

# Inside Fernside

A publication for grieving children and their families



Addy & Boogie, 3rd-5th grade Zoom Group

*"I can be in the comfort of my own bunk bed with all my stuffed animals."*  
~ 8-yr old group member



Damien, Pre-2nd grade Zoom Group

*"We can be home and use blankets, and pet cats and dogs and have cookies and your own dinner."*  
~ 8-yr old group member

## Virtual Luminary Ceremony



## It's a Whole Zoom World *Fernside's Evening Program Goes Virtual*

Last September we made the decision to host groups in our Evening Program virtually in order to keep our volunteers and families safe. We are happy to report that we've experienced great success and attendance is growing each month. We will continue this format for the remainder of our program year in June.

The children and teens are meeting by grade instead of by their group night location. An unexpected advantage to this is that the virtual format allows kids who might not otherwise have met at Fernside, to get to know each other. Our groups for parents and guardians meet by type of loss. All groups meet twice monthly, so we have groups going on almost every weeknight of the month!

Thank you to our virtual volunteers for venturing into this new Zoom world with us and especially to our families who are, despite virtual fatigue, making it work!

While we can't wait to be back together in person soon, we are so thankful and gratified that we've been able to continue our services for those who need us.

*"I have loved being able to connect with families and children virtually! I believe it provides a unique context where the children can contribute in ways that are not possible in person. For example, I love being able to see the children's pets, pictures of loved ones and special items that help them remember their person who died."*

~ Julia Villarreal,  
Pre-2nd grade Facilitator



In addition to our School Program's in-person grief groups, we are also offering virtual grief groups to students learning at home or at school. If you're interested in learning more, give us a call.

# Program News

## Fernside's Socially Distanced & Safe Summer Camp!

We are happy to share that we were able to host a scaled-down version of our annual summer camp last July. The Greater Cincinnati community was doing well with COVID cases at the time, so we were able to move ahead with a one-day only camp experience. A big thank you to Nora Chavez and Monica McPeek from TriHealth Risk Management for their support and guidance in helping us create a safe and fun camp experience.

*"My child had a great camp experience. She talked about it the whole way home. Being able to spend time with other children who have experienced a similar loss was helpful for her, because she knows that she isn't alone. It was also so helpful to have fun and do kid stuff with other kids. She enjoyed the time with other kids, especially since we've been so isolated recently due to COVID."*



A scene from summer camp 2020

**Tentative 2021 Summer Camp & Teen Retreat: Summer Olympics...Teaming Up to Cope with Grief.** Two of our camp programs are "teaming up" to provide the best camp experience possible. Children ages 7-12 and 13-18 can participate in our combined day camp tentatively scheduled for July 24th, 2021. Please call for more information.

### Reaching Out Remotely Outreach Adapts to Virtual Presentations

Our Community Outreach & Education Program showed us that we can adapt easily in a virtual world. Over the past year, we've been able to offer several virtual educational grief presentations to many audiences. We still love connecting in person and have adapted doing so safely.



Mercy McAuley High School Service Learning Day

### Highlights for Children

Who doesn't remember Highlights magazine? Hidden Pictures, Crafts, Goofus & Gallant and the What's Wrong? section on the back cover. Those pages are some of the best! Fernside was contacted by Patty Courtright, Reader-Mail Specialist, to review and offer input on a grief-related question from one of their readers. She was directed to us by Jamie Bryant, Highlights Vice President, who says, "Fernside has been serving grieving children for nearly 35 years and is an affiliate of Hospice Cincinnati. It could be good for us to have the insights from people doing this work every day."



# Volunteer News

## National Volunteer Week April 18-24, 2021

### Our Reach is Long to Celebrate Volunteers

In a time when we've all needed help more than ever, we want to recognize our amazing volunteers for sticking with us this group year. And not just this past year, but for many years as you can see below! Thank You!

