



**SANDRA & BRENDAN**



Thank you for taking the time to consider us as a loving, happy family for your child. We applaud you for the decision that you are making, and to help you with your decision, we've included some information about ourselves in order to help you to get to know us better. Should you choose us as adoptive parents, your child will grow up in a warm and cozy home with a loving family and lots of pets.

# About Us



We first met each other several years ago through an online dating website, specifically Match.com. On our first date, we realized that we had many interests in common, including a love for physical activities, similar music interests, and similar beliefs and values. As time passed and we continued to date, we realized that we had something special.

We got engaged 9 months later; and married in 2018. We have been happily married ever since and have wanted to grow our family for years. Ever since we met, we knew we always wanted children, but didn't know when would be the best time to start a family. When we decided it was time, we ended up struggling with infertility for years. We tried many treatments, and ultimately realized that we were meant to grow our family through adoption.

# ABOUT BRENDAN BY SANDRA



Brendan is a headstrong, hard-working and very energetic person who believes that almost anything is possible. When he sets his mind onto accomplishing a specific task, he will not stop until he is successful. After college, Brendan went to Law School. He now works for a big bank in Boston, in their Financial Crimes Compliance department. He enjoys his job because it enables him to solve problems, and allows him to work from home. He played many sports as a kid, and although a bit clumsy, he enjoyed being on teams with others, especially when playing football and rugby in high school. He started CrossFit in 2015, and feels that "it's the first thing that he isn't as clumsy at". Brendan grew up with his parents and five younger siblings. Because Brendan is the oldest child, he already has a fatherly instinct toward little kids. (His youngest sibling is 16 years old.) He has a lot of energy and is not afraid to be silly. As a Dad, Brendan will be fun and creative, but also will teach an adoptive child to be strong, self-confident, and to treat others as they want to be treated. He will be a great Dad.

# ABOUT SANDRA BY BRENDAN



**Auntie Sandy**

Sandra (a.k.a "Sandy") is a shy, smart, hard-working and sensitive person who cherishes her family and friends. When Sandy was a teenager, she suffered an unexpected injury, which led her to a career in healthcare. She went to school to become a Physician's Assistant (PA-C) and has been assisting in surgeries and seeing patients in a clinical setting ever since. Sandy grew up with her parents and an older brother. She is close with them and spends time with them as much as possible. Sandy has natural maternal instincts, which is evidenced whenever she is around small children. Sandy's brother has two young children and her best friend has three young children. When we spend time with them, they are drawn to her and think she is a great "auntie". Sandy is a very kind and compassionate person, and will be a fantastic mom.

## FAMILY & FRIENDS

Sandy grew up in a rural part of New England, with one older brother, a pet beagle and two cats. She had a quiet but good childhood. Brendan grew up in an urban, densely populated part of New England, and moved twice before he became a teenager. He is the oldest of five kids, and his youngest brother is 16 years old. Brendan's family is closely-knit and gets together to celebrate as many holidays as possible. Sandy's friends have known each other since middle school. They keep in touch despite living in different states and do their best to have meetups. Sandy's closest friend is Tabitha, who is married with three young children. We love visiting Tabitha, her husband Nate, and their kids. Brendan has a close circle of friends that he met in college more than 15 years ago, and remained close with ever since. Brendan sees them multiple times per year, and has a group chat that he uses to remain in touch with them on a daily/weekly basis. All of our friends are excited for us to become parents, and will be great role models.





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## HOME SWEET HOME

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We just moved back to our home state after three years of living in a more mountainous area. Our house is five minutes from Sandy's parents' house, and thirty minutes away from Brendan's parents' house. Our area is mostly rural, but we live in a relatively built up area that is a short drive from several larger towns and cities. Our house was built in the late 1990s, is well maintained, and has plenty of space for a child to live and grow up in. We have a fenced in backyard with a patio and deck, and plenty of space for a child to run around, play sports in, or have a sandbox. Our street is quiet, we are located at the end of a cul de sac.

Our neighborhood is quiet and peaceful. All of our neighbors are friendly, many have children of various ages, as well as dogs and cats for pets. Our neighbors go around and give each other baked goods around Christmastime, and we plan to take part in that tradition as well.



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## HOBBIES & INTERESTS

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Brendan's favorite activities consist of CrossFit, swimming, eating the food cooked by Sandy, raising the many pets (including chickens) that we have, and occasionally playing with his PlayStation 4. If the opportunity allows, he especially enjoys being able to travel and compete in CrossFit Competitions. Sandy's favorite activities include running, interval training (Orangetheory with an occasional CrossFit class peppered in), swimming, gardening, cooking homemade meals from scratch, and helping raise many pets (including chickens) with Brendan. We enjoy these hobbies because they are wholesome, and anyone can participate. A child in our house will be exposed to outdoor activities at a young age, and be encouraged to find one that they love. Whether it's doing burpees with Brendan, or going for a run with Sandy, they will always have the memory of doing active things with us.



# FUN FACTS!



- Other than working out and spending time with family and friends, one thing we love to do is try new foods.
- When Sandy met Brendan, she was a pescatarian, but now loves red meat, oysters, and sushi. She also loves pizza more than anything else, especially when she takes slices from Brendan.
- When Brendan met Sandy, he couldn't really cook for himself and did a lot of take out. Now he can cook a few things for himself, but loves to serve as a guinea pig for new recipes that Sandy tries out.
- When they go out on date nights, Brendan takes the lead in making sure they try new things. Brendan loves Italian, Chinese and Japanese food.
- Brendan and Sandy also recently went to Greece for a wedding for one of Brendan's friends, and they discovered that they really like Greek food. Sandy enjoyed having pieces of pita, lamb and vegetables with local yogurt sauces, whereas Brendan found that he really enjoyed authentic beef and lamb gyros.

