meet

Rebecca

HELLO

While I cannot know what you are facing in the decisions in your life currently, I hope you find the answers that are right for you. I thank you for considering me as a potential adoptive parent. Your decision holds a place of great honor and respect in my heart. Every day I look at my daughter June, who I adopted at birth, I am reminded with such gratitude of the wonderful gift I was given. **If chosen, my love for your child would have no boundaries.**

I would hope to share with your child my joy of life, my curiosity about new experiences, my love and nurturing. I value family and quality time together. I believe it is important to help a child learn and discover, growing up to be whoever he or she wants to be. I would want your child to be able to explore if he or she likes sports, or animals, or the beach, music or dancing, building or science. I would want to be able to tell him that it is ok to feel all the emotions, good or bad, or show her that it is ok to try and succeed or fail, there is always a lesson to grow from. I would want to raise him to care about other people and world around him. I would want to raise her to know she is of value and has a purpose. I believe in listening to a child's thoughts and ideas and being a source of encouragement. I believe it is important to nurture children to become good human beings, who value making a difference in the world. I view parenthood as my role and commitment to provide for my child/children to reach towards their greatest potential and quality of life.

I am so thrilled at the prospect of getting to know you more and that possibility to become family, there just aren't the right words to describe it. I hope this book will give you some idea of who I am. Your child in my life would have all of the love, protection and support that I have within me. I wish you well and that you find peace with your decisions.

With Love,

REBECCA

I left active-duty Army service in 2014 to focus on my personal life and put down roots after being a career-focused professional woman after many years of schooling. Unfortunately, the path of my life thus far did not include me finding a husband or partner. But I knew that I wanted to be a mother. It was the part missing from my otherwise fulfilling life. I began trying to have a baby through fertility treatments (IVF) with a donor, and later using an egg donor as I learned I could not have children with my own eggs. I became pregnant twice and sadly miscarried twice.

Through life's hardships I have found deep strength

These were difficult times, but my belief that I was supposed to become a mom was only that much stronger for suffering those losses. With every difficulty in life, I have learned that while I am as human and flawed as anyone, I am also strong and know I can overcome. Life's tough times showed me the wonderful people I can always rely on, my family and good friends, who remain significant in my and my daughter's lives.

I would love to know you more. Hear your story. And listen to your hopes for your child.

Joy & Love

WHAT IS IMPORTANT ...

01 LIVE WITH INTEGRITY

It is important to do the right thing, even when it is hard. Live honestly. Following an internal moral code is a guide towards trying to be the best version of yourself that you can be.

02 HELPING OTHERS

I believe we have a responsibility as humans to give back to others, whether it is in a small act of kindness in the day, volunteering where there is a need, or choice of job. We don't live alone in this world, and at some point, we need the help of others too. It is through service to others that we also learn about ourselves, and have the opportunity to shape our values.

03 NURTURING RELATIONSHIPS

The joys and sorrows in life are best shared with others. It takes listening, thoughtfulness, giving of oneself, patience and flexibility to grow and keep important relationships.

04 LIVE LIFE AS A GIFT

Knowing loss and suffering taught me to not miss out on those wonderful and brilliant moments that life can offer in better times. I try to not let the busy pulls of life distract me from taking the time to slow down and appreciate what is right in front of me now.

05 LOVE THE DIFFERENCES IN OTHERS

We should respect and celebrate the uniqueness of people, cultures, and different life experiences. Everyone has value. Treat others as you would hope to be treated.

MY ADOPTION STORY

I feel called to be a mother. In my early 40s, I tried fertility treatment to see if I could even use my eggs or become pregnant. But I knew I would pursue adoption too. I always envisioned two or more children growing up together. After encouraged by hopeful doctors for a couple years, it ended up that I kept suffering miscarriages. This was not the path for me. It was a growing process for sure. As I was learning about adoption, in the most amazing turn of events, June came into my life through adoption at her birth. It has been the best time of my life! Love like this just builds more love, and we have so much to share with another child!

Love and family is not bound by blood, it is what we make it with our hearts. If I am fortunate enough to adopt again, my vision is that I want my children to have each other, well beyond the many continued years I hope to have with them. Being a mother is one of the roles I am meant to have in this lifetime and I believe I have a lot to offer in raising and loving a child. I know myself well. I am secure and stable practically, emotionally, financially, in my career and with the community of family and friends I have had for years.