#### 28 Years

*Kathleen Cepela*

#### 26 Years

*Ted Ackerman  
Megan Holtz  
Sean Jameson*

#### 25 Years

*Jenny Perry*

#### 23 Years

*Patricia Hirsch  
Kathy Stidham*

#### 21 Years

*Kathy Haubrich*

#### 20 Years

*Matt Fenik*

#### 19 Years

*Linda Hill  
Amanda Lykins*

#### 18 Years

*Stacey Meyer  
Ann Speed*

#### 17 Years

*Debi Varland*

#### 16 Years

*Carolyn Donovan  
Cindy Stiens*

#### 15 Years

*Jillian Bennett  
Bob Bonnici  
Paul Davis  
Glenda Schorr*

#### 14 Years

*Phyllis Overmann  
Kim Stonecipher*

#### 13 Years

*Bryan Devine  
Charlene Miller  
Larry Renner  
Betsy Sundermann*

#### 12 Years

*Kelley Brinkman  
Cassie Dunn  
Diane Lux  
Dan Meyer  
Teresa O'Quinn  
Crystal Paul  
Chris Venneman*

#### 11 Years

*Wendy Boyd  
Joy Croy  
Kim Fultz  
Chrissy Hurst  
Todd Mack  
Dan Simonson  
Tracy Spiess*

#### 10 Years

*Brad Cutter  
Janine Melink-Hueber  
Terri Meyer  
Pam Myers  
Nicci Stemler  
Tyra Warner*

#### 9 Years

*John Berrens  
Susan Conrad  
John Eckles  
MaryAnn Jackson  
Tony Martino  
Judy McAuliffe  
Sharon Natarus  
Sue Rice*

#### 8 Years

*Ashley Biondo  
Barb Griffin  
Cindy Hayden  
Michelle Kerr  
Linda Littman  
John Martinson  
Tom Miele  
Rachel Mousie  
Patty Nagelkirk  
Hazel Ross  
Anne Roth  
Dan Scheiman  
Keara Sherman  
Cindy Withrow*

#### 7 Years

*Helene Berger  
Bonnie Blanck  
Maddy Brewer  
Marc Campbell  
Arin Gile  
Cindy Meyer  
Brigid Niesel  
Elaine Parulis-Wright  
Daniel Whitford  
Dani Willetts*

#### 6 Years

*Kim Adkins  
Rosa Baker  
Carrie Brown  
Krista Couch  
Logan Davis  
Caroline Haynes  
Kim Kirkman  
Cassidy Lekan  
Annie Louie  
Gloria Peerless  
Sarah Sherman  
Maggie Shiekh  
Amy Smith  
Mary Kate Vanderglas*



**Fernside's Drive-By Volunteer Appreciation Station.**

**On left – Dan Meyer & Kim Adkins; at right – Robby & Tony Martini.**

**5 Years**

- Cathy Bowers
- Beth Celenza
- Blake Dowlin
- Kara Echternacht
- Jennifer Garrett
- Eli Hart
- Donna Heldman
- Jackie Lombardi
- Robby Martini
- Olivia Matthews
- Brittany Tackett
- Kevin Vance
- Kristin Westerfield
- Nick Whitney

**4 Years**

- Jean Barker
- Kris Carnevale
- Peg Conway
- Kris Cormany
- Allison Donham
- Jennifer Freese
- Keegan Graham
- Maggie Kotzeva
- Andrea Mudd
- Kayla Nare
- Kathleen Reinmann
- Ann Sullivan
- Rita Thornton
- Kelsey Zimmerman

**3 Years**

- Sarah Bohlman
- Anthony Borzi
- April Cain
- Josie Campinha-Bacote
- Jess DeLisio
- Yasmine El-Badewi
- Candi Fern
- Charlene Glassman
- Erica Hescamp
- Dave Johnson
- Lauren Jones
- Barb Juengling
- Americus Land
- Sharon Laughlin
- Brian Meyers
- Hannah Mu
- Sydney Risley
- Julie Rubin
- Megan Schweitzer
- Graham Scott
- Joel Steinkoenig
- Autumn Taylor
- Kim Taylor
- Adrienne Victory
- Beth Welch