# EVERYDAY LIFE

Brendan and Sandy both have rewarding but challenging jobs. Brendan works in a Financial Crimes Compliance department for a big bank, helping to solve problems and doing his part to make sure that the bank he works for isn't taken advantage of by criminal elements. He has co-workers from all over the world, but is luckily able to work from home on most days, and only goes into the office for special events. Sandy works in a local community hospital and is the Lead Physician Assistant for the department of surgical Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners. She manages the team, mentors and trains new PA's and NPs, and assists with surgeries and post operative care for hospitalized patients. Sandy works a compressed schedule, with long hours on two days of the week, with the rest of the week off. At the end of our workdays, we both like to go workout and then relax at home with dinner. On rest days, we'll take our dog for a walk in our neighborhood, and sometimes take him out to a dog friendly restaurant. We like to spend weekends by having a date night, going to Mass, working out; and taking our dog on long walks.



# PETS



We have many pets that we consider part of our family. We have three cats named Cleo, Clover and Bella, and each has a different personality and nickname. Cleo (a.k.a. "Chonks") is a large white and black cat that loves to eat our dog's food and boss the other cats around. Clover (a.k.a. "Buggy") is a brown and black cat that is smart and agile. She tends to hide unless she wants attention. Bella (a.k.a "Fluff") is a fluffy orange cat that loves to sleep on our bedroom and acts like a princess. Calvin is a big, fluffy Great Pyrenees that is lovable and clumsy, and a guardian to our cats and chickens. Because he is a big dog, he will be energetic and excited for 20 minutes, but then will want to sleep for the rest of the day. He has a dog bed in our bedroom and sleeps there every night, though if we leave him in the room alone, we'll sometimes find him sleeping on our bed. He loves little kids and will lie on his back for belly rubs whenever they come to say hi. He also likes to lean on people, which is his way of giving someone a hug.

# FEELINGS ABOUT ADOPTION

We know that this is a very tough decision for the expectant mother to make, and we applaud her for doing so. If the expectant mother is open to it, we would love to remain in contact and share life updates, as we want the expectant mother and adoptive child to have a relationship, if that's what they both want! Sandy had a close friend from her childhood who was

adopted, and came away viewing adoption as a very positive thing.

Brendan's younger brothers had classmates who were adopted from China, and he remembers their adoptive mother helping to put on cultural events for their classes, including moon-cakes for the mooncake festival and treats to celebrate Chinese New Year. We both believe that, when it comes to talking about an adoptive child's background, honesty is the best policy.

What we plan to do is have age-appropriate conversations, and always emphasize that both the expectant mother and us as adoptive parents love the child unconditionally and want nothing but the best for them.



# FAITH



We are both Roman Catholic, go to Mass every week, and have been Catholic our entire lives. It's one of the main reasons that we fell in love and got married, and it's helped us get through various challenges and periods of self-doubt that we've had in our lives.

Brendan almost died twice as a little child due to various illnesses, with one very close call that took place when he was two years old.

He attributes his survival to the fact that this entire family prayed to St. Anthony and the Blessed Virgin Mary to help keep him safe. Brendan went to Catholic school from Pre-K up through college, and was an alter server from 4th grade to 8th grade. Because Sandy works in healthcare, she has seen things that are hard to understand and come to terms with. Being Catholic, and being able to go to Mass and receive the sacraments has helped Sandy to handle the burdens and stress that come with working in healthcare, particularly working in surgery. Should we be chosen as adoptive parents, we will take the child to Mass with us, make sure they receive the sacraments and do our best to show them how to live a kind and virtuous life.

# CELEBRATIONS & TRADITIONS

We both love to celebrate Christmas and Easter, Sandy loves to celebrate Halloween, and Brendan enjoys Memorial Day. We will spend time with family and friends, and bring our dog Calvin with us whenever possible. For Christmas, we will see both of our families for Christmas meals and presents, and we'll either go to mass on Christmas Eve with Brendan's family or Christmas Day by ourselves. We'll end the night by watching Muppet Christmas Carol. For Easter, we go to Mass and then go to Easter Brunch with Brendan's family. We typically see Sandy's family the day before, where we will put on Easter Egg hunts for our niece and nephew. For Halloween, we always make sure our house has plenty of treats and decorations. Sometimes, we'll meet up with Sandy's brother's family and help our nephew and niece trick or treat. We bring our dog Calvin with us sometimes and it's cute to watch our nephew and niece, who are still very young, play with and pet him. For Memorial day, Brendan will go to his Crossfit Gym and complete the workout "Murph" with all of his gym buddies. We then go to Brendan's parents house for a big family cookout, and we always bring our dog. Brendan's family didn't really grow up with pets, so it's funny to watch Brendan's parent react whenever our big, lovable sheepdog comes into their backyard to say hi.



# OUR PROMISE



We promise to love our adopted child unconditionally.

We promise to teach our adopted child to treat others with fairness, compassion and respect.

We promise to show our adopted child how to be strong in mind and body, as well as how to live a life that balances fun and discipline.

We promise to expose our adopted child to the joys of having animals as pets, especially cats and dogs.

We promise to demonstrate to our adopted child, through our own example, what it means to be successful and how to obtain it for themselves.

We promise to remain as a pillar of support for our adopted child, even as they grow into being an adult.



**Thank you again for considering us as adoptive parents for your child.**

**We hope that you were able to learn a little more about us and would be happy to answer any additional questions that you may have about us. We wish you the best in any decision that you ultimately make. We are open to a continuing relationship with you, if you are open to that possibility! We will also both pray for you and your child, and are here to help in any way we can!**

**Sincerely,  
Brendan & Sandy**