



Amy

Job Description:

Counselor, Mental Health: Early Childhood, Autism, Developmental Disabilities

Education:

MA in Psychology

Favorites:

Hobby

Playing Piano and French Horn

Sport To Play

Volleyball

Childhood Memory

Family Singing Around the Piano

Subjects in School

Math, Music

Cartoon

Winnie-the-Pooh

I am committed to doing my best, with God's help, to provide all that this child needs to grow to his or her fullest potential. I believe that is your desire, as well. Please know that, while I wait, I am praying for you, and I am praying that God would guide you as you make this decision.

My Passions

I think I would have to say that my first love was the piano, which grew out of a love of music in general. According to my mom, I was singing before I could talk. We sang in the car, gathered around the piano, or while we were doing housework. I remember my mom teaching me to read music using the hymnals in church, and teaching me how to find a melody on the piano. We sang in church, and I loved playing the piano when I finally got to take lessons. I joined band and choir in school, and music is, to this day, a big part of me. It is a hobby, and it is a way to minister to others, process my emotions, worship God, and simply appreciate life.

Professionally, my passion has been working with children with autism. I love to see them learn and grow, and consider it a privilege to be part of that process. Over the years, that calling has come to include a commitment to helping families, no matter what their struggles are, to be strong and happy.

I cannot mention my passions without mentioning God. He has given me those gifts, and the joy of using them to bless others. In the depths of my heart and soul, it is God's love that defines me and gives me the desire to share my gifts with others.

Adoption

I remember first learning about adoption when I was a child. What an amazing concept it seemed to me! Since then, I have had several friends who were adopted. My friends speak positively of their experiences, and have encouraged me to adopt. As I grew and thought about my future, I always wanted to adopt. For me, the question was not if I should consider adoption for my family, but when I would be able to pursue it. I have had time to build my career, which has included many years of working with children and families. From them, I have learned so much, and I would love to be able to share that with a child in my home. After much prayer, I am confident that God has brought me to this path of adoption at this time. I already feel humbled and blessed to be on this path, and am anxious for what is yet to come.

My House & Neighborhood



I have been blessed to live in an area where my neighbors have become friends, and the community is invested in keeping a "small town" feel in this northeast Ohio suburb. I live in a 3 bedroom bungalow, on a quiet street in a safe area. The children on the street play together, and we look out for each other and are proud of our neighborhood. One of my bedrooms is already a playroom, for my nieces and nephews, waiting for a cousin to join them. There is plenty of room to play in the fenced back yard, and one of the things I like most about my house is the front porch, perfect for sitting with friends or family in the summer.



My Home

My House & Neighborhood, (continued)



The Playground at the Local Park

One of the reasons I chose this city is because of the excellent school system, with a good reputation for academics as well as extracurricular activities. The community also offers a wide variety of recreational programs throughout the year, from art and dance to cooking or sports. There is a playground within a few blocks of my house, and the city park, with baseball diamonds, a large playground, and a swimming pool and water park, is just a few minutes away. Every summer the city has a festival, as well as programs and events for families throughout the year. Northeast Ohio has many state and county parks for camping, canoeing, and hiking, including one just a few minutes from my house, as well as several Lake Erie beaches. We are close to a big city, with plenty of opportunities to experience professional sports or cultural events, such as museums, plays, or art and music.

My Extended Family

I truly feel blessed to have gotten to be in my family! I grew up in Northeast Ohio, with an older brother and a twin sister. My parents both had good relationships with their siblings, and we often got together with extended family for holidays, summer cookouts, or the annual family picnic. I grew up knowing the love of a large extended family, and to this day know that I can count on them. They are all excited about welcoming and loving another child!

My sister and brother are both married and have children. As we have grown older, we have grown closer. Family is important to all of us, and we look forward to spending time together. My sister lives closest to me, so I see her and her family the most. We will go to the beach, celebrate birthdays and holidays, go to a baseball game, or just get together for lunch or shopping. I have enjoyed going to my nieces' and nephews' concerts and baseball and soccer games, and they like to come to my concerts. When we get together with my aunts and uncles and cousins, especially in the winter, we enjoy playing board games. Scrabble is a traditional family favorite, as well as Scattergories, Taboo, and card games. Lately, we've been enjoying "Life" and "Clue" with the kids. We enjoy eating, talking, and playing!

In the summer, camping together has become a much anticipated tradition. The kids love grandpa's camper, fishing, swimming and playing at the beach, and of course marshmallows on the campfire!



