

DAN + JESI



HI, WE'RE DAN + JESI!

We appreciate you taking time to learn about us and the family we look forward to creating. Jesi was diagnosed with a condition that causes fertility challenges as a teen. Because of this, we've always known that adoption is the best way for us to grow our family!

We met as college students over fifteen years ago and have been happily married for over ten years. Our life is full of laughter, simple pleasures, and an abundance of love that we would love the opportunity to share with a child.

A child joining our home would receive unconditional love from not only us, but also our wonderful network of family and friends. Our goal is to create a safe, fun, and supportive environment for a child to thrive!



Cozied up together on the porch swing!

ABOUT US

Our personalities are different but complimentary. Dan's strengths are problem solving, positivity, and staying calm under pressure. Dan is extroverted- always excited to meet new people, seeking out new restaurants to try, and loves exploring new places. Jesi is more of a homebody, but she is thrilled to host people- especially themed parties!

Jesi's strengths are creativity, empathy, and helping people feel comfortable.



Vacation at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island

Together We Love:

- Road trips traveling to see friends + family around the state of Michigan
- Mexican food
- Binge watching reality TV shows like Survivor or MTV The Challenge
- Exploring our new city
- Dessert date nights!
- Trying new viral recipes from TikTok
- Thrift store adventures
- Going out to eat- Dan will try something new and Jesi will probably order the same thing every time!
- Sharing coffee together on our deck
- Taking our dog for walks in our neighborhood



Wedding photobooth fun!

ABOUT DAN

Age: 40

Career: Executive Leadership at Non-Profit

Education: Bachelor of Applied Arts

Dan works at a non-profit that promotes inclusion in sports and schools. Dan has a flexible schedule of working in the office a few days a week and a few days from home. Dan loves to learn and believes you learn the most from others by listening and asking questions. He grew up playing sports and loves watching, playing, and talking about sports daily. His favorite sports to play are golf, pickleball, and shooting hoops. His favorite sports to watch are college football, basketball, and women's soccer. Dan loves trying new recipes, reading, road trips, listening to music/podcasts, and restoring old furniture!



Dan is a big Notre Dame football fan!



Dan + his grill/smoker- he is a great cook!



After a fancy dinner on vacation!

Dan's Favorite Things

Music: Leon Bridges, Mumford & Sons, Noah Kahan, Hozier, Motown, 2000's R&B

Food: Lasagna

TV Shows: Lost, The Challenge, Yellowstone, and Abbott Elementary

Book: We Were The Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter

Movie: Field Of Dreams

Favorite Childhood Memory: Camping every summer with family in the U.P.

ABOUT JESI

Age: 37

Career: Artist + Small Business Owner

Education: Master of Education

Jesi loves interior design, craft projects, floral arrangements, reading, and gardening! As an artist, Jesi works from her at-home studio, which fortunately provides a flexible schedule that will allow her to care for a young child. Jesi worked as a nanny during high school and college and has always dreamed of becoming a mom!



Hanging out on the back patio

Jesi's Favorite Things

Music: Taylor Swift, Chappell Roan, Beyonce, Dave Matthews Band, Celine Dion

Food: Any form of potato!

TV Shows: Abbott Elementary, Ted Lasso, The Traitors, HGTV, Severance

Books: Any Mystery/Thriller or Romance- I like them all! Big audiobook fan.

Movies: Harry Potter, The Holiday, Titanic

Favorite Childhood Memory: Building LEGO cities with my brother and neighbors



Learning a new hobby- floral design



Jesi is a huge Taylor Swift fan!



Hanging out in downtown Saugatuck!

What Jesi loves about Dan:

“He easily makes a connection with anyone he meets! Dan is the life of the party, and he naturally brings out the best in everyone! He is passionate about making a difference for others, which is shown by his dedication to the same non-profit for over 17 years of his career!

Dan is a powerful motivator. For many years, I sold my art as a side-hustle while I worked full time as a college instructor and advisor. I would have never had the courage to take my art business full time without Dan’s encouragement! To have a partner who validates my dreams and doesn’t let my doubts takeover- it’s an incredible feeling!”

What Dan loves about Jesi:

“No one has ever made me laugh as much as Jesi does. Everything we do together is a blast! Jesi is someone who cares deeply about the well-being and inclusion of others and she wears her heart on her sleeve. She has an infectious laugh, a kind heart, and honest character.

Jesi is going to be a great mom! She’s always cared for children, and whenever we are around kids, they gravitate to her! When she worked with high school and college students, they respected and adored her. She is smart, determined, and well-educated. All my friends and work family end up loving her as much (or more) than me!”



