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Wendt Center *today*

Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC

Special Edition
May 2011

Quotes from Kids

"They helped me a lot to talk about my feelings."

"They understood me and knew just how to show me how to cope with my father's death."

"Camp helped me a lot with my anger and sadness that I kept hidden. I hope, it will make me change."

"Camp helped me let go of some stuff that I did not want on my mind."

"It helped me understand other ways to remember and how to deal with my sadness."

"I made so many friends. They all had the same type of pain I have. I feel stronger now."

Quick Links

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[Help a Child go to Camp](#)
[Listen to Part I - Radio Broadcast about Camp](#)
[Listen to Part II- Radio Broadcast about Camp](#)

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How Camp Works



Help a grieving child attend camp



You can help a grieving child truly feel that she/he is not alone by sponsoring a camper to attend **Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC**. Our therapeutic grief camp is free of cost.

The cost per child is \$1,000. 80 volunteers who have been accepted to camp this year are reaching out for help. Each is trying to raise \$500. If you can sponsor a camper, please [click here to make your donation](#). You can include the name of the volunteer you are helping in their fundraising efforts. They will serve as buddies for children grieving the loss of a mother, father, sibling, or other loved one.

Who comes to Camp?



Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC is a unique, free, camp for children ages 6 to 16. This year's session will be held on the weekend of Friday, June 10--Sunday, June 12, 2011.

Now in its 12th year, our camp helps children and youth deal with the emotional struggles that come with losing a loved one.

At Camp each camper is paired with an adult "Buddy" for the weekend.

Buddies are specially trained volunteers who serve as role models in the grief process and help provide companionship and support for campers.

The individual attention from Buddies is what makes Camp so special.

Professional therapists also lead support group sessions designed to address the age specific needs of grieving campers.

Wendt Center staff and trained volunteers are on hand throughout the weekend to help with all aspects of camp.

If you would like to volunteer [click here](#). To make a donation [click here](#).

Items Needed for Camp

We need your help! Listed below are items we need for Camp!

- Monetary donations
- Teddy Bears (60-12 inches tall similar in style and appearance)
- Gift Certificates (Giant, Safeway, Michael's, AC Moore, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, etc.).
- Twin-bed sheet sets
- Cases of bottled water and canned seltzer water (plain) 8 oz
- Individually wrapped snacks (assorted chips, pretzels, fruit bars)

List of more items

To donate items contact Kecia Hill - 202-204-5025 or khill@wendtcenter.org or [click here](#).

Out of 51 campers who attended last year's camp, 23 lost fathers and 14 lost 1 or more siblings; the most common causes of death were homicide (22) and cancer (14).

Many children suffer the loss of a loved one silently. Their parents and/or caregiver are often also grieving and may not know what to do or how to talk to their child about death. And the children don't know how to ask for help. This camp is an opportunity for the children to go away for the weekend and learn ways to cope with their grief while also having fun.

This year, we will be taking 56 children and 80 trained volunteers (who have also experienced a loss) to help with camp over the weekend. Parents and caregivers will be provided with education and support to help them address their children's grief.

Howard Motorbus Company Donates Transportation for Camp

Anthony Howard, Owner and President of Howard Motorbus Industries, LLC has been transporting youth to Camp Forget-Me-Not/Camp Erin DC for the past 2 years. This year he will be donating a bus to transport the kids from Northwest and Southeast D.C. to and from the camp site in Millersville, Maryland.



"This camp and this charity are extremely important to us as a company and to myself personally as a parent," says Mr. Howard. "God forbid my child would need grief counseling and relief. The Wendt Center is important to the community for what they do."

The Wendt Center salutes and thanks Anthony Howard and the [Howard Motorbus Company](#) for this amazing generosity.

Please support our volunteers in their efforts to raise funds for Camp

