



Contact: Lisa Bartoszek
Phone: (269) 983-2707
Email: lbartoszek@hospiceathome.org

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Lory's Place Expands Programming

St. Joseph, MI – Lory's Place, a Grief Healing and Education Center of Hospice at Home, Inc., is expanding its programming to include families who have suffered the loss of a pre-natal baby. In collaboration with Lakeland Regional Health System, the previously offered SHARE group will be integrated into the program services of Lory's Place. The new program will be known as the Tiny Mates. This support group for adults who have experienced a pre-natal death will begin meeting once a month at Lory's Place, located in Edgewater area of St. Joseph.

"The death of a baby at any stage of pregnancy is a very real loss; hopes and dreams are torn apart with the news that the baby has died," states Lisa Bartoszek, Director of Lory's Place. "Our Tiny Mates group offers compassionate care and support for bereaved families at the time of the loss of their baby and throughout their journey of healing."

Since opening on November 15, 2004, hundreds of participants from Allegan, Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties in Michigan, as well as from Elkhart and South Bend in Indiana, have taken the courageous step of accessing the bereavement resource services of Lory's Place. With professional bereavement staff and trained volunteers, Lory's Place provides regularly scheduled age-appropriate support group sessions that allow children and adults to interact with peers who have suffered similar loss. There is no charge for the services that Lory's Place provides.

“Participants come to Lory’s Place with a myriad of experiences and feelings. They are filled with grief and heartache,” states Bartoszek. “Lory’s Place offers a warm, safe place to share and heal together. From places of chaos and uncertainty participants learn to cope with their loss in healthy ways and avoid the pitfalls of risky behaviors that can be associated with unresolved grief.”

Lory’s Place is a service of Hospice at Home, Inc. that provides end-of-life care to residents in Berrien, Cass, Van Buren and Allegan counties, as well as Northern Indiana. Hospice at Home also offers symptom-focused comfort and support through its new Palliative Care Program. To receive more information about Hospice at Home or Lory’s Place call 1-800-717-3812, or go to www.hospiceathome.org or www.lorysplace.org.