



JAVIER + CORY



THANKS

FOR OPENING OUR BOOK

HELLO

SO NICE TO “MEET” YOU



Hello there! **We are Javier and Cory, and we are so grateful that you have taken some time to get to know us a bit more today.** We want you to know that while we will never understand what it feels like to be in your shoes, we acknowledge how sacred and vulnerable this moment is. We realize that the excitement and joy we feel about growing our family again is only a small part of the larger story. As you flip through these pages, we hope that you feel safe, loved, comforted, and seen. You are the mother of this child and your presence here is honored and appreciated.

We are so excited and grateful to be here. The desire to grow a family was one of the very first things that brought us together as a couple. We both knew without a doubt that fatherhood was in our future, and our commitment and certainty around that fact have continued to grow and strengthen alongside our relationship. In March 2023, we welcomed our daughter, Liliana, into our home through adoption, and becoming parents has been the greatest blessing of our lives. Loving her has been an incredible honor, and it's hard now to imagine what life was like before her. **We're excited to expand our family once again and add another beautiful member to our growing household.**

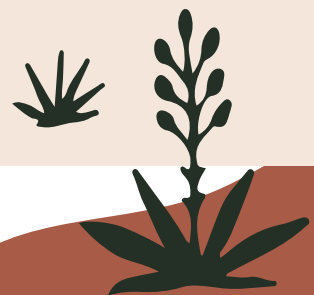
Once again we thank you from the bottom of our hearts, and our thoughts and prayers are with you. **Please remember that you aren't on this path alone and that we would love to travel this road with you.** This space we are all sharing is so unique, but we believe that with honesty, openness, empathy, compassion, and communication we will be able to create the best outcome for your child; together.

THANKS FOR GETTING TO KNOW US,

CORY AND JAVIER



“We absolutely love children and our desire to grow our family through adoption has been a very natural choice for us.”



OUR STORY

I (Cory) will never forget walking into Elizabeth Street Cafe, a charming little restaurant in Austin, Texas, and meeting Javier for the first time. It was our first date, and he rocked a Deadpool tank top with disheveled hair. I left the date feeling drawn to his confidence and unique perspective on the world - I was genuinely curious to know him more. When I (Javier) first met Cory, I was not only attracted to him, but his kindness made me excited to spend more time with him.

We have now been married over 2 years, and the more we have experienced together, the more we have learned how our strengths combine to make a great team. Javier shows his love by ensuring everyone around him is cared for. He is in tune with himself and others and ensures we eat healthily, work out, and schedule our doctor appointments. As a parent, he fiercely protects the physical well-being of our children, ensuring we always have everything we need to keep them safe and comfortable. In contrast, I like to nurture and support mental and relational well-being and prioritize respectful, empathetic communication. As a parent, this understanding of emotions and the human experience, will allow me to teach and connect with our children as they navigate life's challenges. Javier is logical, thoughtful, patient, and has a level of perseverance I have never seen; I am always on the move and have a strong, action- oriented work ethic.





MILESTONES:

CORY GRADUATED BS - 2010

JAVIER GRADUATED BS - 2015

JAVIER GRADUATED MS - 2017

MET - 2020

FIRST HOME & ENGAGED - 2021

MARRIED - 2022

MOVED - 2022

LILIANA BORN - 2023



We balance each other well, allowing us to move toward our goals, dreams, and values with health and ease. As dads, we bring two unique sets of skills and perspectives that will enable our children to grow into individuals capable of appreciating and respecting the importance of both their physical and mental health.

Not only do we complement each other well, but we share many things in common. We are a multicultural couple and value the differences and unique cultures of the world. We are both software developers and pianists and share a mutual love for anime, action figures, Marvel, and naps! Early in our relationship, we bonded over our desire to be fathers and to start a family. **We are so excited to be starting this at journey again and living into our greatest dream of raising a family.**

OUR HEART FOR ADOPTION

Our mutual desire to be parents is one of the things that brought us together. As a same-sex couple, we knew having children would be a planned and very intentional process.

