

# Wendt Center *today*

March 2011

## Calling all Campers and Volunteers!!

Camp Forget-Me-Not/  
Camp Erin DC  
June 10-June 12, 2011

[Applications Available Now!](#)

## Volunteer Training



Twenty volunteers attended our February 2011 Volunteer Training. They spent a full day engaged in rich discussions and experiential activities, gaining understanding of the dynamics of trauma and grief and learning about the Center's services and programs.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer contact Kecia Hill at 202-204-5025 or email [khill@wendtcenter.org](mailto:khill@wendtcenter.org).

[QuickLinks...](#)  
[Support Groups](#)  
[Website](#)  
[Volunteer](#)  
[Our Services](#)  
[Camp](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## SIDS Grant

The Wendt Center received a grant from CJ Foundation for SIDS to help families and children in the immediate aftermath of a SIDS death to deal with the shock and trauma through individual and group bereavement services, education and case management.

## Looking for Men on Capitol Hill!



David Johns, a Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC volunteer, noticed the need for more men at camp last year. Because we had far more female volunteers than males, not all of the 25 boys who attended and were grieving the loss of a father or other loved one were matched with a male buddy.

Determined to help recruit men (especially minorities), David invited potential volunteers from among his colleagues on the Hill to talk about camp and how they could make a difference in the lives of children. He hosted a successful volunteer recruitment event in the Senate Office Building in February. We hope to see all those men who attended in Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC tee-shirts this summer! [Click here to support our camp.](#)



*Daniel Rosenbaum*

## Pictures for Healing

Photojournalist Daniel Rosenbaum was referred to the Wendt Center after the traumatic loss of his father, David Rosenbaum. Six months after his father's death, his mother, Ginny, died of cancer. In

dealing with these losses, Daniel tapped into his writing and photography skills and produced several personal, moving, and very beautiful pieces to commemorate his parents. The Wendt Center serves many who deal with not only one, but multiple traumas and losses. Our work is most rewarding when a client like Daniel finds a way to turn painful realities into creative, healing journeys.

*"After receiving such wonderful care here at the Center," says Daniel, "I have become interested in helping others take their traumatic experience and turn it into something positive."* Combining his knowledge of photography and journalism, Daniel is inspired to teach others grieving the loss of a loved one, helping them produce their own enduring "memory books." *"Capturing or telling your story through photography,"* says Daniel, *"can bring healing."* The Center is actively exploring funding sources to support this creative and therapeutic project for its grieving clients. For more information, contact [rdowling@wendtcenter.org](mailto:rdowling@wendtcenter.org).

*SID's Grant (Cont'd)*

"Our heart goes out to any parent who suffers the death of their infant child," says Executive Director Susan Ley. "We are very committed to doing this work on their behalf."

"It is our mission to one day eliminate Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other sleep-related infant deaths but until that day, we will continue to support programs that provide services to meet the needs of these families," says Linda McNeil Tantawi, Executive Director of the CJ Foundation for SIDS.

To learn more about the CJ Foundation for SIDS, visit [www.CJSIDS.org](http://www.CJSIDS.org).

## In the NEWS

Listen to Stephanie Handel's nationally broadcast radio interview with Linda Perlis and Sandra Burt of *Parents' Perspective* about children's bereavement camps (February 2011).

[Listen to Part I](#)  
[Listen to Part II](#)

## Honor That Special Someone

Want to do something special for someone and help the Center serve its clients all in one? Say Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary. Thank You, I Remember You. [Click here to honor that special someone.](#)

## [DONATE NOW](#)

## Admin Night



We would like to thank Diz Locaria, George Rush and Star Dodd for all of their help on ADMIN NIGHT.

Stay tuned - ADMIN/CAMP PREP NIGHT  
April 2011

**WENDT CENTER**  
FOR LOSS AND HEALING

## Wendt Center Interns



*Mick Neustadt, Maya Mitchell, Jeremy Hube, Megan Ganley, Ann Morrison, Yonce Shelton, Mickell Mooney, Chantal Cardon, and Elizabeth Gomart*

Each year, we welcome a class of graduate students in counseling, social work and psychology who come from all around the region to gain practical experience through a one-year internship at the Wendt Center. Each in their own unique way, have followed a calling to help people heal from trauma and grief. This year's class brings experience from a wide variety of fields. We are fortunate to have them. To learn more about this year's interns, [\(Click Here\)](#).

## A Decade of RECOVER

The Center's RECOVER program has served over 33,000 individuals, providing support and education to those who come to identify their deceased loved one at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME).



Staff at OCME

Celebrating a decade of service to the District, RECOVER is a unique collaboration that has been recognized as a "promising practice" by the SAMHSA-funded National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN). Among its primary goals is to support and educate families and children impacted by traumatic death.

*"This is an example of a short-term intervention that can prevent serious problems over the long term,"* says Kathryn Hanley, Vice President of the Wendt Center's Board of Directors, who first learned of the Center and RECOVER when she accompanied a grief-stricken friend to the OCME.

*"On top of their grief, many people have to struggle with legal, financial and/or mental health issues that threaten their ability to be self-sufficient. RECOVER can connect them with the resources they need."*

RECOVER is the topic of several recent papers and presentations, including "The Analyst at the Morgue: Helping Families Deal with Traumatic Bereavement" (Sklarew, Handel, Ley, 2011).

[Forward email](#)

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