## Mission

The mission of Suncoast Kids Place is to provide support for families, children, and teens from 3-18 years of age who have experienced the death of a significant person in their lives, as an ongoing ministry of Jesus Christ.

## DON'T LET ONE TERRIBLE LOSS LEAD TO ANOTHER

Parents and guardians may be reluctant to encourage children to express their grief. Many may simply not know how to help their children deal with the death of a significant person. Not addressing a child's grief could be detrimental to their emotional healing and development. Children need an opportunity to say goodbye, share feelings, and process their emotions.

## **Fees and Contributions**

As a ministry of Bay Hope Church • bayhope.com, services are provided for free. We trust that God will provide the necessary contributions and volunteers to make this program possible.

Tax-deductible contributions are welcomed from individuals, families, businesses, and organizations that share our vision.

\*\*Distribution of this information does not imply endorsement of this activity or event

# SUNCOASTKIDSPLACE.ORG 813-990-0216 INFO@SUNCOASTKIDSPLACE.ORG







FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN, TEENS, & FAMILIES

## THE LONG ROAD TO HEALING BEGINS HERE

A JOURNEY BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP

Most families do not have the resources to cope with the incredibly difficult grieving process following a death, especially when young children and teenagers are involved. Suncoast Kids Place provides understanding and support in a safe and nurturing environment. Children, teens, and families can share their experience as they move through the process of grieving the death of a significant person.

Through peer support groups, discussion, education, and play, Suncoast Kids Place provides the resources necessary to help families grieve a devastating death. Families also find strength and joy in sharing memories of someone special. Here, participants have the opportunity to meet others who have also experienced the death of a parent, primary caregiver, sibling, friend, or other significant person.

Caregivers are encouraged to attend the adult group that meets concurrently with most of the onsite children's groups. It is required that an adult caregiver remain on campus.

All groups are led by professional staff members and trained volunteer facilitators. Therapy dogs are also a key component to the children and teen group sessions.

Suncoast Kids Place does not provide private therapy.

Children and teens that are not supported during grief can develop serious emotional and behavioral problems that may follow them throughout their lives.

At Suncoast Kids Place, we help families, teens, and children work through this very important grieving process.

### THIS PROGRAM IS FREE OF CHARGE AND AVAILABLE TO ALL FAMILIES **REGARDLESS OF WHEN THE DEATH OCCURRED.**

#### **GET INVOLVED AS A FAMILY**

Suncoast Kids Place provides support for children and teens, ages 3-18, and their families following the death of a significant person through peer support groups and education. Our goal is to offer support in a safe place where children, teens, and families can share their experience as they grieve.

#### **VOLUNTEER WITH SKP**

The success of Suncoast Kids Place is highly dependent on volunteers. The fact is, it cannot happen without them.

A Volunteer Facilitator's commitment to each group is 2.5 hours twice a month. Volunteers will interact directly with the children or teens during play and talk time and will work to establish a relationship with the children that are working through the death of a significant person.

Volunteer facilitators are also an important part of our caregiver groups. They assist in leading conversations amongst the caregivers who bring the children to our program. Most child/teen groups have a co-occurring caregiver group.

#### COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING AND EDUCATION

A goal of Suncoast Kids Place is to provide training and education to increase the community's awareness of the needs of grieving children. We provide presentations and in-service training on many topics and can accommodate the specific needs of a school, organization, or business.

Suncoast Kids Place School Initiative also provides three levels of support to our local schools including education and groups.