We had many conversations about the different avenues for growing our family, like surrogacy or fostering, but after many thorough discussions, and the blessing that Liliana has been for us, we're overjoyed to continue growing our family through adoption.

Our first adoption has taught us so much, and it continues to impart valuable lessons. **Above all, it has shown us the importance of cultivating a spirit of openness and flexibility.** We want all our children to know how loved they are by us and by you! We will create a home that always honors our children's biological families. We desire to build relationships based on mutual respect, empathy, and understanding. We commit to giving this child a strong foundation upon which they can bravely tell their story, honoring you, their birth family, and their heritage as a part of it. We will honor our child's race and cultural background and make a point to connect with that race and culture. It's our highest priority to help them develop into a happy, confident, whole, and all-around healthy person.

We both have a tremendous amount of love to give and have created a stable home that is safe, inclusive, forgiving, warm, and inviting. **Our dream is that our children grow to never feel alone in life.** We hope we leave them with a legacy they're proud of, and we will make sure that our child always knows the enormous amount of love that is felt for them.





OUR FAMILY PILLARS



CELEBRATION:

We love celebrating birthdays! We start the day by waking each other up, singing happy birthday, and giving presents, followed by our favorite things - playing with Liliana, lunch at our favorite restaurant, and shopping at TJ-Maxx. We like having a big dinner with family and friends, cake, and more singing!

For Christmas, we love decorating and setting up lights inside and outside the house, filling the home with warmth and life. We use this time to celebrate family, spending the season visiting with loving uncles, aunts, grandparents, cousins, and friends. Liliana adores both the attention and the hustle and bustle of the holiday atmosphere.

Each year we try to visit a different part of Mexico to celebrate the culture. **We have been to Oaxaca and Mazatlan and hope to continue our tradition as our child grows and can travel safely and comfortably with us.**

Every day we make a point to celebrate our blessings and the opportunity we have been given to live out our dream of growing a family. We have made it a practice to remind one another, especially in the difficult moments, that we ALWAYS have something to celebrate.





FAITH:

Religion plays a significant role in our life. We go to church every Sunday and actively work to build relationships within our community. We grew up in religious households and aspire to bring the best parts of those teachings into our home. We practice gratitude for the things we are blessed with, care deeply for family and friends, and practice love, empathy, and kindness with one another daily. The most important teachings are the ones that show us how to love and support one another and love selflessly and without judgment. **Our home is a place of safety where we provide space to question, be honest, and share what we are experiencing and what we are learning in our own lives.** We will provide this same level of safety and exploration to our children as they navigate their spiritual journey.



HI, I'M CORY!

FRIENDS SAY I AM:

Driven, loving, and compassionate

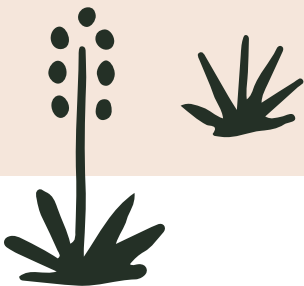
MY FAVORITE MOVIE:

Princess Mononoke (A Studio Ghibli Animated Film)

MY DREAM VACATION: Japan

MY FAVORITE MEMORY:

Christmastime at my grandmother's home surrounded by family.

