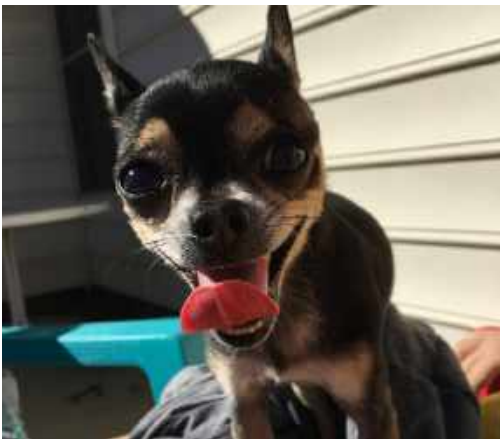


# *Lauren & Kellie*

OUR ADOPTION JOURNEY





## ABOUT US

We met online over ten years ago. It turned out we lived around the corner from each other and had the same job at different companies. We have been together ever since. We got engaged at our favorite place on the beach and recently married in a small ceremony with close friends and family. Whenever we are together, there is always laughter and love. We can be quirky and silly around each other without judgment. We even have a secret handshake and have been known to have spontaneous dance parties. Lauren does community outreach for work. She helps provide insurance education to low-income seniors and those on disability. Lauren loves giving back to the community and being creative while helping others. Kellie works for the same company helping solve complex issues. Her job allows her to really help individuals, which is what she enjoys most.

## OUR HOME & PETS

Our house has three bedrooms and is in a cul-de-sac tucked in the middle of a diverse neighborhood with children all around. We live near parks, lakes, and walking trails and have a large backyard. Our closest friends live just down the street from us, which is great for playdates! We live close to downtown, with museums, restaurants, and fun places to explore. The schools in our community are among the best. We live equal distances to the beach and the mountains, so there are always fun places to visit. We have a 13-year-old chihuahua named Maya. She is petite at four pounds but full of personality. She has always loved children and has been known to sneak kisses at any given opportunity.

## WHAT LED US TO ADOPTION

When we began dating, we immediately spoke about children. Both of us love children and always wanted to have our own someday. Little did we know at that time we both had a desire to adopt. Lauren has wanted to adopt since middle school and has always seen herself doing this instead of having biological children. Both Kellie's brother and sister were adopted at birth, and she loved the idea as well. We first chose to become foster parents to help children in need and support reunification. After three years of being foster parents, we decided it was time to permanently expand our family and adopt. Adoption has always been our first choice.



*our photos*





## Kellie

**Occupation:** Service account manager

**Education:** Bachelor's degree

**Race:** Caucasian

**Religion:** Catholic

### MY FAVORITE...

**Sport:** Football

**Food:** Pizza

**Hobby:** Fishing, kayaking

**Tradition:** Driving around to see all the holiday lights on Christmas Eve

**Musical Group:** The Cranberries

**Movie:** *Titanic*

**Dream Vacation:** Bora Bora

**Holiday:** Christmas

**TV Show:** *Chicago Fire, Chicago PD*

**Subject in School:** Gym

**Book:** Any Nicholas Sparks books

## Lauren

**Occupation:** Community outreach

**Education:** BA in psychology

**Race:** Caucasian

**Religion:** Jewish/Spiritual

### MY FAVORITE...

**Sport:** Swimming

**Food:** Sushi

**Hobby:** Crafts, kayaking

**Tradition:** Carving pumpkins with our friends and roasting pumpkin seeds

**Musical Group:** Tegan and Sara, Adele, Mumford and Sons

**Movie:** *Dirty Dancing*

**Dream Vacation:** Asia

**Holiday:** Thanksgiving

**TV Show:** *A Million Little Things, Friends*

**Subject in School:** Theater

**Book:** *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*



# OUR FAMILY & traditions



Lauren's parents live close by, and we get together often and for most major holidays. We have dinner together frequently and stop by just to say hello. Lauren's sister lives in New York, along with most of her extended family. Kellie's family all reside in Pennsylvania. She has one brother, one sister, a niece, and two nephews. Although there is distance, they talk all the time and FaceTime as much as they can. We often travel to Pennsylvania to spend time with family. Both of our families are very excited to add a new member to the family. Kellie's siblings are both adopted as well.

We celebrate both Christmas and Chanukah. We want to expose our child to both backgrounds and have them appreciate the differences in the world while understanding not everyone is the same. We love taking an annual trip to the pumpkin farm and selecting just the right pumpkins together. We always get a small one for our small chihuahua! We usually carve those with our close friends and their children while having a bonfire and roasting marshmallows. Birthdays are always special occasions as we love to celebrate each other.

DEAR  
*expectant  
mother*



We can't tell you how much we appreciate you taking the time to consider us to raise your baby. We can't imagine what you are going through and the tough decisions you are making. Please know we will not only do everything we can to create the best life possible for your baby but we will be a support to you as well. Your baby will always know where they came from, and they will never have to question their background. We will always explain your selfless love.

Our home will always be a place of unconditional love, and we promise to support their unique personality. Every day will be an adventure filled with laughter and exploration. We can't wait to make chocolate chip pancakes together on Sundays or to take your child to the beach to build sandcastles and surf the waves. Lauren is excited to teach your child how to be creative through arts and crafts. Kellie can't wait to introduce them to Steelers football and fishing. We will sit by their side to help with schoolwork and pursue any interests they may have.

We promise we will always be your child's safe place. They will never question our love and support. We promise to teach your child how to be a good person. Kindness, empathy, and caring for others are values that we believe in and want to instill in your child. We promise that your child will be the center of our world.

*Lauren & Kellie*