Wendt Center today  
June 2012

"Cut and Paste"
The Voices of Now

Our Executive Director Says Farewell

Our long-time Executive Director, Susan Ley, is saying farewell. After 10 years at the Wendt Center, she is trading in her high heels for a more relaxed, diversified life - one that includes travel and time with her family.

Susan came to the Wendt Center in May, 2002 as the Director of Clinical Programs. As a licensed Child and Family Therapist with over 25 years’ experience, including faculty positions at the National Catholic School of Social Service and the Department of Psychiatry at Georgetown University’s School of Medicine, Susan’s role was to grow and enhance all aspects of our counseling services and client programs. In October of 2004, she was named Executive Director.

Susan has used her extensive background in social work, human services management, and mental health practice and training to lead the Wendt Center in many new directions - spearheading the start-up of 2 satellite offices, generating and implementing major federal and local grants, rebuilding the Volunteer Program, co-founding the D.C. Homicide Coalition and a city-wide DC Homicide Commemorative Event, adding specialized trauma and victim/survivor services, expanding our services to children and their families, and sustaining the organization during extremely difficult economic times. Her significant involvement in the National Child Traumatic Stress Network ensured that the Center's services remained current and focused in evidence-based research. Susan has represented the Wendt Center throughout the city, but most notably in front of DC City Council, on the boards of the DC Police Foundation, the Victim Services Network and the 9/11 Survivor’s Fund, among others, and through the many training presentations and interviews she conducted over the years.

Staff has appreciated Susan’s "can-do" approach and willingness to pitch in to "get it done." Thank you, Susan, for your compassion and dedication to our mission and for leading the Center through difficult economic times. You leave knowing you have made a difference in the lives of many and helped promote the Wendt Center as the leading grief, loss and trauma organization in the city. William Wendt would be proud and you will truly be missed.

Board Members Go To Camp
a unique, compelling, and highly relevant dramatic work about how young people deal with grief. Click here to view portions of the show.

Howard Motorbus Company Donates Bus Transportation for Camp Again This Year!

We are indebted to Anthony Howard, Owner and President of Howard Motorbus Industries, LLC, for donating his bus, time and services to transport our campers to and from camp again this year. We really appreciate all that you do. We salute you for your amazing generosity.

Tom Cooke, President (2nd left), Kathryn Hanley, Vice-President (center) and Kris Davis Board Member and long time camp volunteer (next to Hanley)

A few weeks ago, 3 of our Board of Directors attended camp. Kathryn Hanley, Vice President, sponsored Teddy Bears for all of the campers, and stayed all day Saturday; Kris Davis, Board Member has been spending the entire weekend as a returning volunteer to camp for many years; and Tom Cooke, Board President spent the entire weekend at camp for the first time.

"This was an extraordinary weekend for me, for the 50 children who attended, and the more than 80 volunteers and mental health professionals who helped make this event a success," said Tom.

"All of the children and many of the therapists and volunteers still have raw memories of the death of one or more loved ones. The weekend helped each of us confront our emotions in a supportive and non-judgmental setting. Click here to view the entire article.

A Most Amazing Experience!

Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC 2012 was an amazing experience for all who attended.

Many of the parents told us their child was hesitant about attending a "grief camp" for a weekend. But they were amazed that when they returned home, a lot of them cried because they had so much fun and didn't want to leave their new friends.

They talked about all of the new things like tried for the first time, like crab-bing, seining, canoeing, the confidence course, art and crafts and more. Some asked if they could come back next year... Unfortunately, the answer was no... but they can come
If you attended 2012 Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin you are invited to the Camp Reunion on July 7th at National’s Park. For more information contact Kecia Hill, Volunteer Coordinator on 202-204-5025 or email khill@wendtcenter.org.

Counseling and Group

Call 202-204-5021 to speak with the Intake Coordinator to learn more about our Summer Groups and counseling services.

Thank you for supporting a volunteer in his/her efforts to raise funds for Camp!

Check website next week for slideshow.

Forward email

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