Laughing on our wedding day- our friends gave hilarious + heartfelt speeches!

LIFE TOGETHER

While waiting to become parents, we have dreamed about the life we will provide for a child. When we look ahead to our future, we see family outings to the farmer's market, playdates at the zoo, Friday night traditions of pizza + movies, family vacations to Traverse City, and playing at the park with cousins! Jesi wants to be involved as the a classroom volunteer, field trip chaperone, or possible Girl Scout Troop leader (if that is what a child is interested in)! If your child is interested in sports, Dan is eager to be the coach of the soccer, tee ball, or other team. We look forward to the day we can be involved while we make memories as a family!



Our DIY "Tetris" Halloween costume- we won first place in couples costume contest!

We want to honor family holiday traditions, and look forward to making new traditions of our own!

Our Traditions

- Dance to our wedding song, "*I Wanna Dance With Somebody*" by Whitney Houston on our anniversary
- Homemade Valentine's Day gifts
- Themed Halloween costumes
- Annual "girls trip" to a musical/theatre
- Making fresh evergreen wreaths the day after Thanksgiving
- Appetizers on Christmas Eve



Annual holiday wreath making!

OUR HOME + PETS

With our future family in mind, we recently moved to a four bedroom, two bathroom home with a beautiful fenced-in backyard and playground nearby. There is a room ready to be a nursery and we plan to finish the basement so our home can be the “fun place” for a child and their friends to hang out at after school. After taking trainings to prepare for a potential adoption, we prioritized a quiet, family-friendly neighborhood and highly-rated, diverse school district.



Our new (to us) house! We have many dreams for upgrades + improvements, but we are making it feel like home one room at a time!



Our community offers many family friendly outings such as movies on the lawn, live music, cultural festivals, art fairs, food trucks, and various parks and trails.

We love spending time at home working on house projects, gardening, and relaxing on our back deck. Within 15 minutes we can go to museums, the zoo, the movie theater or sporting events. We're less than an hour from beaches and lakes!

At our local farmer's market!

OUR HOME + PETS

We are proud about how we approach our life together as a team! Usually Dan handles the cooking and Jesi does the laundry. We both make an effort to keep our home clean and comfortable. When life/work gets busy for one of us, the other steps up to ease stress as much as possible. We try to “control the controllables,” meaning we know things won’t always go perfectly but we can prioritize things within our control such as our attitude and efforts.



Accidentally matching going for a walk



Jesi and Kevin lounging around

Together, we love taking our french bulldog (named Kevin Bacon) for walks and then relaxing on the couch with our cat (named James Earl Jones, Mr. Jones for short). We love our pets and they really are part of the family!

Both our pets are friendly + safe for kids, although Mr. Jones tends to hide upstairs when new people come over. They get along well together, which is adorable. Kevin loves all people, especially kids! Kevin has had basic obedience lessons and loves treats.



James Earl Jones, aka Mr. Jones loves Jesi the most

FAMILY + FRIENDS



Celebrating “Star Wars” night at the hockey game!



Family volunteering to take photos of athletes at a Special Olympics event!

We’re eager to have a child join our family and our extended family is just as excited! Your child would be welcomed by incredible grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and countless extended family members. They are ready to spoil a child with attention, love, and care.



At the tulip festival with Jesi’s mom + nana!



Dan stepped in to take our nieces to their school “Daddy Daughter” dance!

Over the years, we have gained an amazing circle of friends we call our “chosen family.” This includes friends from childhood who saw us through all the awkward years, the college friends who helped us get through tough times, and the coworkers who turned into trusted friends. Many of our friends have young children and we’ve had the privilege of becoming “Aunt Jesi” and “Uncle Dan.” They say “it takes a village,” and we are lucky to have a dynamic support group!



Our friend Zach's wedding in Colorado



Hosting homecoming celebration!

In the process of making this profile, we realized that, together, we have had a significant role in over 20 weddings of family + friends! We are incredibly honored to have served as Best Man, Maid of Honor, Officiant, Bridesmaid, Usher, etc. in so many milestone days- this speaks to how closely connected we feel to our loved ones!



Our friends Jamar + Lauren's wedding!



Birthday celebration with friends!

THANK YOU FOR GETTING TO KNOW US!

We are approaching the adoption process with open-mindedness, love, and respect. We promise your child will grow up knowing the love you have for them. We are committed to keeping a level of openness and communication that you want to have.

We hope to hear from you soon!



Both serving as ushers at a wedding



Holiday photos



Art mural in Ann Arbor



Pizza date night!

CONTACT MORNINGSTAR ADOPTION CENTER

248-483-5484 or director@morningstaradoption.org