

Brian & Sarah



Hello,

• WE ARE •

Sarah & Brian!

*We are people with deep, local roots in **CHICAGO.***



Our lives have been shaped by the openness and generosity of our family and friends, and this is at the heart of how we try to live our married life as well. Very early on in dating, we knew we shared a desire for a large, loud, and loving family. Once we realized we were not able to have children of our own, we knew we were both open to adoption as the path to our growing our family. **We dream of being parents that can build a home full**

of faith and celebrations and books, with an open door to all our family and friends.

We value being active and exploring, and we cannot wait to add a child to those adventures.

• **THANK YOU** •

for taking the time to get to know us more.



• OUR • Story

Our shared love of celebration, food, and being with our people was what made us fall in love with each other. Sarah realized she was in love with Brian as he danced around kitchen to Bruce Springsteen with her dad as they did Christmas dishes. And when Sarah found out meatloaf was Brian's favorite meal and perfected the recipe, Brian knew it was true love.



WE CAN'T
WAIT TO BE
PARENTS!

ENJOYING A DAY ON A BOAT



“

We have fallen more in love with one another as we have built our own traditions and can't wait to include a kiddo!

”

SARAH HAD TO LEARN TO TOUCH THE FISH



• MEET •
Brian

BY SARAH

Brian is truly one of the most loyal people I know. For me, watching the way that his close circles of lifelong friends have constantly shown up for each other over the years—as young, carefree goofballs and as loving, present husbands and fathers—reveals how important being there for your loved ones is to Brian.



**I LOVE FISHING, AND
IT TURNS OUT POPPY
DOES TOO**

He is also quite loyal to the Chicago White Sox, even though they have rarely won enough to warrant the level of devotion he shows them! **There is nothing he loves more than going to the ballpark on summer nights and I know he dreams of sharing this with our future children.**





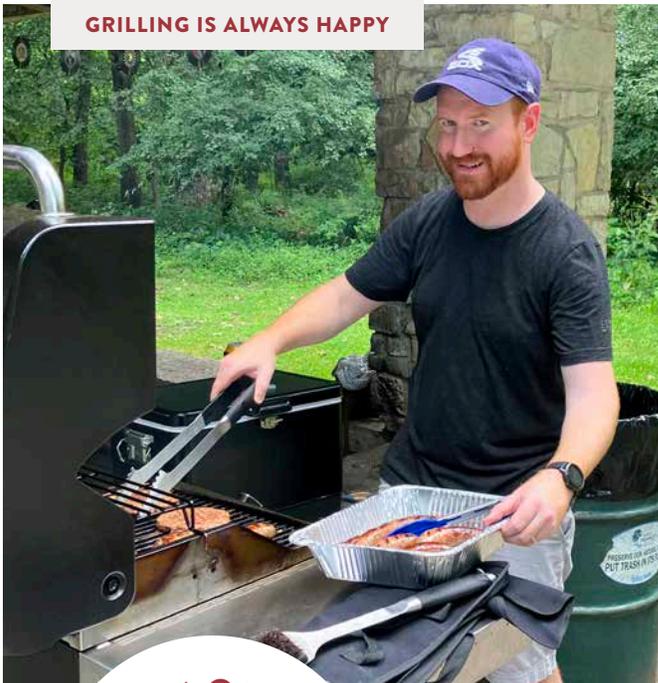
COACH BRIAN

In addition to his full-time job, Brian has coached his high school's cross-country team for the last 12 years. He is so committed to these kids, he legitimately doesn't mind getting up to run 8 miles with them at 6am before work.

PART OF THE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM!



GRILLING IS ALWAYS HAPPY



“ Brian loves me with such steadfastness and humor, I know that he is going to bring that to fatherhood and be such a fun and present dad! ”



VACATION BRIAN

BRIAN'S FUN FACTS

& Faves!

LUNCHBOX SNACK
String cheese

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT
Flute

HOBBY
Running

ICE CREAM FLAVOR
Vanilla

SPORTS TEAM
Chicago White Sox

AUTHOR I LIKE TO READ
John Grisham

VACATION SPOT
The North Woods of Wisconsin

MUSICAL ARTIST
Bruce Springsteen



• MEET •
Sarah

BY BRIAN

Sarah's passion for the things that are important to her is unrivaled by anyone I have ever met. She is passionate about the amazing non-profit organization she worked at for many years, with adults with physical and intellectual disabilities. She continues to be very involved and volunteers with them--both to give back and because it brings her a lot of joy.

