



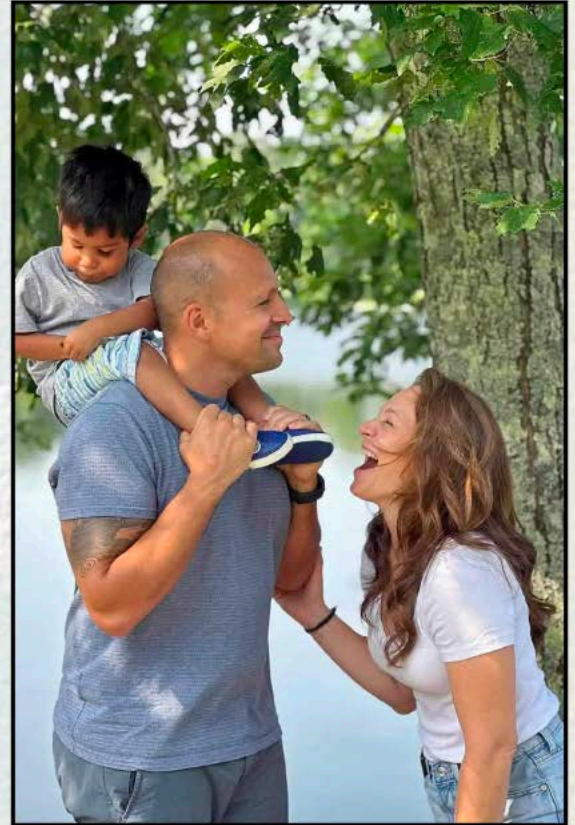
The Alicea Family

*Hello, we are
the Alicea family,*

We are very humbled and excited about your consideration of us to adopt your child.

We can never claim to understand what kind of emotions you have in your decision. Just know we respect and admire you and will always strive to live up to the expectations you have as to the kind of parents your child needs.

We hope this book will help in showing you what kind of people we are and the family we are and hope to become.



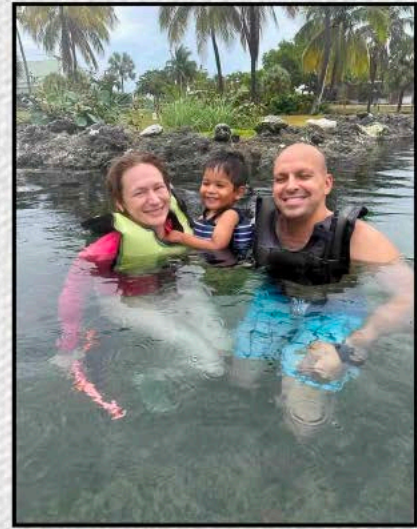


About Us

We met in a S.W.A.T. training school where Lauren was a student and Julio was an instructor. Lauren was injured and Julio was to provide medical treatment. From that first interaction, we knew there was something special between us. Two weeks later Julio asked Lauren out, and the adventures have never stopped.

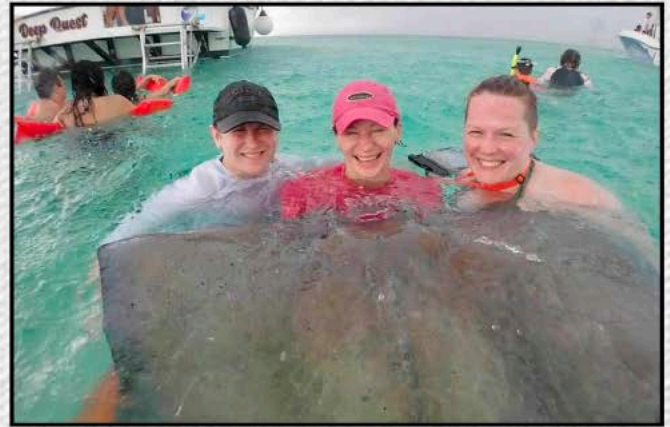


You might ask why we are choosing adoption again, and the answer is we love being parents. We adopted in 2020 during Covid-19 and we were blessed with a little boy, he has made life so fun. We would love to add another child to our family.

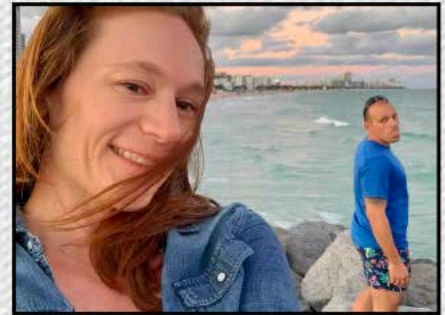


We are a bilingual family. Julio's family is from Puerto Rico, with Spanish being his first language. Lauren is still learning the language. Valor is Mexican. We have exposed him to many traditional foods and holidays to help him with keeping in touch with his heritage.





