

# Taylor & Rachel



# Dear Birth Parent,

Hello!

First, thank you so much for your consideration. We can imagine that this must be a difficult, confusing time for you, but we know that you will make the best possible decision for you and your baby. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us!

For years we have talked about having children and what that would look like. We have enjoyed being surrounded by so many babies and young children in our extended family and among our friends, but we have looked forward to raising one of our own for a long time. We will encourage them to love themselves and be proud of who they are while being considerate of others' differences and different perspectives. When we are lucky enough to welcome a baby into our home, our jobs are flexible so we will be able to make them a priority – staying home, working remotely, and taking time off as needed.

We are grateful to live in a wonderful community and to be surrounded by so many loving family members and friends, and we can't wait to share all of that with a child. Thank you again for your consideration, and we wish you all the best!



sincerely  
Taylor & Rachel



## Our Story

We first met online in the summer of 2016, and we quickly bonded over our common interests, shared values, similar taste in music and movies, and our offbeat sense of humor. After a few years of dating, we decided to move in together and have been pretty much inseparable since then. We got engaged in summer of 2019 and planned to get married in summer 2020, but COVID-19 had other ideas. So, we postponed our wedding and got married in a small ceremony in our backyard, officiated by Taylor's sister with our closest family and friends present. While it wasn't in our original plans, everything turned out better than we could have imagined. It was an unseasonably warm, perfect spring day.

From early on in our relationship, we both knew we wanted to have a family. Once things got serious, we often talked about our future together, which included raising children. We've always talked about adoption being part of our plan, and we are excited that we are now at the point – financially and emotionally – where we are ready to adopt. We love our life together and cannot wait to be able to share it with our future child.



# About Taylor

Taylor grew up on the East Coast and came to Michigan to go to college. He grew up in a small but tight-knit family, and he maintains a very good relationship with his younger sister, Paige. Taylor is strength and stability personified. He is loving, good-natured, fun, and he always knows how to make someone's day better just by being there. He is often the smartest person and has an encyclopedic knowledge of many different subjects. Despite that, he is very down-to-earth, humble, and always looking out for others. I know that he will make a great father because he has already proven to be a wonderful and caring son, brother, husband, and uncle.

***“ We are surrounded by so many loving family members and friends. We can't wait to share that with a child. ”***

# About Rachel

Rachel is the best person I have ever met. She is kind and caring, always looking for ways to brighten the day of someone close to her. She has a wonderful sense of when her friends and loved ones need support and always knows when to reach out with some encouragement or a small, perfectly selected gift. She is very smart and her excellent sense of humor constantly brings joy to my day and I know all are always happier after spending time with her.

Rachel loves to read, write, watch movies, and attend concerts and shows. She has visited dozens of countries all around the world and has amazing stories from her travels. Her wide range of life experiences and pop culture knowledge means she always has something interesting to add to any conversation. She is always on the lookout for fun new things to do around town. Whether local or far away, she has a way of adding adventure to my life.





**Further inquiry contact  
Hands Across the Water**

**hatw.org**

**info@hatw.org**

**734-477-0135**

**781 Avis Dr. Suite 200**

**Ann Arbor, MI 48108**

## About Our Family

Rachel has a big extended family, and we are lucky to live close to them and see them often. On Rachel's mom's side, she has 21 first cousins, which means lots of family parties throughout the year and a family reunion in the summer. We also have a close relationship with Taylor's sister, Paige, who lives near his hometown, and we typically see her every few months. In addition to family, we have a solid group of close friends, and we enjoy spending time at each other's houses, barbecuing or going to dinner, going on trips up north, watching and playing sports, and going to sporting events (especially Michigan football and basketball). We look forward to someday taking our child to all these places that are so special to us, and we look forward to exploring many new places with them!

## About our Community

We live in a quiet neighborhood with lots of other families with young children. There is a neighborhood pool where we spend as much time as we can during the summer months. We live in a community that is becoming increasingly diverse and progressive, which we are happy to see. We are also grateful to be surrounded by many close friends and family members who are committed to educating themselves on race and diversity issues, and we plan to incorporate this into our child's upbringing. We plan to continuously educate ourselves to best serve our child and their needs and to surround them with diverse experiences so that they stay connected to their culture. We also hope to maintain an open adoption so that our child can maintain a strong relationship with their birth family.