She is also dedicated to staying in touch with all of her people who are spread across the country from multiple chapters of her life. She volunteers at our church in multiple capacities. **Additionally, it is beautiful to me to see how incredibly close she is with her family.** She talks to each of them at least once a day, and I hope the family we build can be that close as well.



**COMBINING MY LOVE FOR BAKING,
VOLUNTEERING, AND HOLIDAY CHEER**



Sarah loves learning, and I cannot wait for her to be able to read to and take a child to the many museums our city has to offer.



DEFINITELY A PARTICIPATION MEDAL...I AM NOT FAST, BUT I TRY!

SARAH'S MORNING CORNER



TRYING NEW RECIPES, LIKE THE PUPUSAS HERE, IS ONE OF SARAH'S FAVORITE ACTIVITIES



“ Sarah is a wonderfully caring person, and I have zero doubt that she will be an outstanding mother. ”

SARAH'S FUN FACTS

& Faves!

HOBBY
Cooking feasts and hosting parties

ICE CREAM FLAVOR
Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough

MUSICAL ARTIST
Taylor Swift
CHILDREN'S BOOK
Harry Potter
SECOND LANGUAGE
Spanish

SEASONAL ACTIVITY
Ice skating
CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT
Coffee

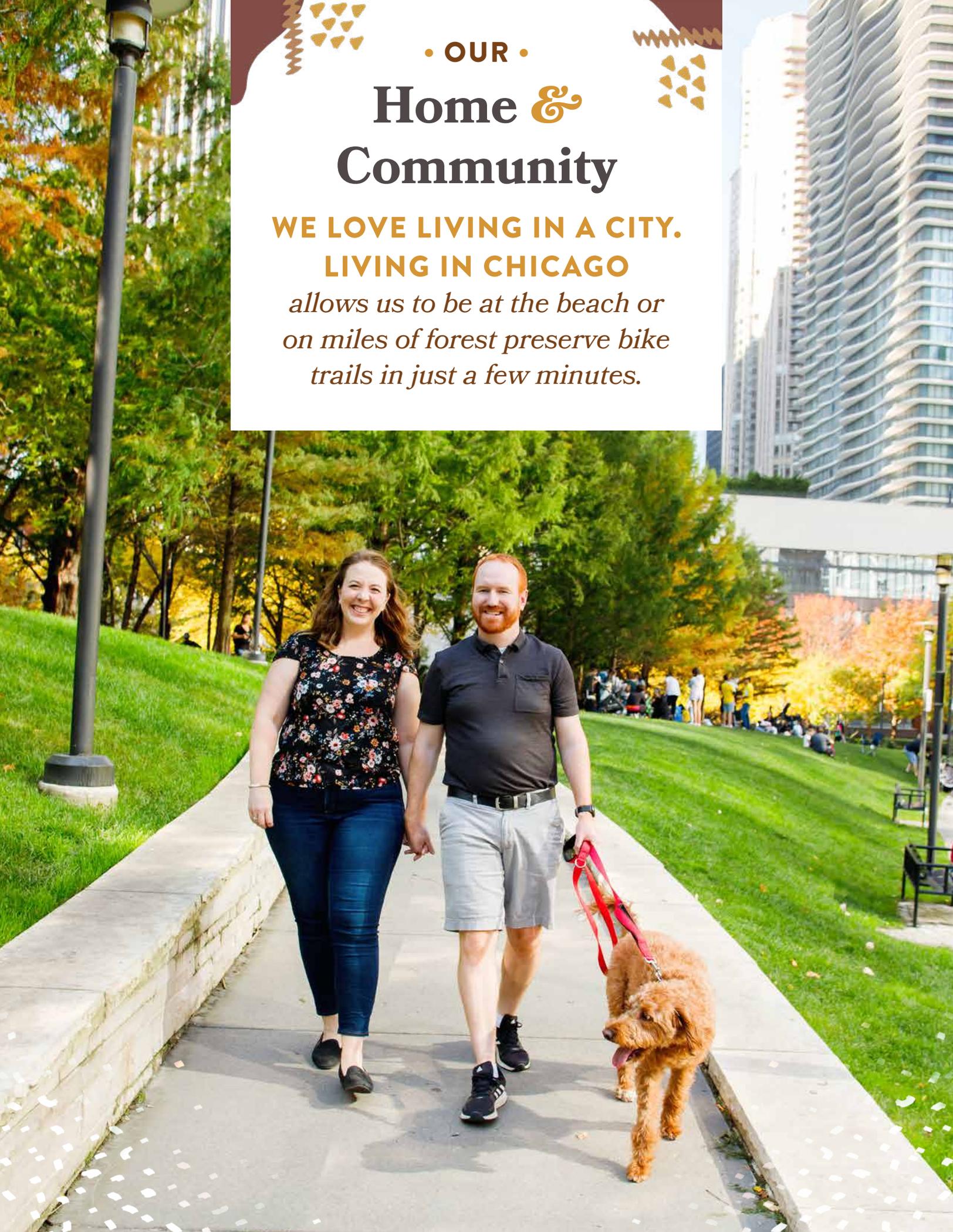


• OUR •

Home & Community

**WE LOVE LIVING IN A CITY.
LIVING IN CHICAGO**

*allows us to be at the beach or
on miles of forest preserve bike
trails in just a few minutes.*

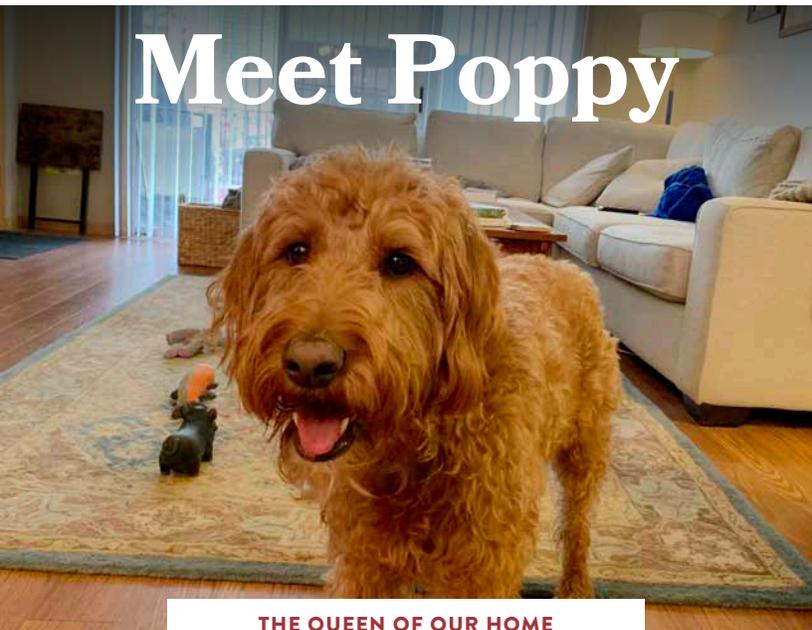




WELCOME TO OUR HOME



REGULARLY ENJOYING OUR BALCONY WHERE WE GRILL AND CHAT WITH NEIGHBORS



Meet Poppy

THE QUEEN OF OUR HOME