**2 Years**

- Jordan Baker
- Toni Beischel
- Jennifer Benton
- Heidi Bothe
- Holly Campbell
- Jenni Chinn
- Donna Danoff
- Stephanie Duriez
- Sophie Garrett
- Malone Graham
- Jenna Harris
- Robin Huller
- Marty Johnson
- Jalen Johnson
- Elaine Kerr
- Kelly King-Schlegel
- Nicole LaPlena
- Tony Martini
- Jean McCoy
- Dave Merry
- Martha Merry
- Yoko Nomura
- Elise Pettis
- Jon Roberto

- Lori Roberto
- Megan Salisbury
- Jackie Smith
- Valerie Theile
- Vickie Valentine
- Sarah Watson
- Michelle Wurschmidt
- Eileen Yeoh

**1 Year**

- Annie Berling
- Craig Bishop
- Eden DeAtaley
- Ellie Fitzgerald
- Alayna Hatfield
- Deidre Kegley
- Kaelynn Knestrick
- Lindsay Levental
- Brianna Maggard
- Ozella McClendon
- Toree Mohr
- Sydni Mophew
- Emily Naber
- Stephanie Saxton
- Jenny Stringer
- Rylee Tenhundfeld
- Bridget Tenhundfeld-
- McMichael
- Julia Villarreal

*Congrats!*



**Jenny Perry**

# Development News

## Donors Deliver from a Distance

### Sweet Holiday Treats for Our Families

Thank you to the Cincinnati Woman's Club for putting together 94 cookie jars, complete with all the dry ingredients for a sweet treat. We scheduled a drive-by pick-up for families to receive their jars during December to give families a nice activity to do together over winter break.



Jill Haft, Cincinnati Woman's Club



Pictured L-R: Stevie Morehouse, Kathie Bunch, Erin Keefe & Devin Burgess

### Beckfield College Raises Funds & Awareness

A four-person student group from Beckfield College chose to focus on Fernside for their Leadership Project. Their goal was simple... increase awareness and hopefully some much-needed funds to support Fernside's free services. The students set up a GoFundMe page that they shared via Facebook and with family & friends. This one-month, on-line event raised over \$1,200 for Fernside!

### Ikea Becomes a Community Partner

Thanks to Ikea for their donation of expressive arts supplies! Communications and Events Specialist, Kristi Mendenhall, said they chose Fernside because, "It is certain your services make a difference! Hopefully this can be the beginning of a long-term partnership!" We couldn't agree more!



## Join us for the 2021 Fernside Classic

Fernside's annual event weekend is coming up soon! The 2021 Fernside Classic will kick off with a virtual "Pizza & Wine" event on Friday, May 14th, complete with pizza for two, two bottles of wine and a virtual wine-tasting by sommelier, Mary Horn. Guests will also receive a "First Look" card to preview the weekend's silent auction and supplies for an expressive arts activity that will close out the night.

The event continues with a silent auction that will run over Saturday and Sunday, May 15th & 16th. The grand finale will be held for golfers on Monday, May 17th at Shaker Run Golf Course for a beautiful day of golf complete with lunch provided by The HoneyBaked Ham Company and Skyline, and a Maggiano's boxed dinner for two to-go! For more information on sponsorships, tickets and silent auction donations, contact Jen Beck at The Bethesda Foundation at (513) 865-1652.





Guiding you through advanced  
illness and end of life

*We are very glad to get corrections.*

*Dated Material, Please Deliver Promptly*

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# Hope in Every Cup

*Rooted Grounds creates specialty  
blend for Fernside*

**A** piping hot thanks to Kris Chari, Executive Vice President and David Knopf, President and everyone at Rooted Grounds for creating a specialty coffee blend just for Fernside! Fernside and Bethesda Foundation Team Members participated in a special tasting and selected a blend that is now available for purchase at Amazon-Fernside Roast.



**Fernside & The  
Bethesda Foundation  
Team Member Tasting**