LOVE AND FAMILY IS NOT BOUND BY BLOOD BUT WHAT WE MAKE IT IN OUR HEARTS

meet

REBECCA

MY FRIENDS WOULD SAY I AM...

someone of integrity who is hardworking, loyal, kind, thoughtful, and not afraid to take the less traveled (or harder) roads in life. I am careful and considerate with my decisions but believe it is important to try new things in life, to not miss opportunities if they present themselves. I think my friends know that once I am in their corner, they've got me for life and I will do what I can for them when there is a need. I try to give back for all the support I have received.

I WILL ALWAYS PRIORITIZE MY FAMILY AND LOVING THEM WELL

I like to spend time with family and friends, talking and playing cards or games. I am a lover of all music, including blues, alternative, folk, classic rock and classical cello. I see as many concerts as I can. The outdoors and hiking here in Washington remind me of my childhood. It is my peaceful retreat for thinking and connecting to the natural world. My daughter seems to have a natural affinity for the outdoors as well, so we get outside to parks, the zoo, and nature exploring whenever we can. I feed my creative soul with photography projects, photo editing and reading about (and trying!) interior design. June and I do art projects at home. I hope to take her traveling a little more to visit family in person and explore the Pacific Northwest when the pandemic restrictions allow.

I work in the mental health field as a psychiatrist (physician). Since adopting my daughter, I reduced my work schedule to 32 hours a week, Monday through Thursday. This allows more time for me to spend on my priority of family, while still maintaining a reliable financial income.

My job easily translates to video appointments, so I was fortunate to be able to tele-work for the duration of the pandemic this past year. As a single parent, I do plan to continue to work in this part time schedule after welcoming home another child. I believe I have found a balance between work and quality family time.

After I retire from the Army Reserve next year, that will enable even more financial flexibility to make decisions that prioritize time with family. My position in the Army Reserve is that of a psychiatrist, and it is a position, where if I were activated, my job would be to work in the local Army hospital while the active duty psychiatrist counterpart gets deployed elsewhere. This would enable me to maintain the childcare routine and take care of my family without being separated

SHE IS KIND, CURIOUS, AND CANNOT WAIT TO SHARE A LIFE WITH A SIBLING

JUNE

June is a reflective, kind, curious and playful girl. She needs some time to get used to new people and environments but seems to thrive once feeling comfortable. She is loving and ready with the hugs for those she knows, her family, and stuffed animal friends. She tucks in her doll and animals for naps with great care. She takes great pride in new accomplishments. She loves to listen to music, sing songs and dance, especially when clapping and stomping are involved! She loves reading. We read together every day. She loves ducks. Born in the right state (Washington!), she loves being outdoors and exploring, rain or shine. She attends Montessori school while I am at work, and has blossomed even further in the social learning environment. She is fascinated with babies and is looking forward to having a younger sibling.

NICOLE, MY FRIEND OF OVER 16 YEARS

Rebecca is an incredible colleague, friend, and mom. I met Rebecca at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 2006 when we were both wrapping up our respective behavioral health residency programs. We had the opportunity to serve together in Germany for a couple years in a small behavioral health clinic in Heidelberg from which we both deployed. Not only did Rebecca go out of her way to help me acculturate and integrate onto a small team when I moved to Germany six months after her, but she made sent me very thoughtful and nourishing care packages during my 11 month deployment to Iraq which started within a few months of her returning from the war zone. Rebecca and I have stayed in touch over the years as we both transitioned off of Active Duty with the intention of growing roots in community and pursuing family. When Rebecca did not find a partner with whom to start a family, she started exploring the path of becoming a single mother by choice. Rebecca comes from an incredible family who taught her about hard work, perseverance, commitment, loyalty, love, and patience. I continue to be inspired by Rebecca's courage, tenacity, love, and perseverance! There is nothing that gives her more joy than being a mom—gazing, feeding, reading, exploring the world, etc. Rebecca has the resources and love to expand her family with another child who would benefit from having an older sister and a loving environment to cultivate the child's unique talents and gifts. Rebecca is one of the brightest, kindest, most generous, understanding, and prepared individuals I know. She is an incredible teacher and guide to both adults and children. She also as great patience for hard and important work. She is a life long learner and will be shaped by her children just as much as she shapes them. - Nicole