Our "puppy Poppy" is truly the sweetest girl around. She brings constant laughter and joy into our lives. **We feel completely confident that she will be thrilled to welcome a kiddo into her favorite things: long walks, going to the park, and snuggling on the couch.**

We pride ourselves on being people who take full advantage of the farmers' markets, the street festivals (from RibFest to 90s cover band festivals), and the access to every kind of food you could ever want! We have big plans of how we will raise our kids as adventurers who appreciate the way that a city brings all kinds of people together. **Most importantly, we really love where we live because of its proximity to our families.**

Both of Brian's brothers live within 15 minutes and both sets of our parents can be at our home in under an hour.

We can easily walk to our church, a big, beautiful park, and the local library. **We intentionally chose our neighborhood for its diversity, its clear sense of community, and its big, old trees.** Our condo has a big kitchen and lots of room to gather and host, and a room full of light, just itching to become a nursery.



OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PHOTO

Meet Our Family & Loved Ones

WE ARE BLESSED
*to both come from very
connected and loving
families.*

You can almost always find a table full of Brian's family somewhere in Chicago, laughing and talking loudly to make sure you can hear their part of the long and goofy story. If there is something to make into a competition, Brian and his two brothers will do so—we are constantly playing tennis, board games and beach volleyball together with their partners. The majority of his many aunts, uncles, cousins and their kids also live locally and are happy for any reason for a party or to go to the lake.

