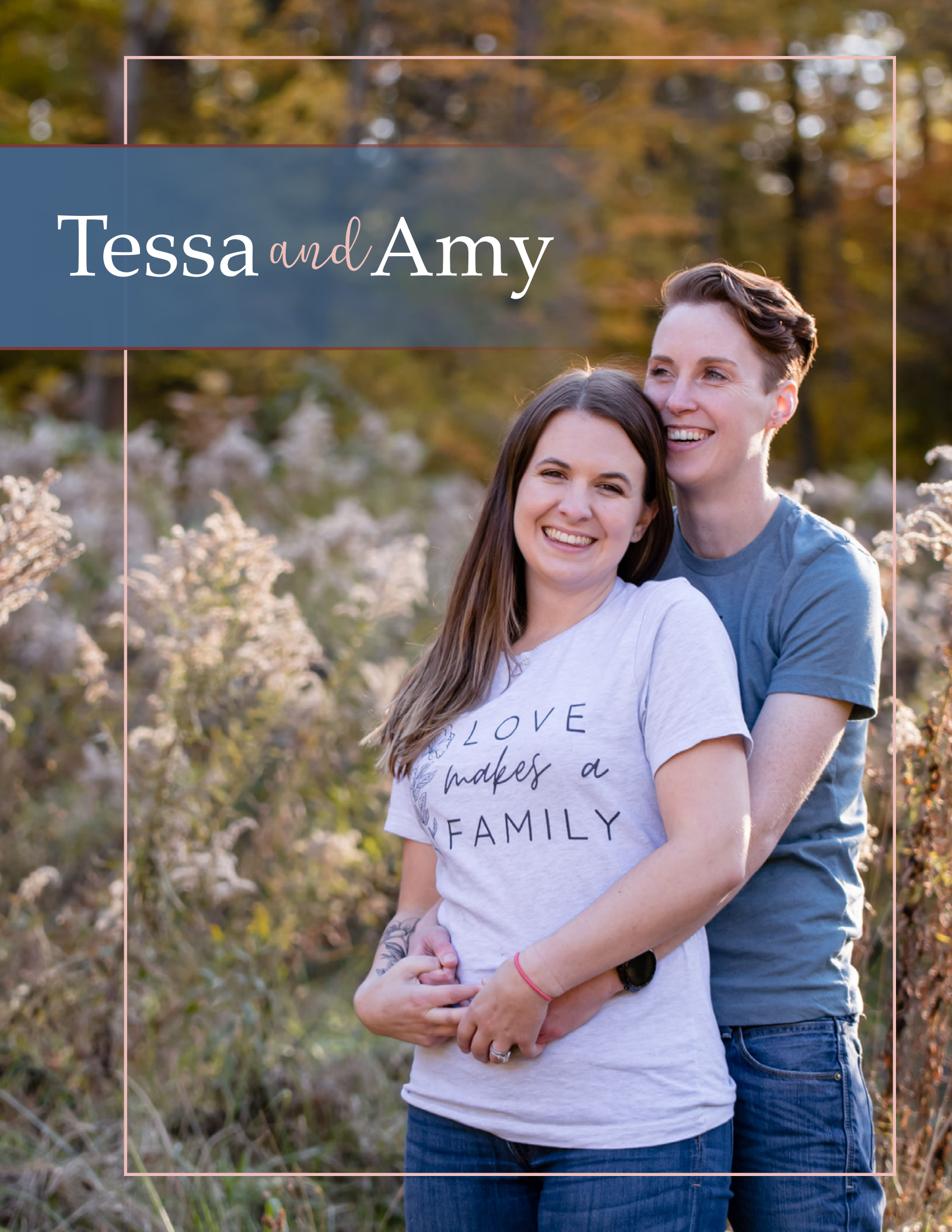
Tessa and Amy



Hi! **We are Tessa & Amy, and we would be honored to support you on this journey.** We have been friends for 13 years and we think that is what has helped us build such a strong and supportive marriage. We are both very active – Amy loves to run, and Tessa loves to dance and choreograph. We love to be outdoors, and frequently hike and bike around local parks with friends and family. We also make time every year to travel (around the US and abroad) and seek out new adventures and experiences.

Amy is a UX Researcher for a company that values work-life balance. Tessa is a PhD candidate, studying and teaching Anthropology and Primatology, and works part-time as a veterinary technician. Her goal after finishing her PhD is to run the nonprofit she founded in 2019, which is working to create a sanctuary for primates retired from laboratory research or previously kept as pets. While Amy and Tessa have very different jobs, they both work towards making life better for people and animals, and love that their jobs allow them to always continue learning.

While our lives keep us very active, we always prioritize making time for each other and our family, including our adorable fur babies. We are both so excited to be parents and can't wait to go on this next adventure together.

