

Jonathan & Lilian



Hobbies & Interests

Board games; cooking/eating; legos & blocks; veggie gardening; community activism; Pixar & Ghibli movies; world travel; National Parks

Occupation

Lilian: fun at home
Jonathan: fun at Trader Joe's

Education

Lilian: BA in English, Brandeis.
Jon: BS in Mechanical Engineering, Tufts; Culinary degree, Cordon Bleu of Pasadena

Religion or Belief System

Social justice; honesty, integrity; practice what you preach; anti-racism; when they go low, we go high

Pets

Nori, black cat (mama); Saba, grey/white cat (sister); Katsuo, grey cat (brother); Stellaluna, Shepherd mix dog

Children in the Home

Horatio, born August 2017

Our Story

Originally both from California, we met, fell in love, and married in Massachusetts before moving to Michigan in 2016. We set down roots and plan to grow our family here. Jon is go-with-the-flow and Lilian is a planner; we balance the other. Our son Horatio is the only extrovert in our family so far, so he challenges and balances us, too. We own a bright home in a vibrant neighborhood in Northwest Detroit and offer this child a family-- with sibling(s) close in age to be your child's oldest friend(s), loving pets to snuggle, and parents who will love and accept the individual they become and be open ears to validate their experiences.

What Brought Us to Adoption

We come to adoption freely. We can approach this process without painful expectation because adoption is our choice. We love being parents. We share the joys and the responsibilities, and are excited to grow our family this way. We have planned for this for years and even talked about adoption on our first date. We have since grown our awareness of adoption issues and ethics. We are not yearning for a baby to make us whole, but rather to wait for the right people to join us and add to the wonderful and trying experiences of parenthood we already live out daily.

Our Hopes, Open Adoption & Relationship with Birth Family

We hope for relationships built on mutual trust and connection. The harsh reality of "open" adoptions is that many "close" from lapse of contact from adoptive parents who feel threatened by the intimacy of such raw relationships. We believe your connections benefit us all, and commit to holding space to have ongoing relationships with you and your extended family. We also commit to engaging with others who share your child's race, ethnicity, cultural heritage or heritage religion to build a community of peers and role models apart from our loving families to also help them toward positive identity and sense of self.

These individuals have met all requirements of the State of Michigan and Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County to become adoptive parents, may fit your situation and are waiting to welcome a child into their home. If you would like more information about this family, please contact:

Melissa Masserang | 734.971.9781, ext. 412 | mmasserang@csswashtenaw.org

Julie Payne | 734.971.9781, ext. 321 | jpayne@csswashtenaw.org