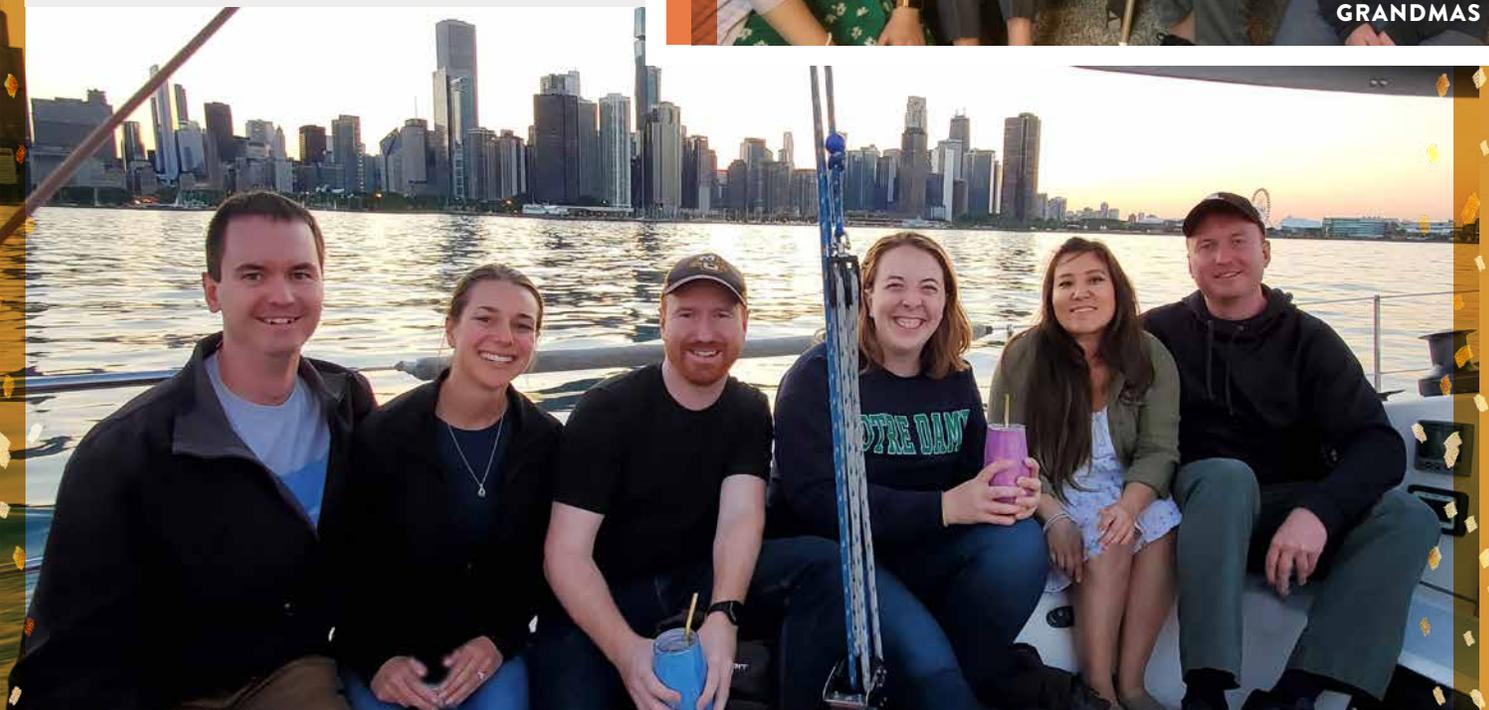


**TO SAY WE LOVE THE HOLIDAYS AND OUR
DOGS IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT**



**BLESSED TO
HAVE OUR
GRANDMAS**

ON A SIBLING SUNSET BOAT RIDE IN LAKE MICHIGAN



Sarah's brother and sister-in-law come to Chicago from St. Louis often and it is a puppy party! All of our gatherings involve three dogs running around and giving kisses, and eating wonderful food (Sarah's mom is a very talented cook.) Sarah's parents often come into the city to explore the restaurants and museums with us. While Sarah's extended family is more spread out, her parents built a community of close friends who have been present for every important moment in our lives.



AT THE 60TH BIRTHDAY PICNIC WE THREW FOR SARAH'S DAD THIS SUMMER

US WITH SARAH'S PARENTS, BROTHER AND SISTER-IN-LAW, HIKING WITH OUR DOGS IN WISCONSIN



SURROUNDED BY ALL THE PEOPLE WE LOVE MOST AT OUR WEDDING

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME WITH THE GODSON



“
Our families are incredibly supportive of our desire to welcome a child—our siblings can't wait to be doting aunts and uncles, and our parents are so excited to be present and loving grandparents.
”



 • **THANK YOU** •
*very much for taking the
time to get to know us.*

We promise to build a loving home where a child can grow up to be authentically themselves. We promise a life

surrounded by loving grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends to support and be supported by. We promise to teach the importance of showing up for others and forgiving often.

We commit to you a relationship of openness and trust.

We believe in the importance of family, and we understand deeply how central you are to that. We commit to adapting and growing together and learning as we go.

