

## HANDS ACROSS THE WATER WAITING FAMILY

# Shawna and Will



Hi. Thanks so much for taking time to read this. We know you are facing an incredibly important and challenging decision, and we want you to know we are thinking of you.

We have been together for more than 20 years. We met as college students on a pub crawl in England, where Will grew up and Shawna was studying abroad. We got married six years later, and have built a life of love, curiosity, and adventure. We are excited about the prospect of sharing all of this with a child!

While we both have jobs we love, we also very much enjoy not working. We love to travel and vacations are important to us. Closer to home, we spend a lot of time checking out new hiking and biking trails, attending concerts and U of M basketball games, and cooking for friends and family.

We have both been fortunate to have experienced lifetimes of unconditional love from our parents, siblings, friends, colleagues, and of course from each other. If you choose us, your child will be surrounded by love and support from us, as well as our full circle of loved ones. We will wholeheartedly support, nurture, and encourage your child in pursuing whatever path in life they choose. We can't wait to discover all of the things that make them special.

Thank you for taking the time to get to us. We know this is just the first step, but if you choose to work with us, please know that we are committed to partnering with you to raise your child honestly and openly in a family full of love.

### About Shawna

- **Age:** 40
- **Career:** Professor of Public Health
- **Best Childhood memory:** The 4th of July on my grandparents' farm with lots of fireworks, family road trips
- **Favorite Food:** Will's poached eggs, any kind of curry, dark chocolate, birthday cake
- **Music always in rotation:** The Beatles, Radiohead, Beyoncé
- **Favorite movies:** Casablanca, When Harry Met Sally
- **Favorite Sport:** College Basketball
- **Favorite Team:** University of Kansas Jayhawks
- **Favorite Vacation:** Seeing the little blue penguins in Akaroa, New Zealand, or the penguin colony on Boulders Beach outside of Cape Town, South Africa

### About Will

- **Age:** 42
- **Career:** Professor of Astronomy
- **Favorite Sport:** Tennis
- **Favorite TV Shows:** Monty Python's Flying Circus, Frasier, Star Trek
- **Favorite movies:** Airplane!; Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
- **Music always in rotation:** Talking Heads, Underworld, Dire Straits
- **Best Childhood Memory:** Travelling coast-to-coast across the US with grandparents in their RV
- **Favorite Holiday Tradition:** Making (and eating) chocolate Easter Eggs
- **Favorite food:** Any kind of fruit-based pie (especially pumpkin), espresso
- **Favorite Vacation:** Hiking and thermal hot springs in New Zealand