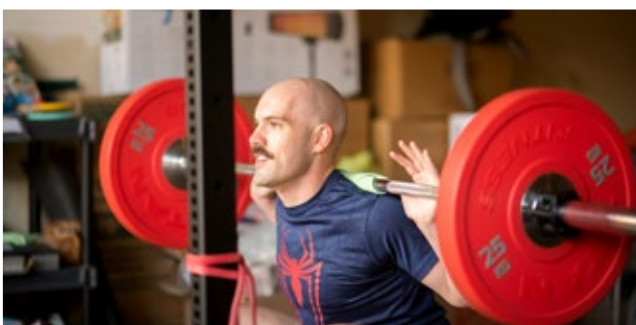
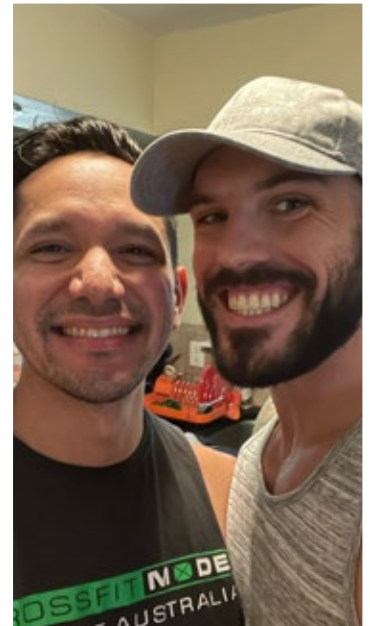


I grew up in Alabama in a small town called Arab. I remember my childhood as happy, surrounded by family and a church community. After church on Sundays, we would all go to my Granny's house, where the whole family gathered for lunch. My favorite memories were climbing the magnolia tree, hunting for lizards, and sitting on the porch with PawPaw (my great-grandfather).

I attended the University of Alabama and received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. Three years after my first job as a software developer, I landed a job in Austin. I now work as an enterprise architect. **I love working in technology because it allows me to be creative and solve challenging problems.** I also enjoy using my soft skills to improve and enhance processes in tech.

Outside of my passion for technology, you'll most likely find me with my hands covered in potting soil or paint. I enjoy yoga, weight lifting, walking, getting lost in a good self-help book or podcast, and transformational life coaching.

I have always known since I was young that I wanted to be a father. I love children and believe there is no higher calling than raising a child. Fatherhood has allowed me to become a fuller version of myself, teaching me more about the depths of unconditional love, patience, and flexibility. As a dad, there is nothing I love more than being silly and having fun with Liliana. The moments where I can sing, dance, make silly faces, and put a smile on her face are ones that I cherish and adore. As my family continues to grow, I look forward to the infinite number of opportunities to grow, learn, and be present with my children as they develop into the beautifully unique individuals that they are.



CORY'S TOP 5 INTERESTS:

- Plants
- Painting
- Life Coaching
- Exercise
- Learning Spanish

HI, I'M JAVIER!

FRIENDS SAY I AM:

Patient, thoughtful, and creative

MY FAVORITE MOVIE:

Spider-Man 2

MY DREAM VACATION: India

MY FAVORITE MEMORY:

New Year's celebrations in Mexico with all of my cousins and aunts and uncles



I was born in Bryan, Texas, and lived there until I was three years old. My family moved to Houston, where I grew up and lived until I eventually went to college in Pittsburgh.

As a child, I had a strong sense of family and faith. My sisters and I went to Catholic school until 8th grade, where we had Mass every Thursday, and we also went to church with my mom on Sundays. My mom is one of nine siblings, so we have many cousins in the U.S. and Mexico that we would often visit.

As a child, I loved playing with toys that required building and working mechanically. I had lots of K'NEX sets and Lego Bionicle sets, and I still enjoy action figures and model kits. **I started playing piano in middle school, and it has since become one of my greatest passions.**

I received my bachelor's degree in math and computer science, then got a master's degree

in information systems, and eventually got a job as a software developer. My area of software development is machine learning, a very active area of research. This allows me to continue learning and experimenting with new technologies. I enjoy these aspects of my job and am also thankful for the flexibility and ability to work from home.

I have always wanted to be a parent and enjoy caring for children. **I have so much love to give and so much I want to share with our children.** I've received so much joy from playing with my nieces and nephews and teaching them things. Liliana's face always lights up whenever I show her something for the first time like a new toy or book or food. Being a dad has shown me more patience and resilience for myself and my family. It has brought clarity and focus to our



family values and what's most important in life. I love watching Liliana grow and learn new things each day. We've developed fun morning and bedtime rituals which have helped us create a good routine to balance working from home and taking care of Liliana. I love my family and am excited to watch it continue growing in new and special ways through adoption.



