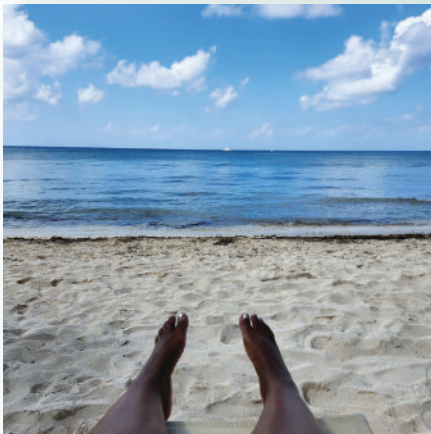


Kiesha





A Warm Hello

My name is Kiesha and if you are reading this, it means that you are currently facing one of the biggest decisions in your life. I cannot imagine making such a decision, and my heart is with you as you go through this season of your life.

Thank you for taking the time to read a little bit about me. I am a self-professed 'girly-girl,' and you will always see me with pink and glitter! In fact, I actually have glitter walls in the favorite rooms of my home. I am a single woman who has lived in Northeast Ohio for over 20 years. People would describe me as a bit of an introvert with a super sarcastic side - and they would be correct. I love to relax, laugh, and enjoy the people who are important to me.

I love to travel so that I can experience new things and different cultures. I try to take a beach vacation at least once a year, because water and sand are my happy place. I am known to be picky about my beaches and am convinced that the best ones are in the Caribbean. I like getting to visit new Caribbean islands as much as possible. I keep my passport active and handy, because you never know when a great opportunity will come up. Some of my favorite places to visit so far have been Trinidad & Tobago and the Bahamas. I have traveled alone but also really enjoy traveling with my niece, sister, and brother-in-love. They are all ready to add a little one to our traveling adventures!



moved me in ways that words could not. I received a Bachelor's degree in Music Therapy while attending University of Evansville in Indiana. While my major instrument was cello, I learned how to play almost any instrument. During this time, I also learned that my passion was for individuals with developmental disabilities. After working for several years in the Cleveland area, I decided to go back to school to receive a Master's degree in Special Education. After teaching individuals with autism for a bit, I transitioned to the social services field focusing on individuals with developmental disabilities. While I was finding my career purpose, I worked very hard to save and purchase my own home seven years ago. Since I grew up poor, having a mortgage and a house with stairs made me feel like I finally made it!

“WHY DO YOU WANT TO ADOPT?”

Another excellent question! Although my professional purpose is to help people with developmental disabilities, my personal purpose is to be someone's mommy. Ever since I was a little girl, I dreamed of becoming a mom. In fact, when I was younger, I had an imaginary future family. Each person in my imaginary family had a very in-depth personality and by the time my imaginary family days were over, the 'children' were adults and getting ready to start their own family! I did try to become a mother through pregnancy, but significant infertility issues prevented. However, my dream of being a mommy never wavered, and I would be humbled to be chosen to be a mommy by adoption.

“HOW DID YOU GET HERE?”

I'm glad you asked! I am originally from St. Louis, Missouri and grew up with very low income in a historically Black neighborhood. Although I grew up struggling financially, my parents were firm believers that I could escape the legacy of poverty with education. They made sure that I attended a great public school and encouraged higher education. I quickly realized that music





“WHY CHOOSE ME?”

I live in a culturally diverse neighborhood and like to walk around the neighborhood on nice days. There is a local Metropark nearby as well as one of the local elementary schools. I live next door to the fire station, so we will often get waves from the firemen as they return from calls. My backyard is fenced, and I can imagine there being snowmen and snow angels built during the snowy winters. I love that I live in a house that is 94 years old. The character of the house is amazing, and I have found that they really don't build houses like they used to (which is super fun when trying to get repairs, lol). In the summer, I like to grow rose bushes and hydrangeas.

I know what it is like to struggle, but I also know what it is like to thrive in life! I am proud to be the Black woman that I am and love all of my kinks, curls, lumps and bumps. I look forward to modeling that attitude of acceptance with a little one. I firmly believe that every human being is different and deserves the same love and respect. I have a heart for people who are marginalized and work hard to make sure that everyone feels the same value and is empowered to live the life they want to live. I like to try new things. As an adult, I learned to ice skate and spent a few years ice skating competitively. I also became a runner for several years, and have over 20 medals from races I participated in. (I did not win any race - don't give me that much credit!!).

I will encourage any child that comes into my life to try new things.

Although I am a single woman, I understand the importance of family. My family and I stay connected and like to get together for holidays. The biggest holiday in my family is Christmas, and we typically spend several days together eating unhealthy food and playing games. Our game of choice is Uno Attack, but we try to find new games every year! We can be a competitive bunch, so don't try to skip out on that Draw 4! We have fun picking out a family Christmas outfit every year. I know it's corny, but it is another way that we show that we have got each other's backs. Any child who joins my life, will automatically be a member of an intergenerational family and community tribe. Although the child will be welcomed immediately into the family, they will also know that they are adopted. I think it is important for a child to know where they came from and it is my hope to be able to share that information with them. My father didn't know his biological father, and it left quite a hole in his heart. As an older adult, he was able to find some biological relatives and it was really awesome seeing him learn about himself. I want to be sure that any child I raise has the same advantage without having to wait a lifetime to find it. I look forward to hopefully getting to know you.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONNECTING WITH YOU

If you have any questions for us or would like to speak with us about adopting your child, please contact your case worker at Open Arms Adoptions by calling 330-697-4751 or 614-349-1510.