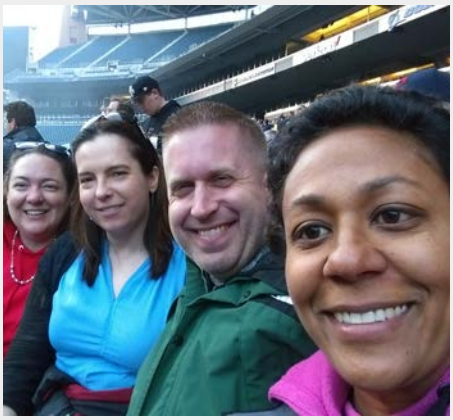
CHRISTINE, MY MOM

The most important attribute that Rebecca has is the importance and dedication to family. Growing up with two brothers she understands the connection that siblings have and she wishes that for June. Just watching her interactions with June is amazing. I admire her strength, compassion, energy and loving nature she shows June. She is raising her to be all that she can be and showing her the endless possibilities that the world holds for her. Rebecca is wonderful Mom to our granddaughter. -Christine

What I Value

I was raised in a family where I was told that I can do anything I put my mind to, and encouraged from an early age by parents who loved me and showed it. I read a lot. I played a lot. I was taught to help others. I had a good education, that began with my mother who was a teacher. I was given the opportunity to try new things at every stage of my development. I failed often and had great successes. I have seen life and death as a doctor, and sat with people in their most challenging times as a psychiatrist. I have suffered to know great personal loss in my mother's death when I was ten, and miscarriages in recent years. I say these things because it is these joys and sorrows that shape my values and how much I appreciate life.

I value kindness, honesty, integrity, and respect for each other. Family time together and nurturing relationships are important. Communication is essential to relationships. Having and showing emotions is normal. Life is a gift. We are not owed anything. We have to create opportunities. We have to work hard. We bear the responsibility for ourselves and trying to make the most out of this life we are given. It is important to have goals, dream big and not be afraid to try and fail, because that is a path to growth, wisdom and success. Lean into the challenge when life is hard and lean on each other for support. Don't give up, persevere. Help others when you can. Be accepting and inclusive, treat others as you would like to be treated.



SURROUNDED BY A COMMUNITY THAT BRINGS JOY

HOME SWEET HOME

Our home is a place where you can put your feet up and rest

Our home is a 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 3600 square foot house that I own. It was built in the 1950s and has been remodeled through the years. There is a beautiful view of the ocean (Puget Sound) since the house is built on a hill. There is one main living level with an open layout that includes kitchen, dining area, and living room. The lower finished daylight basement with views into the back yard, where my parents live in when they visit, is so peaceful. We have a 2 car garage, laundry room, and tool/project room off the garage. It is warm and welcoming and a place of rest for our family.

June's play area is one of the 2 living/flex rooms. We have 2 decks that allow us more outside space and show us the beautiful sunset views as the day ends. The front and back yard are mostly trees, bushes, flowers with a small patch of grass. In the back, there are apple, pear, fig, and cherry trees. June and I routinely go outside and pick fruit together during harvest seasons. There are garden boxes on the side the of the house. I am working on my green thumb! We love taking regular walks through our neighborhood. I love raising June here as it is so family friendly.

OUR COMMUNITY

I enjoy our community because it is small enough that we run into people we know when we are out and about, but large enough that we can find a diversity of activities and experiences to enjoy. There are a number of small family owned businesses in the area. There is access to school options, whether in our district or private, that would offer great educational value. I am looking forward to getting involved in the local YMCA, the children's museum, sports, and other children's activities. We already are members of the local Zoo/aquarium and go there often.

There are diverse cultures forming our community. It is my interest to expose all my children to a diversity of people, cultures, and experiences. Seattle is about an hour's drive away, which offers bigger city resources when needed or for special events and outings. There is the vast beautiful outdoors of the Pacific Northwest, where it is never far to reach the water or the mountains and related activities. Summers here are the best!