JAVIER'S TOP 5 INTERESTS:

- Playing piano
- Olympic weightlifting
- Yoga
- Learning foreign languages
- Creative activities (origami, knitting, building models)





CORY IN JAVIER'S WORDS

"Cory is a sweet and loving partner. He is so generous and kind to everyone around him. He is incredibly empathetic and emotionally intelligent. He is deeply in tune with how he's feeling and how Liliana and I are doing. Cory loves spending time with all of our nieces and nephews and is always finding creative ways to have fun with them. He is the kind of uncle who will run around playing tag in a large open field and jump on the trampoline to a game he just made up. He is a great parent who loves and supports us through everything, and he's always able to put a big smile on Liliana's face. He loves taking care of her and playing with her even when we're exhausted from the day. He enjoys learning new ways to take care of her like how to french braid or cook new dishes. Liliana and I are always comforted and supported by his presence. "

JAVIER IN CORY'S WORDS

"Javier is one of the most patient individuals I have ever met. He is incredibly logical and thoughtful in decision-making, and he values loyalty and family. Javier freely offers grace and compassion to individuals in his life without expectation of anything in return. I continue to be inspired by Javier as a father. He intuitively knows how to care for our daughter and possesses an incredible gift for focusing his attention on what is truly important. Despite societal pressures, expectations, and numerous opinions on parenting, he excels at identifying and prioritizing Liliana's needs above all the noise. His parenting style is grounded in presence, awareness, and love for those he cares for. Through him, our family stays focused and grounded in the things that truly matter to us. I find great joy thinking about how his constant presence and guidance will shape the growth and development of our family moving forward."

MEET

LILIANA



Liliana is an absolute jewel, and her presence has completely transformed our world. She graced us with her first smile at just two weeks old, and she continues to radiate that same smile every morning when we wake her up together. Inquisitive and curious, she learns new things on a daily basis. **Even at her young age, she loves to meet new people and has become a little social butterfly!** We hope that her strength and love of life will serve as an excellent example for a little brother or sister. With her incredible personality, we aspire to see her support and guide her sibling through the shared experience of adoption.





***STRONG
JOYFUL
OUTGOING***





WELCOME TO OUR HOME

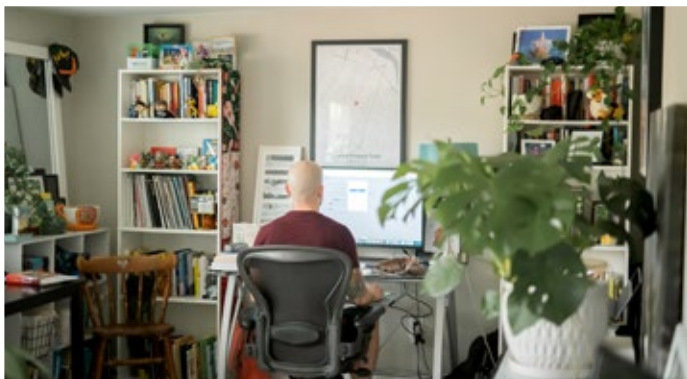
We live in Houston, Texas, in a beautiful tree-lined neighborhood where Javier grew up. Our home is spacious and warm, with four bedrooms, office space, and an open floor plan - plenty of room for children to play!

One of our favorite details about the home is that it can comfortably accommodate large groups. It's a great gathering place for our family. **Our home has wonderfully supported the growth and development of Liliana.** Toys, books, and games can be found in her bedroom, the living room, and even the guest room. Each area we have created for Liliana provides her with new scenery, experiences,



and sensory input that has contributed to her hitting all of her learning and development milestones right on time.

The backyard and neighborhood were the two top selling points for us. **We wanted a spacious backyard because we want our kids to have the opportunity to play outside as much as they want and a place to tend to our plants and fruit trees.** We envision many afternoons grilling, listening to music, and dancing on our large outdoor porch. The neighborhood is quiet and family-friendly; kids are always out playing basketball, and people are always out taking walks. We are thankful to have several parks with playgrounds, community centers, wonderful school systems, churches, medical offices, and family entertainment nearby. Our community has a diverse population and various outlets to connect with other cultures.



