

Stephen AND Chris



× HELLO! ×

— WE ARE —

Chris and Stephen

We deeply respect

and admire the strength and love

that it takes to choose the path of making an adoption plan. When thinking about creating a family, we are grateful for courageous women like you. **Adoption is the perfect way for us to become dads, and we will always honor the only mother our child will ever have, by creating a nurturing home for our child with love and openness at the center.** As you read through our profile, we hope that you will get a sense of who we are as individuals and as a family.





OUR Story

STEPHEN WAS VISITING HIS PARENTS IN DALLAS WHEN WE MET.

Our first date was to a Mexican restaurant. We were both poor grad school students - one in California, the other in Dallas. Our relationship grew through constant texting and calling until we finally scrounged up money for a flight to see each other. After that, Stephen gladly took on extra teaching jobs in order to afford more visits. Just as the Supreme Court legalized marriage equality in the US, we were married by Chris' aunts.



WE LOVE TRIPS WHERE WE CAN ENJOY GREAT HIKES



WATCHING THE SUNSET IN PROVINCETOWN



BEAUTIFUL VIEWS IN PUERTO VALLARTA

× VACATION DESTINATION: ×

— WE —

love to travel.

One of our favorite nearby vacation destinations is Saugatuck, Michigan.

We love the small town feel, walkable neighborhoods, great hiking, and beautiful beaches. We generally go with friends and family multiple times a year. Someday, we are hoping to purchase a family vacation home nearby.



—
MEET
Chris
—

Chris was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky.

For years, he contemplated a career in cooking or baking. He even worked at various restaurants in high school and college. While he now works in accounting, he still loves to bake breads, cookies, cakes, pastries, and croissants. **He can't wait to celebrate our child's birthday every year with a homemade birthday cake. When Chris isn't in the kitchen, you can find him reading sci-fi or fantasy books, playing video games like Legend of Zelda or Final Fantasy, weight lifting, and playing volleyball.**



CHRIS AND HIS HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS



CUTTING A BDAY CAKE MADE FOR A FRIEND



IN FRONT OF A RUBBER DUCKY COLLECTION IN NEW YORK

× FUN × FACT

— ABOUT CHRIS —

Chris took many years of Spanish in high school and college, which comes in handy when we travel to Mexico and Spain.



CHRIS AND COCO RELAXING ON THE DECK



MEET

Stephen

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**Stephen is a
native Texan.**
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Over the years, school and his job have taken him all across the country, including Alabama, California, New York, and Texas. But he has fallen in love with Chicago. Stephen received his PhD and is now a law professor who also loves research and writing. He loves watching so many of his graduates go on to successful careers as lawyers all across the country.

**IN HIS
FREE TIME,
STEPHEN**

**loves watching
baseball (Go Cubs),
running, gardening,
weight lifting, and
beach volleyball
with Chris.** Some of
Stephen's happiest
memories from
childhood involve
attending baseball
games with his dad
and his dad coaching
his baseball teams.
Stephen hopes
to continue these
traditions as a dad
himself.



IN PROVINCETOWN



PICKING UP COCO FROM DAYCARE



HANGING OUT IN THE KITCHEN

STEPHEN ENJOYS HIKING IN HIS SPARE TIME



× FUN FACTS ×

— ABOUT STEPHEN —

Stephen is the author of a book, has appeared numerous times on national television and radio programs, and has worked closely with the Mayor of Chicago.

Growing up, Stephen was a passionate Texas Rangers baseball fan. His family used to travel to Arizona or Florida to watch spring training games every March.

Home AND Community

WE LIVE ON A QUIET
TREE-LINED STREET
IN A BEAUTIFUL
NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR
LAKE MICHIGAN, IN
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Our home is on the same block as a highly rated elementary school that even has a chicken coop and vegetable garden managed by the students!

We have a ton of playgrounds in walking distance and live less than two blocks from Lincoln Park, which has miles of protected bike trails, sandy beaches, hiking trails, recreational fields, a bird sanctuary, and an amazing zoo. In the summer months, we regularly ride our bikes along the lakefront, and have already talked about attaching a side carriage for our child to safely ride with us. We also love going to the neighborhood farmer's market at the end of our block each weekend.