WE LOVE WATCHING THE SUNSET OVER THE WATER IN THE EVENING

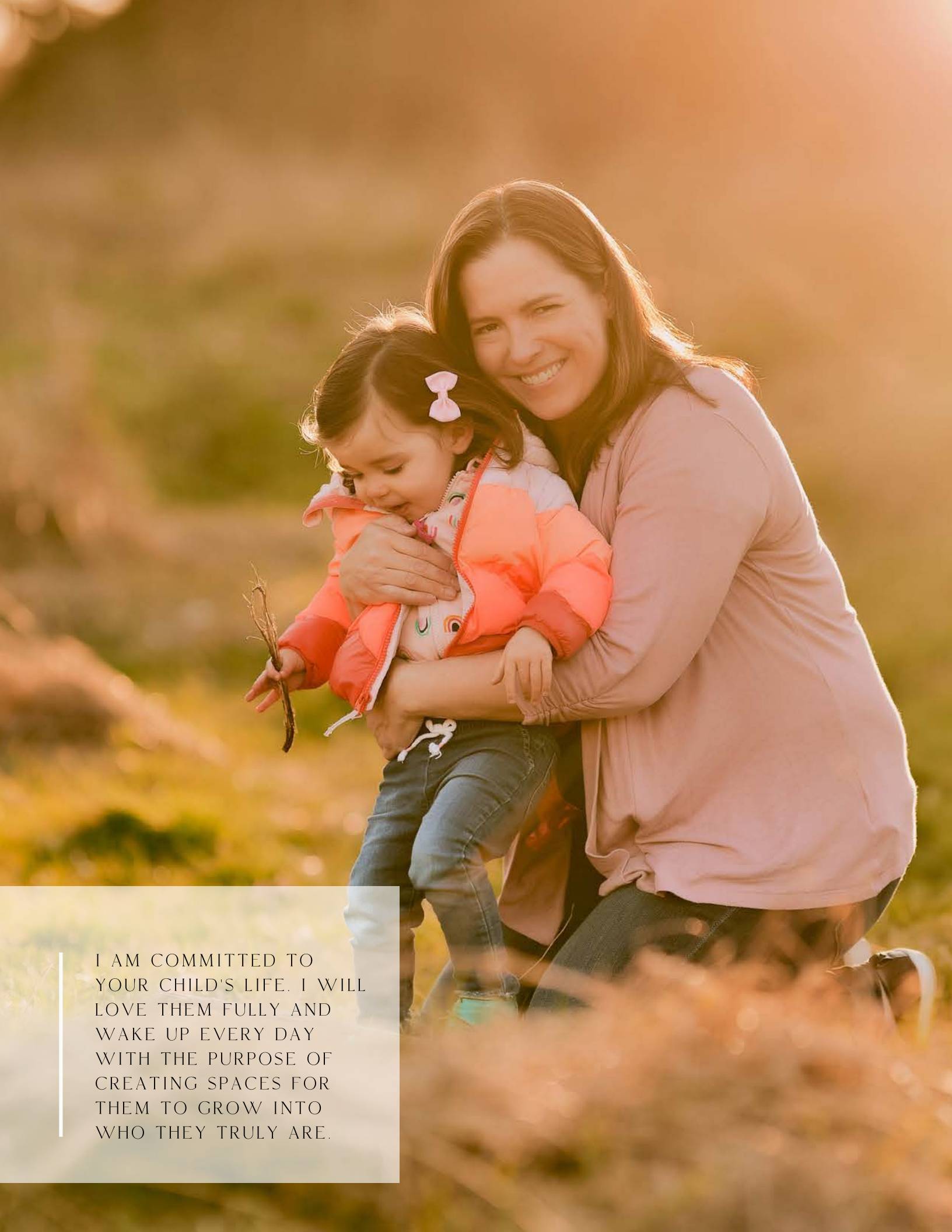
MY LOVING FAMILY

who cheer us on throughout life

I have a very close relationship with my family. I wish we all lived in the same city, but I can't quite seem to convince everyone to move! We do daily video calls with my parents. They also come out to Washington and stay with us for the summer. We speak with my brothers each about once a week by video. Once the pandemic barriers end, it will be much easier to visit with my brother's family who lives a couple hours away here in Washington. I really want my children to know their cousins and have considered moving closer to one of their families in the future. My entire family loves June, and would also love and welcome another adopted child with all their hearts.