OUR FAMILIES

CORY'S FAMILY:

I am very close to my family! Most of them live in Alabama, but we visit regularly throughout the year. I have a sister who has three little girls and a brother who also has three children - two girls and one boy. The kids love to FaceTime and talk with Liliana on an almost daily basis. My uncle lives close by and we love making trips to visit him and my cousins - there is always delicious food and Liliana is showered with attention.

My mother is a retired teacher and has given "Grammy School" to all her grandchildren until they start preschool. Grammy makes many trips to Houston to share her love and spirit with our children. The whole family has been incredibly supportive with our decision to adopt, even Liliana's great grandmother has made the trip to Houston to welcome her into the family! They are all looking forward to welcoming another member into the family.





JAVIER'S FAMILY:

Before I was born, my parents lived in Puebla, Mexico. They moved to Texas where my dad attended graduate school. **They've been in Texas ever since, and Cory and I are very close to my family - they live a few houses down from us, and we see them often throughout the week!** My younger sister is attending medical school, and my older sister lives in Pittsburgh and has three children - two boys and a girl. We will often FaceTime together, and the kids will always ask what we're doing. They always want to ask about Liliana and are so excited to see her grow. My sisters, nieces, and nephews have visited us several times and have so much love for Liliana. My cousins and aunts have also come to visit us, and we're planning on going to Mexico to introduce Liliana to even more family. My mom regularly comes over to help take care of Liliana and is excited to welcome another grandchild. Cory and I are so thankful to have family close by to love our children and see them grow.

IN OUR FAMILY...