Boating and Fishing with the Family



The Best Part of Camping



Amy Holding Mischka

My Pet Cat, Mischka

I'd like to introduce you to Mischka. Growing up, we enjoyed playing with the dogs in our house. When, after college, my sister suggested I needed a cat, I think I actually laughed. No, I'm a "dog person." Sure, I like cats, but I know dogs. Shortly after that, I happened upon a tiny kitten, lost on the playground of a daycare where I was working. He was smaller than my hand, and his eyes were barely open. What could I do, but take him home? He seemed to enjoy when I played the French horn, and I quickly fell for him!

I named him Mischka, which my grandmother later told me means "mouse." It was nevertheless fitting for him, and so it stuck. Since I always had dogs, I didn't really know what to do with a cat, so I just did what I knew. He has become a cat who greets me at the door, rides in the car with me, begs for treats, and sits on the porch with me in the summer. He comes when I call or whistle, and likes having company, especially if they are talking about him! Mischka is gentle, quite tolerant of children "exploring" him, and loves to play. I believe pets are a wonderful tool for teaching children many of life's most important lessons- compassion, love, empathy, responsibility. Mischka, my cat named "mouse" who thinks he's a dog, has already proven to be a faithful companion and co-teacher!



Ready for a Concert



CHEERS! The Best Hot Chocolate in New York



A Winter Walk



Half Marathon ... Finished!



Disney with My Niece & Nephew



Enjoying the Front Porch

Dear Birthparent(s),

My name is Amy, and I want to first let you know that I consider it an honor that you are reading this letter. I believe that as you make this difficult decision, you will choose what is best for your child, and demonstrate the love and concern you have for your baby. If you choose to have me be a part of that, I will feel blessed, and will honor your love throughout this child's life.

While I am not yet married, and hope that I will be in the future, I do feel that I am at a point in my life that I am able to share my life and my love with a child. I was blessed to grow up in a loving and supportive family, and they remain a priority in my life. I can think of no better way to express my appreciation than to share that family with a child, and I look forward to meeting that child. I am grateful for the support that the members of my family, as well as my friends, have shown me as I have explored adoption. I am confident that they will give that same love to your child. We all look forward to welcoming another baby, sharing our traditions, and helping that child grow.

As a Christian, my relationship with God guides my life and decisions. I believe He has called me to love, provided so that I can share, and directed me to adoption. It would be a blessing to be a parent. My highest priority is to share my faith with the child entrusted to my care, and to help that child develop his or her unique strengths and personality. I hope to encourage him or her to explore, to give opportunities for new experiences, and to teach love and compassion for others. I will commit to experiencing, with this child, the joys and trials of growing up, and the successes and challenges throughout life.

I look forward to soccer, music lessons, dance, gymnastics, karate, art, or perhaps exploring new interests. I enjoy learning and trying new things, and hope to share that joy of learning with a child. To me, one of the greatest pleasures in life is to share the moment when a child experiences something for the first time. I look forward to learning new things from, and with, a child, and sharing new places and new activities. I enjoy traveling, but I also enjoy "discovering" in the simplicity of the back yard or in the woods while camping. I anticipate everyday activities: reading books, walking in the park, playing games, and just playing in the backyard. I particularly look forward to sharing my love of music and my appreciation of nature.

I live in a suburb with a strong sense of community, where we know our neighbors and the children play together. In addition to a supportive family, your child will have the love and care from a close community. My neighbors are not just friendly, I consider them friends. We often have dinner together, and their children already enjoy playing in my backyard or playing my piano. There is a daycare close to my home, and my family will help provide care while I am at work. In addition, my schedule is flexible, which allows me to work from home for some of my hours. This will provide for consistency of care within a familiar setting. The city also has an excellent school system and recreational program, providing for opportunities to learn and to experiment with new activities as children grow.

As you make your decision, remember that you will always be important to your child. As I tell the adoption story, I hope and plan to convey my respect for you to your child, and hope that I can convey the love and selflessness that goes into a birthparent's decision. I will send letters and pictures to be available for you, and hope to have some information about you to show your child.

I am committed to doing my best, with God's help, to provide all that this child needs to grow to his or her fullest potential. I believe that is your desire, as well. Thank you, again, for taking time to get to know a little about me. Please know that, while I wait, I am praying for you, and I am praying that God would guide you as you make this decision.

God bless you,

Amy

