thanks for opening our book
We will love to get to know you more if that is what you choose.
So nice to meet you! We are Ira and Stan. We are thankful that you took the time to look at our profile book. We hope that you can connect a bit more with who we are.

At this time, we don’t know your thoughts, emotions, and feelings, but we want you to know that we are here for you. We are praying for you and we fully support and understand that you want what is best for you and your baby, no matter what that may be.

Our love story began 13 years ago when we met in Ira’s home country in Southwest Africa called Angola in the capital city of Luanda. We have tried to have children biologically since then, but we struggled with infertility issues. When this happened we felt a strong calling to adopt. All lives for us are precious and need to be cherished at all times.

Thank you one more time for taking your time to read through this book. We hope you find similarities and plenty of tiny glimpses of who you are as well. This book is about us and our desire to adopt. This book is also about you as a mother. We respect you as a mother and treasure your brave and impressive decision-making mindset for your child. We will love to get to know you more if that is what you choose. We know that you will have many families to consider, but our prayer is that you would trust your heart—it is never wrong. If there’s anything in this book that connects with your heart, then, we would love to meet you.

with love and gratitude,

Ira and Stan
We grew up in entirely different worlds—Stan grew up in the Midwest, and Ira grew up in Angola, Africa. Despite our cultural differences on our first date, we connected immediately. We talked for hours and after the date we could not stop seeing each other every day. It was strange but we both often talked about how we could see ourselves spending the rest of our lives together. We dated for six more months, and Stan proposed to me shortly after. One year later, we married in Angola, Luanda, my hometown in Africa on May 20, 2010.

We've been married for 12 years, and together for 13 years now, and the greatest thing about our partnership is unconditional support for each other through good times and bad. We lived in many places throughout the world and had to make decisions to support each other’s goals each time. As a result, today, we built a strong love foundation that is unshakable and will help us give our future child together a beautiful and stable life.

On the weekends, we love spending time together relaxing at home, camping, golfing, biking, walking the nearby nature trails, hosting barbecues for family and friends, and traveling to new places.

We are excited to be on this journey to becoming parents together, something we’ve always wanted, and can’t wait to see how our family grows through adoption.
why we are adopting

We're very excited to grow our family through adoption.

Stan is a loving parent of three beautiful adult children—Sienna (23), Chiara (19), and Luca (17). Stan devotes time, love, and unconditional support to ensure that my stepchildren are successful in their everyday life choices. Stan’s love for his children is inspiring and I strongly believe that he will be a great father to our child.

When we started talking about growing our family, adoption was always something we hoped to do at some point. We wanted to have biological children together, but after struggling with infertility for years, we decided that it was time to grow our family through adoption. The decision was not hard and it felt just right for both of us. We are happy and excited to grow our family and believe that love is welcoming. We know that we have love to share with our future child. Whether adoptive or biological, our child will be loved and cherished equally.

OUR FAITH
We’re a Christian couple, and we believe in God. We enjoy going to church during the weekends or watching the service online. We love to volunteer at a local food pantry in our community and truly enjoy the gift of giving back to others through volunteering. We intend to take our future child into this beautiful giving journey, by teaching our child that faith is important to achieving things in life as well as to be kind and respectful towards others regardless of their differences, beliefs, choices, or cultural backgrounds.
I grew up in Luanda, the capital of Angola, a country in Southwest Africa. I love to cook, shop for home decorations, play golf, and read books. I work for a local company near home. I love and enjoy what I do professionally; it involves interviewing and hiring people. I have a flexible working schedule, with a great life and work balance. I have enough time to come home and enjoy daily trail walks, watch home decoration shows, and just enjoy fun activities with Stan. One of my passions is to play golf and I can’t wait to share this passion with my child.

What I most look forward to about being a mom is to experience unconditional love for my child. I am excited to spend quality time with my baby, cuddling, watching tv, and playing together. I look forward to being an everyday mom, who will take care of, learn from, encourage, and be present in our child’s growth and development.
Favorite Things: Christmas Dinners, Cooking, Home Design & Decorating, Cleaning the House and Traveling.
I grew up in Columbia, Missouri in a neighborhood full of kids very close to two lakes and a lot of woods. Fishing, cycling, sports, camping out on the lakes and generally being outside most of the time with my best friends defined my childhood. Once I went to college, I was eager to explore the world. I’ve lived and worked on four continents and met Iracema during my overseas period. Today, I’m a financial advisor that works mainly with Americans that live overseas like I once did, so I still get to learn so much about other places through my conversations with my wonderfully diverse clients. My favorite hobbies are golf, cycling and my aquariums (tropical fish from Africa). **I love outdoor activities with my now-adult children, but I can’t wait to teach our new child the wonder and joy of being active and playing outside, whether it’s teaching golf, tennis and soccer, or riding our bikes on the miles of nature trails nearby and sledding in the winter.** I’m very much a kid myself when I’m outside and I can’t wait for a new companion to share an adventure with!
Favorite Things:
Thanksgiving dinner as a family, striking a golf ball purely, finishing a 50-mile bike ride, and Iracema’s laugh.
Iraca in Stan’s words