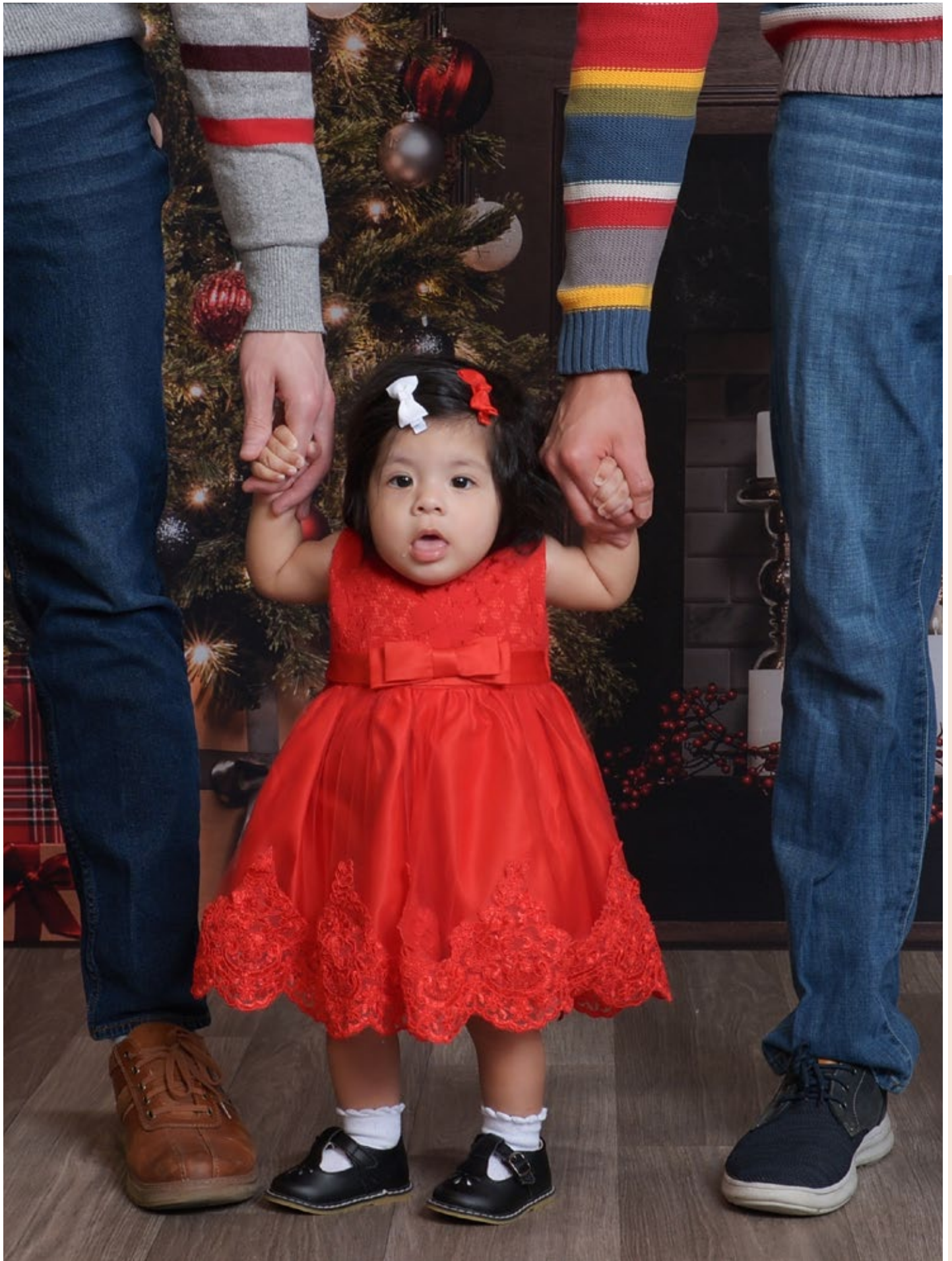
*WE PRACTICE GRATITUDE FOR
OUR MANY BLESSINGS.*

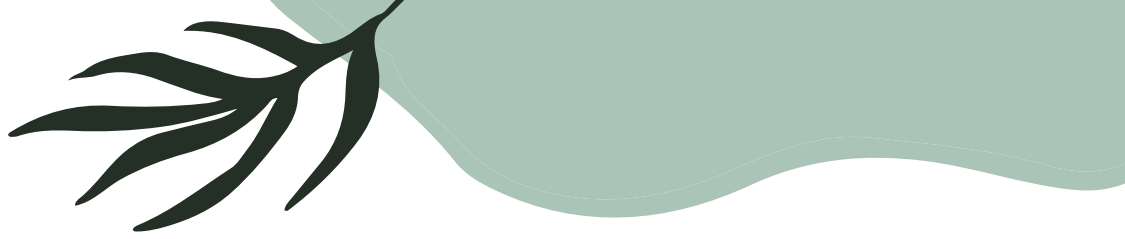
*WE CELEBRATE OUR LOVE
AND TREAT EACH OTHER WITH
KINDNESS AND RESPECT.*

*WE ALWAYS PERSEVERE AND
NEVER STOP LEARNING.*

*WE AREN'T AFRAID TO LAUGH
AT OURSELVES.*







BEFORE YOU GO...

Thank you so much for getting to know a bit about us! We can't begin to understand what an overwhelming decision it is to consider adoption. We wish the best for you and your child, and we would be honored to be chosen as part of your child's family.

OUR PROMISES:

- To give your child **unconditional love, support, guidance, and acceptance**
- To cultivate in them a **curiosity and respect for the world** and all those around them
- To provide them with a **good education** and ample opportunities to explore the arts, sciences, and sports
- To **nurture their mind, body, and spirit** through healthy foods, active lifestyle, and faith
- To **introduce them to many cultures**, languages, music, and foods
- To surround them with a **loving family and community**

We are humbled and grateful for the opportunity to become a part of each other's family. This child will be loved infinitely by us and our families and will always know the love you have for them.

Together, we will plan the level of contact that feels right, so that we can all find our place in this unique relationship.

WITH LOVE,

JAVIER AND CORY



