



## DISRUPTIVE HOPE ADOPTION FUND

**Dear Friends,**

**Thank you for learning more about the Disruptive Hope Support Network.** We've been happily married since 2013 and had been looking forward to becoming parents for quite some time. Dan has been practicing his dad jokes since our first date. I've heard them all... and laughed at most. We found so much hope in the possibility of adoption to grow our family. We didn't know many people who adopted and quickly learned that the process is far more complex, emotional, challenging, and beautiful than we ever imagined.

In October 2021, we got "the call" and matched with a baby due at the end of December. A few days before Christmas, we flew to Salt Lake City, carseat and stroller in tow, anxiously awaiting when we would be called into the hospital to meet our baby girl. The morning we were scheduled to go in, I received a text. "Katie, I'm so sorry... I can't do this." We were utterly broken. We couldn't believe that all of our anticipation and preparation could shatter in an instant. We were grieving the loss of a child who was still alive, but would never be ours.

The months that followed were some of the hardest of our lives, including a second disrupted match in March 2022. We started the Disruptive Hope Fund in January 2022 with the mission of providing funding to disrupted match families whose financial losses prohibit them from getting back in the adoption process. The intent of Disruptive Hope is to not only provide for financial needs when necessary, but also to **build a lasting network of disrupted match families to lift each other up emotionally during a challenging time.**

A year after our first match, our baby boy Luka was born. His name means "bringer of light." He has brought us so much light, happiness, and joy after what at times felt like a long period of darkness.

Until we held our precious boy in our arms, sometimes there was nothing that could be said or done to take away our pain. We are blessed to have a wonderful community who loves us deeply, but we didn't know anyone who could truly empathize with our grief until we started our fund. Finding others who walked this road and came out on the other side with successful placements was the only thing that brought us healing in the waiting. We want to do all we can to expand this community and offer the same to you.

**How Does It Work?** We will pair each current disrupted match family with at least 1 family who has successfully adopted after a disrupted match. These families can provide wisdom, emotional support, and a much needed listening ear. Every family in our network also has the opportunity to join our private Facebook group to connect with as many families as they wish. We ask that families who successfully adopt after benefiting from the support network offer to remain in the network to benefit future families.

**What's Next?** If you're interested in joining this support network and/or would like to help us build it, please reach out to your FAC contact and email [disruptive.hope.fund@gmail.com](mailto:disruptive.hope.fund@gmail.com). From there, we'll reach out to set up a call to learn more about your story and pair you with someone from our group.

Thanks for your interest. We'll be praying for you as you continue on your adoption journey along with us!

*Katie + Dan*