MY FAMILY SUPPORTS ME IN ALL I DO

My family is so present in our lives and they cannot wait to love another child alongside me.



I AM COMMITTED TO YOUR CHILD'S LIFE. I WILL LOVE THEM FULLY AND WAKE UP EVERY DAY WITH THE PURPOSE OF CREATING SPACES FOR THEM TO GROW INTO WHO THEY TRULY ARE.

MY HEART

HELPING OTHERS

Earning my medical degree and becoming a doctor, where I get the chance to help people, has been one of my greatest accomplishments. I believe the impact I have in my job as a psychiatrist really makes a difference in people's lives. Patients have told me I saved their lives. That is a pretty powerful thing to hear. It is humbling and fills me with gratitude that I can help improve someone's quality of life. Working in the mental health field, I am there for people during some of their most difficult times. This experience has really made me a better person over the years. I am more open, flexible, patient, accepting and forgiving, not only of others, but of myself.

BEING A MOM

If I reflect on how I feel the most fulfilled in life, it is in being a mother. I hope to accomplish being a good mom every day. Being chosen to be an adoptive mother is really the greatest gift that I hope to someday be my greatest accomplishment. In honoring this choice, I try to nurture and enable June to become the very best version of who she is meant to be, hopefully a happy person who is able to walk through life with many opportunities and adventures before her. I would feel the same way about any other child I would have the honor of raising.

MY FAITH

I plan to raise our child with some of the values I share with Christian beliefs, and possibly with people who are not Christian or religious, such as being kind, forgiving, honoring life, treating people with equality, giving people the benefit of the doubt, essentially treating people as you would wish to be treated. I also think it is important to create the space and discussion to allow our child to explore what his or her spiritual beliefs will be, and what role spirituality will have in his or her life.

Creating memories together and taking time to savor each moment is important to me

TRADITIONS

Our extended family tries to gather when we can in the same location for Christmas and Thanksgiving. When we have not been able to be in the same location as family, I have either hosted, or gone to gatherings locally with good friends. Since in the military, I have learned through the years, many of which I spent working or away from home, that you make family over the holidays with those special people who are with you, wherever you are. I also have been channeling my renewed creativity with more of a purpose now to celebrate all the holidays since becoming a mother. I bought and put up more Christmas lights outside our home to create holiday memories for my daughter. Birthdays really are focused on the children in the family and making those experiences special. Our house is usually the perfect location for 4th of July because of the views from our deck. We can see the fireworks all around the neighborhood and across the water at neighborning towns.

