

story with us?

- A) Owen was born in 2018 to a birth mother who knew she was not in a position to care for a child. My husband, Charlie, and I were matched with her and have been fortunate enough to know Owen from day 1. We came to adoption due to infertility. It took me some time to accept, but my faith allowed me to understand that my path to becoming a mother was just going to be different than I had expected. Multiple people had mentioned adoption to us and fostering children was something we had previously discussed, so it felt right.

The adoption process was a roller coaster for many reasons, and there was so much that I didn't expect. However, with strength and support from others, we worked through the struggles. If we had known the



- Q) How did Gift of Adoption factor into your adoption process?
- A) We knew that adoption would be attainable for us if we were to receive financial assistance. We did some research and learned about Gift of Adoption. When we found out that we had been selected for a GOA grant, we were so relieved and knew our final expenses would be covered. We were able to focus all of our attention on our son

saviors for adopting him because, in the end, I think we needed him more than he needed us. The pure joy that comes from life with him is indescribable. Even on the hard days, I would never change a thing.

- Q) Why is it important to you to help other children find forever families?
- A) During the holidays, it became a tradition in our family to donate to an organization. I started to wonder why we were only donating once a year rather than choosing something meaningful that we could participate in all year long. Of course, adoption is very close to our hearts and knowing how much Gift of Adoption helped us on our journey made me curious about how we could give back. The Investor Board was the perfect option for us. We are grateful to be