

Dear Expectant Parent(s),

Our names are Sam and Michaela. We find it difficult to write a letter like this to someone we haven't met and recognize it is also very difficult for you to learn who we are through this as well. We believe that God has led us here to this point in our lives for a reason, and if you are reading this letter, He has led you here for a reason as well. We will do our best to give you a brief yet substantial sense of who we are as a family, and who we hope to be as parents in the future. What we want to convey most throughout this letter is the overabundance of love we have for each other, the love that surrounds us from our extended family and friends, and the love that we want nothing more than to share with your child.



We have been married for 5 years but have been together for 12 years. We met when we were only juniors in high school and started dating shortly after we met. We were lucky enough to go on and attend Washington State University together. Ever since then, we have been each other's best friend and closest companion. We love spending time outdoors hiking, skiing, and fly fishing. When we are not off on an outdoor adventure we can be found reading, watching movies, and cooking together. Our golden retriever, Murphy, accompanies us on most of our outdoor adventures but is also content to just be curled up next to us on the couch.

Michaela grew up in Washington with her parents and older sister. Her dad worked for a global shipping company and her mom worked in customer service in banking. Her childhood was full of laughter and creativity. She loved dancing, singing, and participating in theater. Family gatherings often led to Michaela, her sister, and their cousins choreographing a dance routine while their grandpa played the piano. She loves art, and as a teenager enjoyed creating band posters for her favorite bands. Michaela attended Washington State University where she attained a degree in nursing. She has worked at Seattle Children's Hospital and as a school nurse at a public elementary school. She currently works as a nurse case manager for injured adults.

Sam grew up in Washington with his parents, two younger brothers, and younger sister. His dad worked in sales, and his mom was a stay-at-home mom. Sam and his siblings had very active childhoods, and they could often be found together riding bikes, playing in the woods, or participating in sports. Sam excelled at sports, especially football, and ended up receiving a scholarship to play in college. He graduated college with a degree in Construction Management and initially worked for a general contractor as a Project Engineer. His dad started his own company, a manufacturer's representative firm selling construction material, and Sam now works with him.



Family is extremely important to us. We spend as much time as we can with each other's families. Sam's parents and one of his brothers live minutes down the road from our home. Sam also has a brother in Texas and a sister in Idaho. Michaela's sister and mom live in Idaho. Both of our families make concentrated efforts to travel and be with each other as much as possible. Holidays especially are big gatherings with lots of food and very competitive board/card games.

We have experienced all of life's ups and downs together by each other's side. In 2021 Michaela's father, who was also like a second father to Sam, unexpectedly passed away. In our marriage, we have stood by one another through infertility, pregnancy loss, and heartbreak. Through it all we have grown closer together, and closer to God. We both truly believe we have been called to be parents our whole lives. Although this journey toward adoption isn't the road we initially planned, we truly believe it is where we are meant to be. We embrace God's plan for us with open arms. We have a lot of life, love, and family that we are eager to share. We appreciate you taking the time to read our letter. Please know that even though we have not met before, we are praying for you and the road you have chosen to walk down.

Sincerely,

Sam & Michaela