5 fun facts

Tessa:

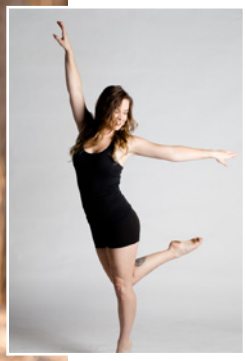
- **I love to dance, all different styles, and used to dance professionally for the NBA!**
- **I am vegetarian and have been my entire life.**
- **My favorite foods are chocolate and mac & cheese.**
- **I worked as a nanny for over 10 years.**
- **My favorite place I've ever traveled is the Galapagos Islands.**

Amy:

- **I love to run and go hiking.**
- **I crochet**
- **My favorite show to watch is Friends.**
- **My favorite candy is Twizzlers.**
- **My favorite place that I've traveled internationally is Barcelona and domestically is the smoky mountains.**

about Amy

Amy is the most genuinely giving person I know. If I am ever having a bad day, I know I can count on Amy to know exactly what I need to feel better before I even know it myself. Amy is intelligent, loyal, funny (even when telling terrible dad jokes), and tirelessly cares for others. I am continually in awe of Amy's determination, work ethic, and perseverance through whatever life brings. I have no doubt that Amy will be an incredible parent and I am beyond excited to take yet another adventure with my best friend.

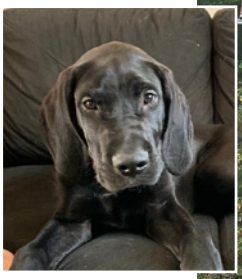


about Tessa

Tessa is the kindest person I know with an ability to consistently see the best in every situation and person she meets. She is supportive of my goals and the life we are building together as well as intelligent and driven to help as many animals as she can. Tessa continues to impress me with her hard-working ability to take on so many things (PhD student, Vet Tech, and founding a non-profit!). Tessa keeps me grounded and focused on all the amazing things in our life while always encouraging exploration and new activities. She is my partner in all things and will be such an amazing mother.

Our home

When we first started our adoption journey last year, we moved into our forever home that was fit for our growing family. Our home sits on a half-acre lot with lots of space for both pets and kids to run and play, with a creek running along the back of the property. We enjoy playing with our dogs in the family room, sitting together on the porch swing on our back deck, and have loved painting and decorating to make the house our own.



Our neighborhood is located away from major roads, so our street is frequently busy with kids playing and families walking their dogs. We are a short drive from numerous parks, restaurants, arts and entertainment, as well as necessities like grocery stores and hospitals. Our city thrives on unique perspectives and celebrates the diversity of its communities.

Amy with a few of our chosen family members, Stefani and Ryan.

Amy's extended family in South Carolina gathered for Thanksgiving.

Us with our close friend Samara on her wedding day.

Our Uncle Jerry and Cousin Khali showing muscles at the beach!

Tessa holding our chosen family niece on her day of birth :)

Our family *& friends*

Between the two of us and our five wonderful pets, there is never a dull moment in our home! We have two dogs (Ferdinand and Miley), two cats (Coal and Shaye), and an axolotl (Samantha). We have a very large extended family, spread all over our state, the country, and even abroad! Tessa grew up in upstate New York, and we frequently head over to the east coast to visit her parents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and childhood friends. Amy was born and raised in the midwest with two older sisters, so we are lucky enough to have many family members close by and very excited to play an active role in our children's lives. We also have an incredible support system of friends that we consider our chosen family. Tessa dances with a local company and has a tight-knit group of dance friends who will make the best aunties a kid could ask for. Amy's best friend Stefani is Colombian and we spend every New Years with her family, participating in some very fun traditions!

Tessa and our future kiddo's Grandfather dancing at our wedding

Amy with her mom celebrating her mom's cancer treatment graduation

Us with Tessa's grandma Cheryl on our wedding day.

Bike riding with a few of our closest friends, Chrissy and Peter

Our niece Olivia in the onesie Aunt Tessa picked out for her.

Our future kiddo's Grandma, Aunt Tricia, and Uncle Jerry!

Tessa with her close friends from dance on our wedding day.

Amy with friends and coworkers.

Dear Birthparents,

We know you have so many families to choose from, so thank you for taking the time to read this and learn about our family. We are in awe of the strength and selflessness it takes to make this decision and we are so thankful for your thoughtfulness and consideration. Adoption has always been our first choice to grow our family. Our home is so full of love and laughter, and we can't wait to share that with our future children. We believe in celebrating diversity and moving through life with kindness and compassion. If we can promise you one thing, it is that your child will be treasured and unconditionally loved every single day.

In solidarity,

Amy & Tessa

Why Adoption?

Adoption has always been our first choice to grow our family. It is difficult to explain exactly why we feel so called to adoption, but we know in our hearts that this is what we are meant to do. Being from the LGBTIQA community, we know that love is what makes a family and understand how important it is to have a family that loves and supports you unconditionally. We have so much love in our home and we cannot wait to become parents and share that love with our future children.

Building Blocks Adoption Service Inc.