

Suncoast Kids Place:
Family Update
September 2011



WELCOME BACK!

It is that time of the year again; school begins and Suncoast Kid's Place gears up for our 4th year providing support and love to children and teens at a time in their lives that it is so needed. We are so excited to have all of our families back with us for another year of exciting things that will be happening around SKP. We want to thank you again for entrusting your children into our care.

For the most part, group times have remained the same except for these changes:

ALL Middle School Boys will meet on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month at 6:30 PM

ALL High School Girls will meet on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month at 6:30 PM in the GLC (Bldg. G)

NEW AND EXCITING HAPPENINGS AROUND SKP!

In July we had the opportunity to attend the 15th Annual National Alliance for Grieving Children's conference in Boston, MA. We learned so much at this conference and were able to bring back some amazing ideas to incorporate into our program. Please mark your calendar for these upcoming events.

COMMUNITY ART SHOW— We are in the planning stages of our **1st Annual Art Show** at the

Expressions of

Grief & Hope

Art by Grieving Children & Teens

Carrollwood Cultural Center which will be on display for the entire month of November. This exhibit will be called "**Expressions of Grief & Hope: Art by Grieving Children and Teens**". We will spend our September and October groups preparing for this exciting event and actually working

through our grief by doing different mediums of art which will then be put on display. We encourage all the caregivers to support and help the children/teens through their interpretation of their grief.



On **November 4th, from 6:00—9:00 pm**, we will have an unveiling of the exhibit for the general public and a reception will follow. Please mark your calendar so that all of our children, teens and families can attend this very special evening.

CAREGIVER/CHILD ACTIVITIES— This year we will also be incorporating at least 2 exercises that the caregivers and the children will be doing together. We pray that these activities will bring an evening of enjoyment and healing while families work together through their grief experience.

1st ANNUAL CANCER LOSS CAMP— We have been asked to partner with the Children's Cancer Center to sponsor a weekend camp for families that have experienced a death of a loved one due to Cancer. This camp is still in the planning stages however, the funding for the camp has been approved and granted to SKP and Children's Cancer Center. It is a product of a grant proposal which was submitted by the Sarasota Cancer Support Community. We wish that we could invite all of our families to this weekend camp, unfortunately due to the funding restrictions, we are only allowed to invite those families that have a loss due to cancer. Space will be limited. Please stay tuned for additional information on this fabulous opportunity for our families.

HELLO GRIEF!— This is another great idea we brought back from the NAGC conference; it is an interactive website that began to build a community of support for those living with grief. It was established by Comfort Zone Camp and sponsored by New York Life. We have established 2 SKP groups, one for parents, the other for teens (Middle and High Schoolers). We plan on adding a 3rd-5th grade group in the near future. Parent's permission will be needed to participate. All of these groups are "private" which means that you will need permission from SKP to participate in these forums; this will ensure our families privacy and protection. Please post any questions, thoughts, or experiences that you may be having related to your grief at www.hellogrief.org. We look forward to seeing you on-line.

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 3rd-5th (1) 4:00-5:30 3rd-5th (2) 6:30-8:00	2	3
4	5 Labor Day No Groups	6 3rd-5th (4) 6:30-8:00 Middle School Girls 6:30-8:00	7 K-2nd (4) 6:30-8:00 Healing After a Loved One's Suicide (HALOS) Group 7:00-8:30	8 K-2nd (1) 4:00-5:30 K-2nd (2) 6:30-8:00 Brandon 6:30-8:00	9	10
11	12 High School Girls 6:30-8:00	13 High School Boys 6:30-8:00	14	15 3rd-5th (1) 4:00-5:30 3rd-5th (2) 6:30-8:00	16	17
18	19 Littles 4:00-5:15 3rd-5th (3) 6:30-8:00 Middle School Boys 6:30-8:00	20 3rd-5th (4) 6:30-8:00 Middle School Girls 6:30-8:00	21 K-2nd (4) 6:30-8:00 Healing After a Loved One's Suicide (HALOS) Group 7:00-8:30	22 K-2nd (1) 4:00-5:30 K-2nd (2) 6:30-8:00 Brandon 6:30-8:00		
25	26 High School Girls 6:30-8:00	27 High School Boys 6:30-8:00	28	29		