

Robinson family story

Kim and Christie Robinson of Manchester still play on the same softball team where they met 11 years ago. “I guess sparks flew,” said Kim. They married in 2010, and soon started thinking about making children a part of their family.

“I always saw myself as a mom. We thought about what the options were for us as a gay couple,” said Christie. “Friends suggested fostering and adopting, but we had questions – would DCF want us?” Once they went to a DCF open house to learn more about the process, they knew that the answer was yes.

“We took classes, we were assigned a social worker, we had a home study,” said Kim. “We did homework, we got doctors’ notes.” Once they were licensed, “The waiting was the hardest part – it was nerve-wracking.” Finally one July day, Kim and Christie got a call from their social worker – they had been chosen to foster six-month-old baby Jake.

“I burst into tears at work,” said Christie, but they were ready – not only did they have a room, a crib, a car seat, clothes and diapers, they had a strong support system of family, friends, and medical professionals. Jake had been neglected, weighed 13 pounds at 6 months, and had some health issues. He needed a lot of care, which they were prepared to give.

Even though the couple felt Jake would thrive as a big brother, they wanted to give him their exclusive attention for a while. “We are both the oldest in our families and cherish our sibling relationships,” said Kim. After a couple of years, when Jake was toilet-trained and more self-sufficient, Joshua joined the family.



“We brought him straight from the hospital, as a three-week-old,” said Christie. As they suspected he would, Jake took to being a big brother right away – he said to the new baby, “I didn’t want to leave you at the hospital.”

Now the boys are 5 and 2, and have both been adopted by the couple. Jake goes to all-day pre-K, and loves sports, tractors, and school. His proud moms describe him as sweet and loving and calm, with an amazing memory. Josh is funny, loves dancing and music and trucks, and is strong-willed and independent. “He marches to his own drum,” said Kim. His favorite thing to say is “I do it!”

“They bring joy into our lives,” said Kim. “There is nothing cooler than watching kids learn how to do things for the first time.”

Christie said, “I would encourage other LGBT families to engage with DCF and to consider fostering and adopting. The beauty of DCF is that they’re just looking for loving homes. Kids just need someone to hold them at night and tell them everything’s going to be all right.”