OUR LIVING ROOM AND DINING ROOM

PLAYGROUND ON OUR BLOCK



SCHOOL DOOR ON OUR BLOCK



WALKING COCO IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

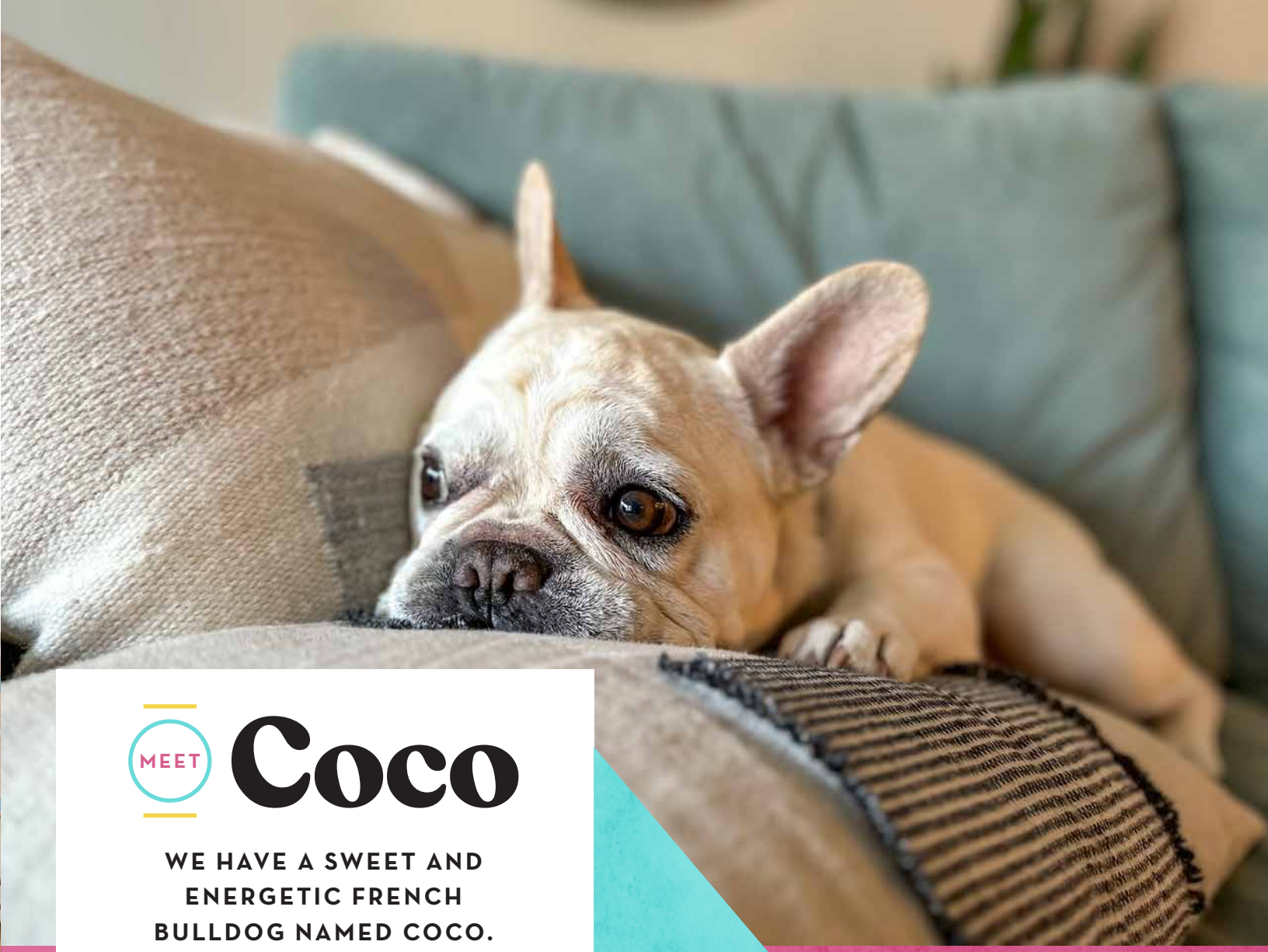


× LIVING IN ×

- A -

**dense,
urban area,**

we can generally walk everywhere,
including the grocery store,
restaurants, and even Wrigley Field
(home of the Chicago Cubs).