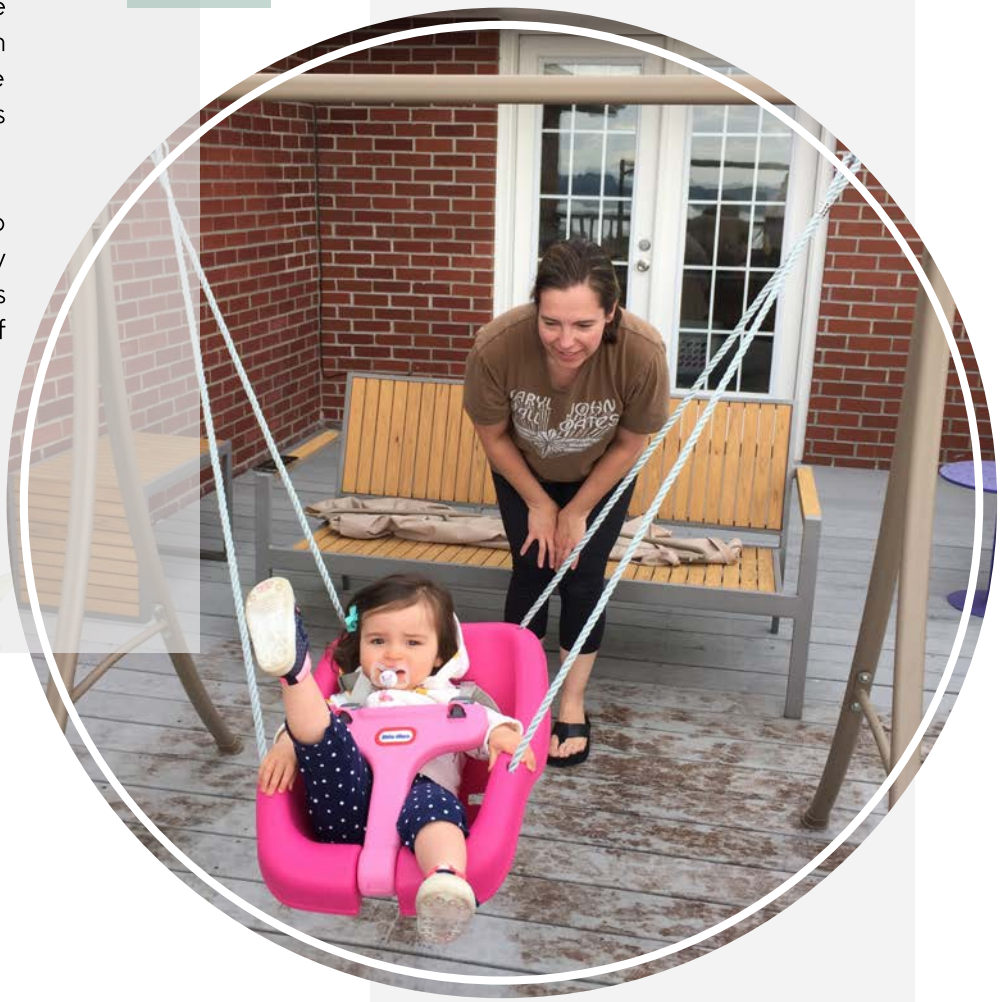
MY PASSION

I am most passionate about being a mother, seeing my daughter grow and experience things for the first time, and now having some words to tell me about it! I love my family and friends. The things that matter most to me are the people in my life. I will always create spaces to build and sustain healthy relationships with people I care about by spending quality time together.

Beautiful creation moves me emotionally, whether it is seeing a beautiful piece of art, listening to music, or feeling the rain on my face while running on a nature trail. I feel like these are reminders to be present in the moment, and to take the time to soak in the beauty this life offers.

I am passionate about my job and am humbled that I can play a role in improving people's lives through the practice of psychiatry.

Loving your neighbor, creating family time, spreading joy, showing up for those you love, and being present is what roots us.



HOPES & DREAMS

My future decisions will have to do with what is best for our family. I would like to live at some point in one of the cities my brothers live in. This consideration is based strongly on the value of family and wanting my children to grow up knowing their grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. After adopting another child, most likely I would plan on a move within a year to another house in my current community (if I don't move to one of my brothers' communities). I think a house with a different layout and different outdoor features, such as a large fenced yard with grass, a swing-set and space to run and play, will fit our growing family better. While the children are younger age, I would love to take smaller family-focused travel trips, but later I think it would be a great to travel more to enable the kids to have new experiences.

While I've learned in life not to box myself in with a set idea of how things will go; I would like a bigger family, though I will measure every decision by the capability I see in myself (or possible future husband/blended family) to be able to effectively parent my existing children. As a single mother, I have to make sure my first, and hopefully second child, are doing well with the time I spend with them and resources I have.

I AM A PRESENT AND INTENTIONAL MOM

I know that being a single mom means that I build a life for the children I have the honor of raising. I wake up every day with so much joy because of the privilege I was given to raise June. It spurs me on to build a life filled with fun, sweet memories, and moments where we slow down and just play together. I put her and any children I get to love above everything else.

I will raise our children with values like honoring and loving others well. I will teach them to have confidence in who they are. I am dedicated to creating a home where they can be fully themselves and feel supported as they try new things in life. My life is dedicated to loving them unconditionally.

BEFORE YOU GO

Thank you for taking the time to read our story and to get to know our family. We truly appreciate your act of love in considering this decision. If you choose our family, communication about you in our home will reflect our heart for you and your selfless act. Communication in our home will be how much you love them and how your decision was rooted in love. We hope to know you more, as much as you feel comfortable with sharing. We wish you well with wherever your heart leads you.

With so much love,

REBECCA