We love to travel and try new things. Lately, most of our adventures are toddler friendly but we do get in a little time with each other.



Life is never dull at our house. Our neighborhood and the areas surrounding it allow us opportunities to hike, kayak, and swim, which we love to do. We take day trips often for a change of scenery. We love animals and the outdoors.



Lauren

I wish one day my wife could see how beautiful she is through my eyes. She still makes me blush. She is a firecracker, and I love the energy she always has. She makes childhood so fun for our son.

One of the best qualities she has is her ability to always have a plan. She is the type of person that will help you when you need her, will always be honest with you, and will tell you what you need to hear. Her friends and family cherish her and our son looks at her for comfort and peace.

One of her biggest passions is volunteering with the Special Olympics. She loves being a mom and even changed her 18-year career as a police officer to be with our son as long as possible. She adores his firsts and pushes him to try new things just so she can say "Look what he did today"



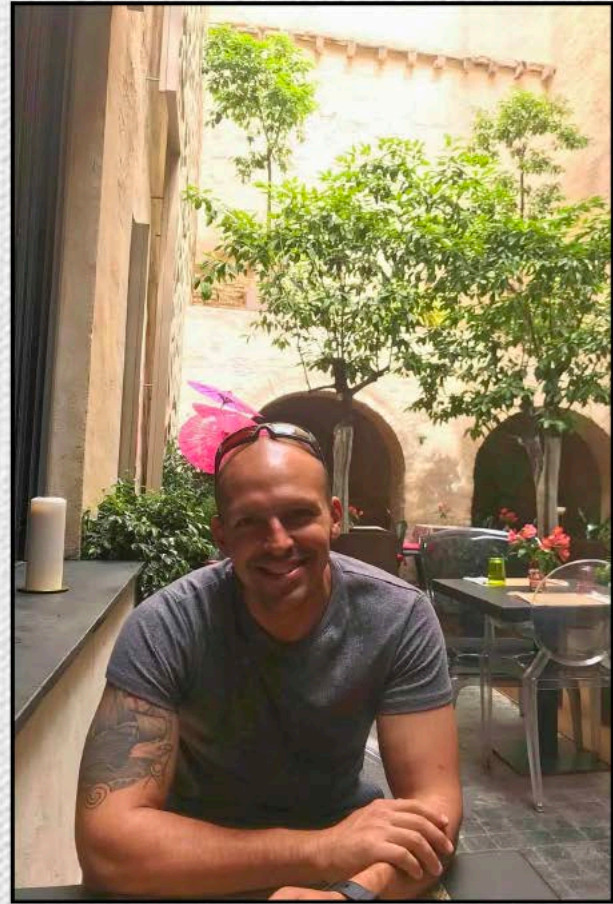


Julio

Julio is so kind and always willing to help. Those traits must exude from him because oftentimes strangers will approach him looking for directions. He has a way of calming everyone around him, whether through kind words, his singing, or funny faces. There really is no one who he doesn't get along with.

One of his best qualities is his go-with-the-flow attitude and willingness to go on an adventure. He finds joy in making memories with our family.

He is the best dad, Saturday swim lessons he is there, sitting on the floor doing puzzles he is engaged. I never knew the true man he was until he became a dad. He shows strength with no ego and will pull our son near with understanding when things aren't going our son's way. Overall, he is a peaceful guardian, making sure the ones he loves are safe and comfortable.