MEET **Coco**

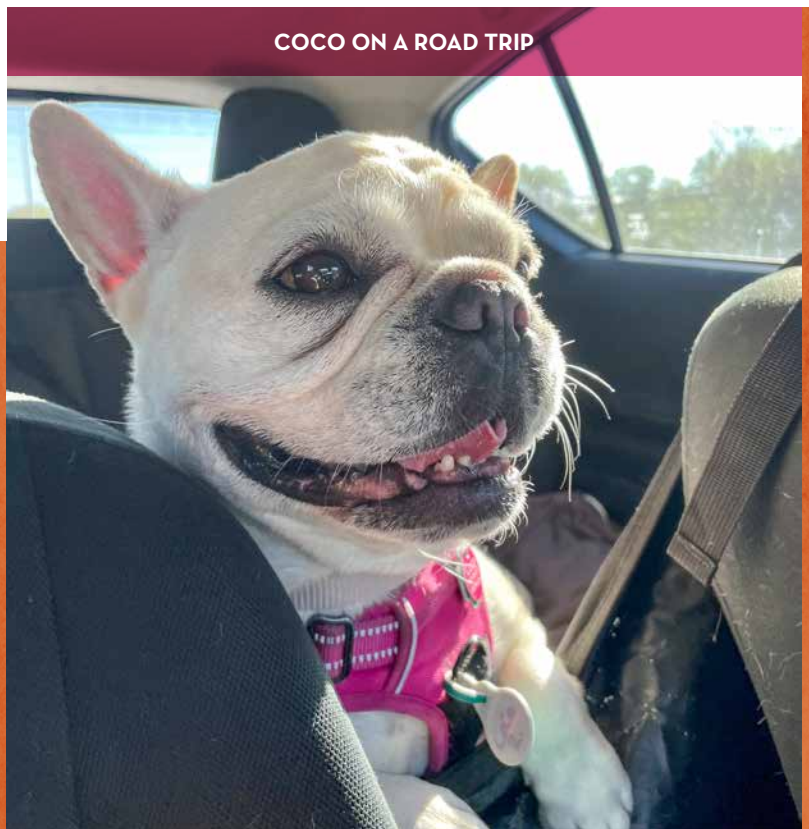
**WE HAVE A SWEET AND
ENERGETIC FRENCH
BULLDOG NAMED COCO.**

We've had Coco since she was a puppy. She loves sun bathing in our backyard and going on long walks around our neighborhood.

She loves kids!



COCO PLAYING



COCO ON A ROAD TRIP

OUR Village

WE ARE BOTH FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUPPORTIVE AND LOVING EXTENDED FAMILIES.

Every Sunday growing up, Chris and his entire extended family (including cousins, aunts, and uncles) would gather at his grandmother's house for Sunday dinner after church. Today, we live a few hours from Chris's family. **Even so, we go on at least one family vacation each year and love family reunions in Indiana.** We also make sure to get down to Kentucky to spend time with Chris's mom multiple times a year. She is beyond thrilled to have visits with her new grandchild!



WITH CHRIS'S AUNTS



STEPHEN'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY



CHRIS'S FAMILY REUNION



WITH QUYNH BY THE POOL



STEPHEN IN PALM SPRINGS WITH CLOSE FRIEND AND COUSIN

Stephen's
parents

currently live in Texas, but are excited to move to Chicago after we adopt a child. We can't wait to have them nearby! We are also particularly close with our cousin Adam and his daughter Quynh, who is two.



BABY SHOWER FOR OUR FRIENDS

WE ARE ALSO LUCKY TO HAVE AN AMAZING "CHOSEN FAMILY" OF CLOSE FRIENDS THAT LIVE NEAR US IN CHICAGO.

Two of our best friends (Matt and Grant) just adopted their daughter Elle and our other best friends (Kyle and Jon) are expecting their first child at the end of the year.



SWEET MOMENTS WITH OUR FRIENDS' BABY, ELLE



KENTUCKY DERBY WITH FRIENDS

FRIENDS TRIP TO PUERTA VALLARTA



× ONE × THING WE KNOW

— FOR SURE: —

our child will have a terrific, loving, and supportive extended family!

In Closing

We
understand

that this is a life-changing decision, and we want to assure you that we are committed to building a strong relationship with you based on mutual trust and respect, if that is your desire. I hope you were able to get a sense of the love your child will receive both from us as well as our village. **We are committed to providing a life filled with love and happiness for your baby.**

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME
TO CONSIDER US.**



WITH HEARTFELT GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION,
Stephen & Chris