, and that together, with your help, we can create that family.

Lucky rainbow in the Adirondacks!



Thoughts on Our Extended Adopted Family

We understand that adoption isn't just about us creating our family, but also about you.

We look forward to the opportunity to establish a relationship with you and maintain communication -- in writing, on the phone, even in person if you would like. Our hope is to find a level of openness that we are all comfortable with.

We promise to always honor you and your decision to make an adoption plan. Your child will never have to wonder who they are, or where they come from, and you will never have to wonder how they are doing.



Hiking in Muir Woods, CA

Our Thoughts on Transracial Adoption

We are open to adopting an infant or a young child of any race and color.

This is not a decision we have made casually. We know that if we have the chance to adopt transracially, there will be challenges; ones we can anticipate, and ones we can't. We also know that we are up to the challenge.

We would be proud to be a transracial adoptive family: At home, at work, at a restaurant, at the supermarket, with family, with friends. Anywhere and everywhere.



We would make sure that your child knows who they are, and where they come from; their culture, and their traditions – Your culture, and Your traditions will be honored and shared.

Your child will also know that their race and skin color does not define them: It is the just beginning of who they are.

Our Thoughts on Parenting

We understand that parenting requires give and take, patience, teaching, learning, and never-ending unconditional love. And we are prepared to give all of that!

In our home, questions and curiosity will be encouraged, mistakes will be seen as a moment to grow and learn, and we will foster an attitude to “Do your best whenever and wherever possible.”

Our beliefs center around love, respect and self-confidence; we hope to instill these qualities in your child and look forward to the opportunity to learn along with them.

We will dedicate ourselves to creating a home and family where your child feels empowered to be themselves, always, and follow their dreams, anywhere.

We are both fortunate to be able to take time off from work to be at home when we adopt.

We plan to take turns being stay-at-home parents, especially in the first few months.

After that, we plan to use a local day care center that fits our family’s needs.



Thank You & Best Wishes

Please know how much we respect and admire you for considering an adoption plan for your baby. We wish you peace and love with the courageous decisions you will make.

Thank you for spending the time to learn more about us. If there is any additional information that you would like to know, we would be happy to share more.

If you have any questions for us or would like to learn more about us, you can call our agency, FFTA at their Toll Free Number: 1-866-922-3678 or directly at 1-914-939-1180.

If you'd like to reach us directly, you can call us at our dedicated adoption number: 929-314-3022

Sincerely,

Jason & Kim