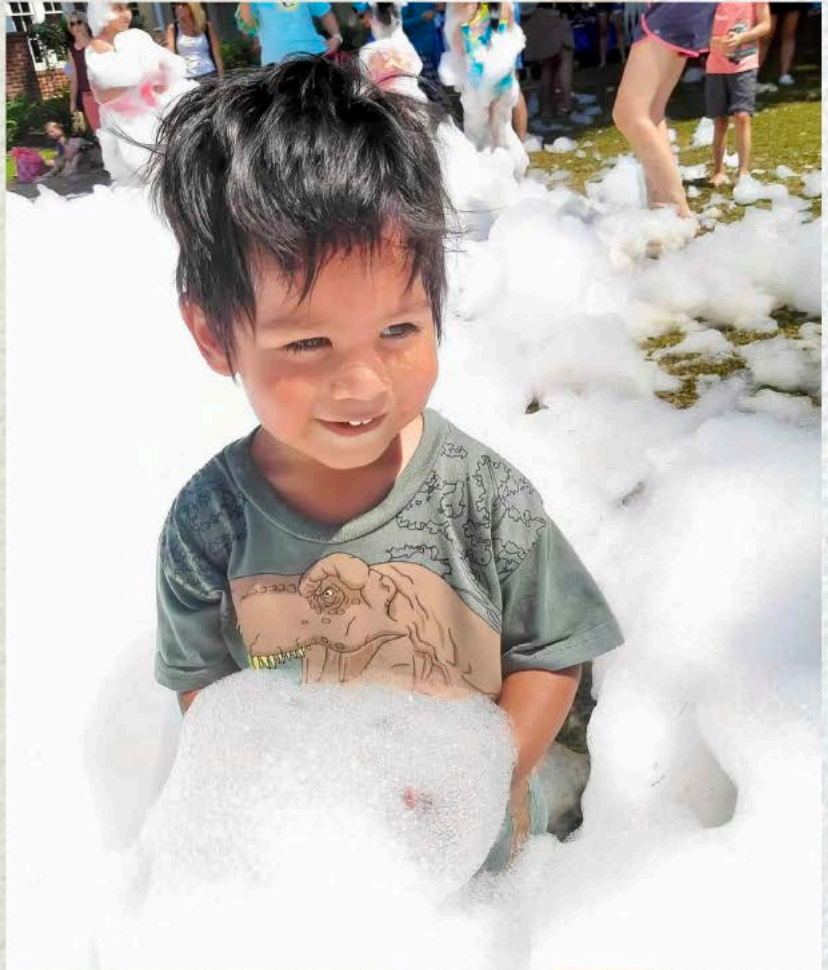




Valor

He is kind, funny, and smart. I know all parents think their child is the best and yes so do we. He loves all things construction rather it is naming the trucks at the site or building his own train stations, and houses, or helping Mom and Dad with actual tools this boy is ready to build things.

He is very quiet and opens up to people he trusts. If he cries, we know something is truly bothering him because he is small but mighty, and has few complaints. We were blessed with this little boy and he is hoping to have a baby sister or brother.





The home we have made:



Our home is an open, ranch-style floor plan. There are three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a fenced-in backyard. We have a lake and several parks in our neighborhood. There is also a nature preserve within walking distance that has 15+ miles of hiking trails.

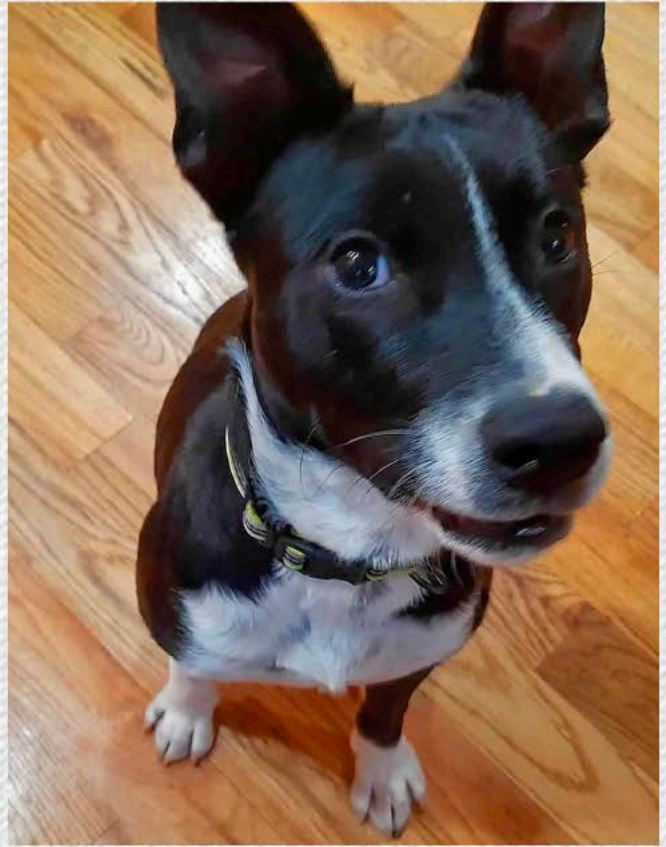
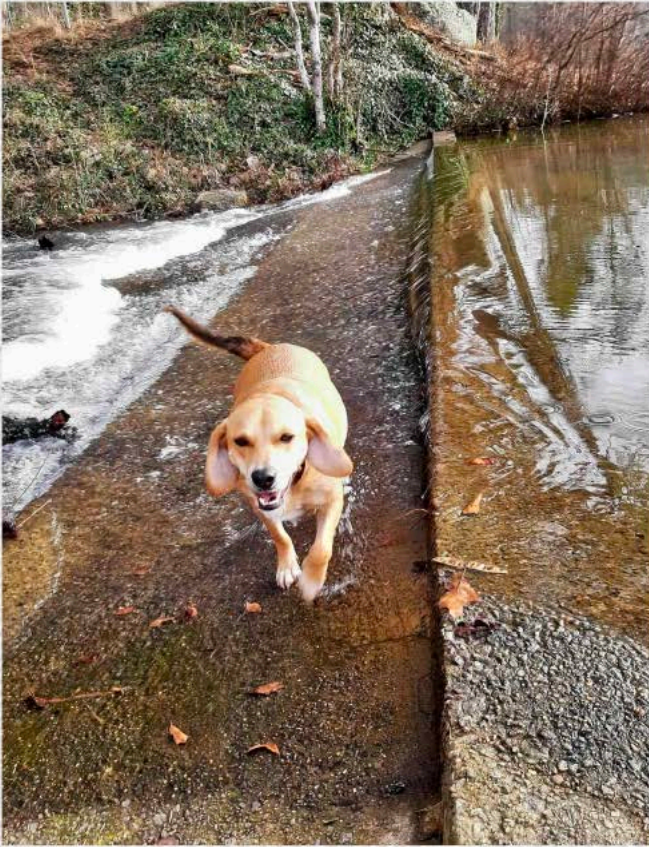
We live in a quiet neighborhood with friendly people who wave and say, "Hi," as you walk by. It will be a wonderful place for your child to grow up and make friends.



