

Brandi

Hi, my name is **Brandi**, and this little guy here is Kaden, the son of a dear friend of mine. I have always felt a great connection with kids. And I'm very excited about the possibility of becoming a mom through adoption.

Come and take a look at some of my favorite photos — from Thanksgiving meals with my fantastic family to some adventures at our 4,000-acre ranch, plus a few everyday photos from my new home, on a quiet cul-de-sac here in the East Bay.



That Magic Touch: This photo from a local restaurant always makes me smile because I remember how grumpy Kaden, my friend's 11-month-old son, was feeling that day. At the end of the meal, we took some group photos, and he refused to smile — except when I was holding him.

My friend laughed and said, "Brandi, I think you got that magic touch!"

Inspired by Family

I got really lucky with my family — that's the only way I can describe it. My mother and father are kind, supportive, dependable people. They've been there for me, inspired me to take many of the great paths I've taken in my life — and they'll be fantastic grandparents too!

How reliable are they? Though my parents separated when I was young, my father and I stayed close, and he would call me every morning at 7 a.m., through high school and college (where I studied economics), encouraging me to get up and out to class. I used to joke with friends that he was my own human alarm clock, a dad I could depend on.

My mom has been a great role model for achievement and success. She was a finance officer and eventually became a board member at a local bank.

Today I am a vice president and financial advisor, in large part thanks to the values of education and hard work that I learned from my parents.

My job has given me financial freedom, as well as the flexibility to **stay home** with a new baby and make **motherhood my number one priority**.



Big Laughs with a Big Family: Looking back through my photos, I was reminded of just how much fun my family is!

Not just my parents, but my extended family too, like this pic here with my uncle, my Aunt Lisa, and two of my younger cousins.

Our big family stays close together, and growing up, my cousins felt a lot more like siblings to me than extended family.



Big Sky Country: My family's cattle ranch is its own world of wonders — with a simple, natural beauty that can spark joy in your heart, even before you realize it. There's nothing quite like taking in the morning breeze, feeding alfalfa to the cows, with miles and miles of blue sky stretching out overhead.



For the Love of the Game

I love sports. In high school, I was on the swim team, and in college, I became passionate about biking and skiing. I'm also a big San Francisco 49ers fan. (My friends and I never miss a game!)

As a parent, I'll introduce my child to all kinds of sports and hobbies and give them the opportunity to choose the ones that connect with them. My parents, thankfully, took that approach with me — encouraging my interests, attending my swim meets, and cheering me on.

I can't wait to share that kind of enthusiasm and support as a mom myself.

Granted, **dog riding** and **elephant washing** aren't professional-level sports (at least, not yet!), but I love these two photos nonetheless because they remind me how games and fun can be found anywhere, if you're open to it.

Below, that's me and my friends in Thailand, visiting an elephant sanctuary and competing with each other to see who could provide their elephant with the most thorough coat of mud.

On the left, that's my dog Hank. He loves kids, and whenever any of the neighborhood children drops by, they inevitably convert our big front yard in an Olympics of racing, dog chasing, and rubber ball retrieval.

When friends come by with their children, we often have lunch, then head down the road, to our great local playground and park.





Choose Your Own Adventure

My friends would tell you that I love adventure. And no doubt, they're right.

With my friends and family, I've had the chance to travel around the globe and see some of our world's most wonderful sights — from boating through the bayou in Louisiana to, here in this photo, hiking the snowy trails of Teton National Park in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.



Then again, some of my favorite adventures have been right here, at home with my family.

I'm passionate about healthy cooking. Some days I'm crafting some classic dishes. Other days I'm inventing a few of my own.

This mountain of eggs, chives, chicken and sour cream was my favorite culinary adventure of the year — a savory blend of Spanish paella and a touch of good ol' American barbeque.

A Great Christmas Surprise: Look at those eyes! He's such a cutie, isn't he?

Declan, the boy with those big blue eyes, is the energetic new son of my great friend and neighbor. He was born during the pandemic. It's been a challenging year, but Declan helped turn this recent holiday season into a real delight.

His parents invited me into their "pod," so I've been dropping by frequently to spend time with him and his family. We sing songs, play with blocks, read classic children's books, and marvel at the bright, twinkling lights of Christmas.





Super Dog: My dog Hank is part Doberman, part Rottweiler, and part superhero.

His super power? Using that smile of his to make friends with every child that passes by, as we take our daily walk along the trails and beautiful backroads of our town.

Thank You

Thank you for taking time to read about me and my family.

If you're interested in speaking with me or learning more about me and my family, please contact my adoption facilitator, Dr. Nancy Hurwitz Kors, at **(925) 938-6600** or by email at **nhk@adopt-now.com**.

I look forward to speaking with you and learning more about you and your story.

Respectfully,

Brandi



Independence with the Girls: Eating with my family can be quite a party, especially during our annual July 4th BBQ, under the broad blue skies of our family ranch.

Family time on the ranch is especially fun because there's no cable or cellphone service, so it really is time with family.

With my adorable little cousins at my side, we're always finding games to play and great adventures to be had.