BRAD *and* ALICIA

ABOUT US

We support one another through everything and with everything that we pursue individually and as a couple. One of our biggest strengths is our shared faith in Jesus Christ which compels us to love one another unconditionally and to consistently put each other's needs before our own. We love spending time with one another, making each other laugh and we approach everything we do as a team. We are best friends and enjoy reminiscing about our past and dreaming together about our future.

Sports are an important part of our family culture. We love attending our district's high school football, volleyball, and basketball games, as well as watching our beloved Ohio State Buckeyes football games. Our children enjoy participating in sports in the middle school and recreation programs; Brad has coached many of their teams, Alicia helps provide team meals, and we love cheering them on in their games, practicing together, and playing for fun in our backyard.

We also love celebrating! Whether it is a birthday, the holidays, or an individual accomplishment, we love to celebrate together with good food, fun activities, and sometimes giving gifts. We enjoy creating heartwarming memories together. Whether it is on a cozy, peaceful Christmas morning, a sunny day playing in the sand on a vacation, or watching a football game in our living room, we find small ways to make our time together special, meaningful, and memorable.

A favorite holiday tradition we have created happens on the night before Thanksgiving as we watch the Charlie Brown Thanksgiving movie together as a family and have a snack containing the items from the meal in the movie: jelly beans, pretzels, toast, and popcorn. Then on Thanksgiving night, after a day filled with feasting and reconnecting with extended family, our kids get to open "the first gift of Christmas" that contains cozy pajamas to wear during the Christmas season, a new book, and a stuffed animal.

OUR HOME

Our home is a 3-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom ranch style brick house with a partially finished basement. We are surrounded by fields and woods on three sides and a neighboring house on the fourth. Although our home is rurally located, we are a close drive to everything we need from grocery stores, restaurants, schools, hospitals, and most of our family and friends. Our backyard connects to a wide-open field that ends in a beautiful tree line at the back that we enjoy watching change with each season. Many memories have been made in our backyard such as cooking over our fire pit, swinging on the rope swing attached to the towering maple tree, building snowmen, and jumping on the trampoline. The inside of our home is comfortable and cozy, with a large dining room table where we gather most nights for family dinners together. We strive to make our home a safe place full of love, joy, laughter, and growth, so that no matter what happens out in the world our family has the security of knowing that they can always return to a haven of safety.

ABOUT BRAD *by Alicia*

Bradley is the kind of person that everyone wants to have as a friend; he is personable, kind, funny, and wise. His personality is rooted in humor, compassion for others, and having a strong work ethic. He is strong and steady, kind, and has a quick and unexpected humor that is like sunshine breaking through the clouds on a rainy day, turning tears into laughter and laughter into a coughing fit! He is a role model in the community and has mentored numerous young men and women to be the best versions of themselves even when they didn't believe they could. He is a great father to our daughters, providing strength with tenderness, truth with kindness, a shoulder to cry on, a loving hug, and an encouraging word.

ABOUT ALICIA *by Brad*

Alicia is not only my wife but truly my best friend. Watching her as a mother is one of the greatest joys of my life—she pours her heart into our daughters, always finding ways to make them feel loved, encouraged, and confident. She's incredibly smart and driven, and she has this amazing ability to lift up everyone around her, cheering on family and friends in their goals and dreams. Alicia has a heart and passion for children, which shines through in her work with kids at a local school for a counseling agency. She's low-key hilarious, and her quick wit and playful spirit keeps our home full of laughter. Her smile and laugh light up any room, and her steady faith in Jesus Christ anchors our family. Adoption has always been a dream of Alicia's, and her deep compassion for others reflects that calling on her life. Her heart for seeing families restored and made whole through God's love shows who she truly is—caring, genuine, and full of grace.

~ fun facts ~

Occupation: Case Manager for a Christian Counseling agency in local Middle/High schools and Founder/ Executive Director of a transitional housing non-profit

Education: Bachelor's degree in Organizational Supervision

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite TV Show: Parks and Rec, sporting events

Favorite Movie: Lincoln

Favorite Vacation: Cherry Grove Beach

Favorite Holiday: Thanksgiving

Hobbies: Reading historical non-fiction, fishing, camping, watching my kids' sports and activities

Occupation: Case Manager for a Christian Counseling agency in local Elementary school

Education: Bachelor's degree in Finance and Masters of Education in Early Childhood Education

Favorite Color: Teal

Favorite TV Shows: NCIS, Parks and Rec

Favorite Movie: Sleepless in Seattle, The Sandlot, Christmas Movies

Favorite Vacation: Cherry Grove Beach

Favorite Holiday: Christmas, Thanksgiving

Hobbies: baking, reading, writing and creating stories

OUR FAMILY

We have three amazing daughters, Claire (13), Anna (9), and Gabby (8). They are involved in volleyball, soccer, basketball, and track depending on the season, and we love to watch them do what they love. We enjoy playing games together as a family, being outside, traveling, experiencing new things together, and eating dinner together. We have large extended family on both sides that we gather with for holidays, special occasions and birthdays. The love and support of our families have been invaluable in our lives and we are fortunate to have our parents and siblings' families live so close to us, knowing that with a quick phone call they will be there for us in a flash.

Enjoying a Christmas lights walk-through at an historic mansion and grounds.

Alicia's family at Christmas time

Brad's family

We love visiting historic sites!

Celebrating New Year's Eve at home together

On top of Pilot Mountain on vacation.

Camping by the lake

Claire's school awards ceremony

We spend a lot of time in gyms watching volleyball and basketball games!

Vacationing with Alicia's parents, known to our kids as Papa and Nonnie

The girls and Benny on Christmas morning

Gabby and Anna, ready for their volleyball game

Visiting their cousins' goats at the County Fair

OUR PETS

We have a two-year-old Goldendoodle named Benny who is the best dog you'll ever meet! Benny loves to run in the field behind our house exploring groundhog holes, enjoys eating apples and pepperoni, is ever ready to play with our kids, and is always up for a scratch behind the ears. We also have a barn cat named Chili who is sweet, social, and loves to cuddle with us when we are outside.

DEAR BIRTHMOTHER,

We may not know you yet, but we already admire your strength, courage, and the deep love it takes to consider adoption for your child. We recognize that this is not an easy path, and we are praying for you as you navigate this journey. We are honored that you took the time to learn a little more about our story. Being parents already, we understand the challenges and immense joy of raising children. We've learned to treat each child individually and adjust our parenting styles to fit their specific personality.

We both work for a counseling agency helping kids from hard places succeed and thrive in our local school. Brad also founded a non-profit agency that helps provide transitional housing, life-skills education, and services for aged-out foster youth and is currently the Executive Director.

We are born again Christians and believe that the fullness of life comes from loving God and loving people. This shapes who we are, our lifestyle, and how we parent our children. We believe that God has created every person perfectly in a unique and beautiful way. Our consideration for a multi-race child stems from this belief and fits seamlessly into our community full of multi-race families from many different situations including multi-race marriages, fostering, and adopting. We consider our home to be one of grace, structure, and unconditional support where a child will be accepted and celebrated not despite of their background and story, but because of it.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us and we look forward to meeting you soon!

With Love and Prayers,

Brad & Alicia

WHY ADOPTION?

We have felt led to adopt since before we even got married and it has always been part of our dream for our family. Now, our daughters are also sharing that dream, praying for their future sibling every night. We are so excited to welcome another member into our family!

Building Blocks Adoption Service Inc.