Our neighborhood has the most amazing end-of-summer party for the kids, as well as other gatherings throughout the year.

Our community center offers free lunches during the summer months. They go out of their way to include everyone.





We have 2 mutts, made up of a little of this and maybe some of that. They were both rescued from animal control and both are great with kids.



Soleil is the tan dog. She is a good guard dog but gentle and so soft.

Our son gave Soda his name. He is just like a can of soda pop; sweet, bubbly, and caffeinated.



Family

We both come from LARGE families and value the little moments, making memories through activities and not things. We spend time with our families frequently, even those who live far away.





Our Chosen People



We have a great network of people who fully support this journey and are always willing to lend a helping hand when asked.



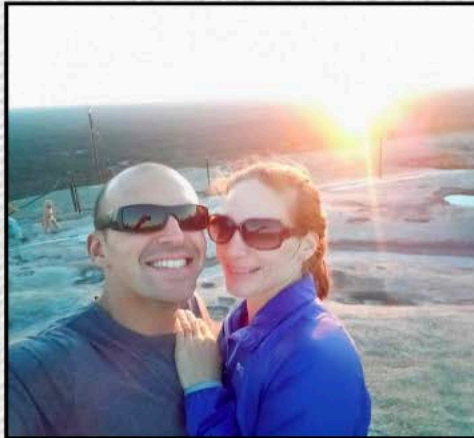


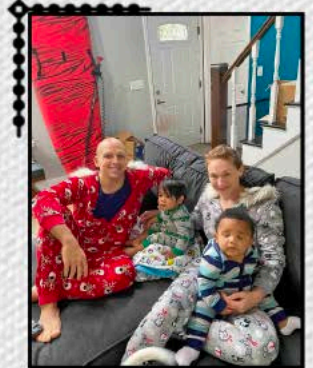
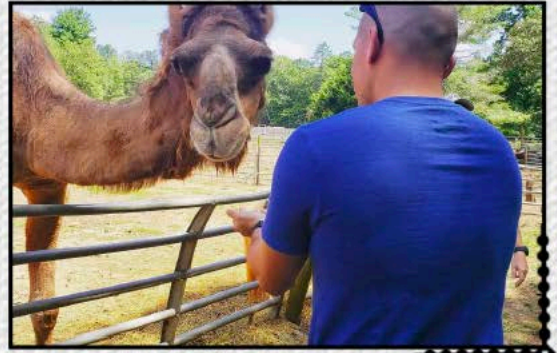
We treat people with kindness and love. We surround ourselves with people who share the same values. The more people who love your child the better the child learns to love.



Collect Memories not Things...

We want your child to know the world.
It is theirs to experience and explore
so they can gain confidence in who
they are.







Thank You

Our families and our hearts are HUGE. We are so welcoming and accepting and want you to know you will always be a part of it. We promise to raise your child to the best of our abilities.

Thank you for taking the time to consider us. Whatever you choose for your child, may you be offered support, love, and kindness during your journey.