



*Diane*

# My Story

Hi! I'm Diane. My friends and family describe me as kind, level-headed, creative, and a little bit nerdy (I have to agree)! Like most people, I have been through ups and downs throughout my life and I understand that it doesn't always end up the way you thought it would. After lots of reflection and conversations, I decided to open myself up to starting a family as a single person. I realized I already have the maturity, stability, and support system to become a parent (a great parent!) on my own, and I didn't want to keep putting it off because I hadn't yet found the right partner. I'm confident and excited now, and I know my future child is going to be surrounded by enormous amounts of love.

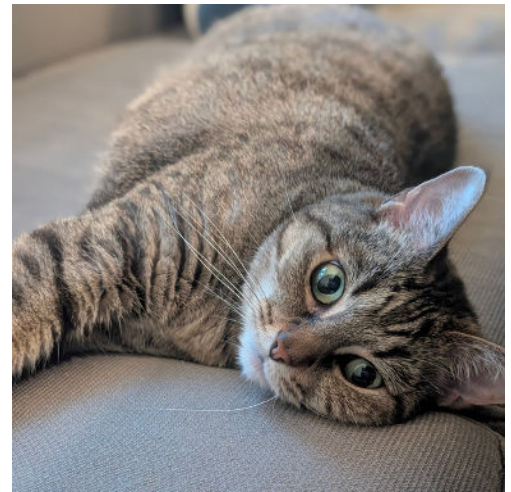
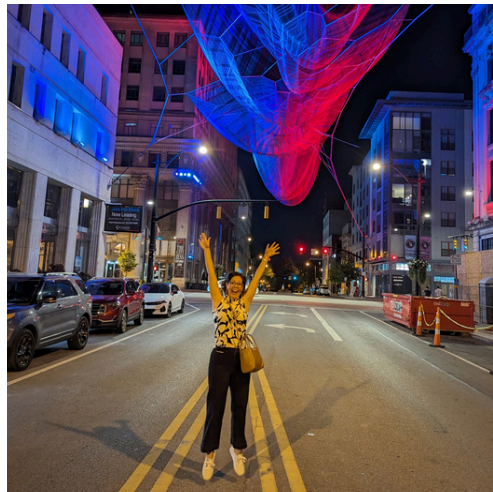
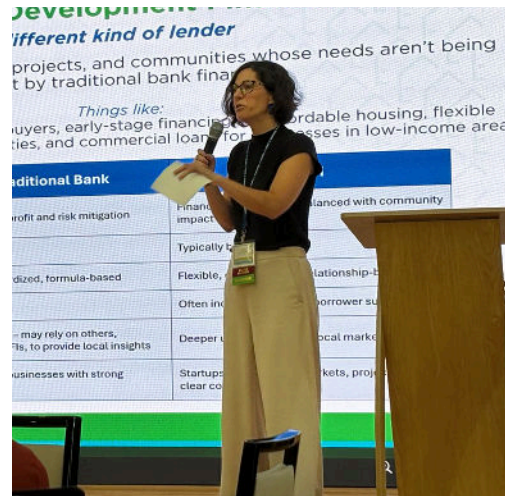
My lifestyle is pretty low-key! I love to travel and explore, but I equally enjoy meeting friends at the coffee shop down the street, practicing with watercolors on a Friday night, watching documentaries, and chatting with neighbors on my front porch.

I have spent my career working in community development, something that is important to me both professionally and personally. I work for an organization that helps developers and non-profits build affordable housing. I love what I do and I've worked hard to get to where I am today—financially secure, well-respected, and doing work that is a good fit for me.

I am grateful to work for an organization that offers flexibility and prioritizes family and well-being, so I will never have to worry about taking time off when my family needs it.

## Things I love

Art and design, learning new things, exploring new places, tennis, yoga, making things with my hands, playing with my nephews, pizza, fall days...





# Family

My family is amazing. My parents have been together for over 50 years and are my role models in many things, most importantly how to be a good, kind human in a world that isn't always good and kind to us. I am the stereotypical middle child, with two fantastic sisters, my brother-in-law, and two nephews whom I adore.



We love our family vacations in South Carolina, which we have been doing since 2016! Sports are a big way we have fun and connect, whether its watching games on tv, attending them in person, or playing everything from bocce ball to basketball. One of the things I appreciate most about my family is how much we love and support each other, while still respecting and encouraging each other's independence and individuality.

My family cannot wait to welcome a new child to our close unit, as well as you if you so desire. We know there are many definitions of family and this one has no shortage of love for those who would like to be part of it.



# Friends

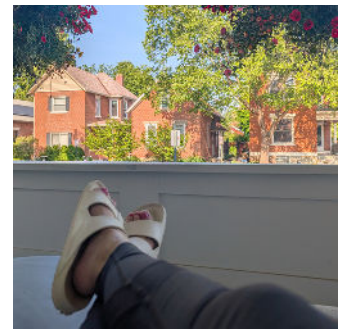
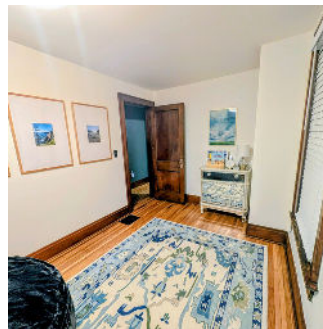
I have a strong and supportive network of friends who are ready to jump in with their time, energy, and love as soon as a child is placed with me. Most of them have children of their own, from infants to toddlers to high schoolers, and I am grateful to be able to learn from them throughout the journey of parenthood. Their strength, humor, consistency, and grace have helped me through good times and bad. I can't wait for your child to meet them and to experience friends as family.



# Community

My house is located in a beautiful and diverse historic neighborhood, on a block with wonderful neighbors. I can walk to schools, parks, stores, and a recreation center. There are lots of young families nearby, and my neighborhood has multiple groups and meet ups for parents and families.

Being engaged in my community is very important to me. Some of the ways I stay involved include participating in our neighborhood association, serving as an election worker, volunteering at community events, and serving on the boards of nonprofits focused on community development and addressing homelessness.



# To you...

I see you. I won't pretend to understand what you're going through. But I can imagine the thoughts and feelings you might be having. What you are doing requires tremendous courage and vulnerability. Know that your child will have safety and security with me- financially, emotionally, and everything in between. Know that I will surround your child with people who will be positive, consistent, stable presences in their life. Know that I am ready to walk beside them every step of the way as they discover the world and all the things that make them special. I am ready to teach them, and I am ready for everything they will teach me too. *Love, Diane*



## 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.