“Iracema is an incredible woman and I am honored to be her husband. She is constantly working, learning and living life to the best of her ability and makes everyone around her better. She has an energy about her that is special and she never gives up on her dreams and, in that sense, she is a very serious person. At the same time, she has incredible warmth and her laugh is perhaps the thing that I love the most about her—it is deep, from the heart, and lights up a room! Her unique combination of dedication and warmth shines through in every step we take towards adoption. She is going to give 100% as a mother and I could not be more excited to see her dream come true.”
Stan in Ira’s words

“Stan is very kind and funny, and makes everyone around him laugh. He is the most kind-hearted person I’ve ever known. He is always ready to help everyone from family members to friends without expecting anything in return. Stan will be a great parent, he has already shown great parenting skills with his now adult children.”
We live in a 4-bedroom, townhouse. In the main level you will find the master bedroom, two bathrooms, kitchen, living and dining rooms. The basement downstairs has one bathroom, three bedrooms, a family room, and a door with an access to our backyard. Our home is our sanctuary! **We love to cook delicious African, European, and American recipes, play and host karaoke games for friends and family, listen to music and dance like nobody’s watching.** We love to watch movies while cuddling on the couch. When watching movies, or TV shows, Ira usually makes chocolate cookies and brings them downstairs so we can watch a movie together while taking a bite to sweet and delicious cookies. Our neighborhood is safe, friendly, close to schools, restaurants, trails, cinemas, shopping malls, and a few hours away from major cities. We’re excited to raise our family here, and know from experience that it will be a great place to raise our children!
We can’t wait to add more love to this home.
**Ira's Family:** I am the oldest of three siblings. I have a sister and a brother. My parents are grandparents to Adriel, who is 6 years old. My mother and father are hands on grandparents and can’t wait to add one more addition into the family. My sister is a lawyer and my brother is an architectural engineer. My father is a business owner, and my mom is a doctor. **My family overall is humble, generous, and fun to be around. We travel abroad once a year to visit my family and they travel to spend Christmas with us.** We tend to see each other twice a year and it is always a great time when we’re all together. My family is very excited and can’t wait to meet their new grandchild.

**Stan’s Family:** I have three children from a prior marriage, Sienna, Chiara and Luca. The girls are both in college and Luca will soon join them next year. The kids all grew up in diverse environments, having attended school in Africa (Angola), South America (Brazil) and the United States. I am so proud of them and they are excited that their step mom and I are giving them a new brother or sister. Just like Ira, I am also the oldest of three siblings, with a sister and brother. All three of us are married to spouses who are originally from another country, so we are definitely a diverse and international family. I have three nephews and one niece. **My parents, my brother and his family live just a couple of hours to the South of us and my sister and her family are a few hours North, so we are a natural mid-point for family get-togethers. My parents love their grandchildren deeply and are always traveling to see them. The youngest grandchild is four now, so they are extremely anxious for a new baby grandchild to spoil!**

Both our families will welcome our new son or daughter with open arms.
in our family...
We love to laugh and have fun...

We devote our lives to God and connect with others.

We welcome everyone...
Thank you for reading through our book and getting to know us better. We hope we were able to show you a little bit of who we are through our book. We hope that you could see the love we share for one another, the fun we have together, the love, support, and happiness that parenthood will bring us.

IF YOU CHOOSE AN ADOPTION PLAN AND DECIDE TO CHOOSE US, THERE ARE COMMITMENTS TO MAKE TO YOUR CHILD:

• We commit to raising your child in a home that loves God and others.

• We commit that your child will always be safe and secure and that we will love your child unconditionally and without limits.

• We commit to celebrate your child for who they are and support them to be their own unique person.

• We commit to raising your child so that they know they are loved by God, by you, and by us.

• We commit to an open relationship for you and your child where your child will know its roots, and the family they came from.

• We commit to be forever grateful to you and your decision everyday.

If you choose us, we will consider it one of the greatest honors of our lives to keep these commitments to your child. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for turning these pages. We are praying for you and sending our love your way!

Sincerely,

Ira and Stan