



# Center for Grieving Children

# MAY / JUNE 2017

CGC offers peer support programs for children and youth who have experienced the death of some one they love.

		MAY		
MONDAY	TUESDAY			
2				
9	<b>9</b>			
16				
23	<b>23</b>			
30				

## 2 Family Nights in MAY

### Peer Grief Support Program

6 - 8 pm

At the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley

**New Participants - Please schedule an orientation session to begin.**

Director, Loris Damerow

920-750-5839

ldamerow@bgclubfoxvalley.org

June is  
**CGC Memorial Picnic**  
**Greenville Lions Park**  
 Tuesday, June 20th, 6 - 8pm  
 Picnic, tree planting, balloon launch  
 Directions to follow

		JUNE		
MONDAY	TUESDAY			
6				
13				
20	<b>20</b>			
27				

The Center holds programing on the third Tuesday of the summer months.

**June 20 - Memorial Picnic**

**July 18 - Creative Arts Night**

**August 15 - Pizza, Popcorn, PJs, and (motion)Pictures**



## Camp Lloyd: June 19 - June 25, 2017

**Camp Lloyd** is a week long day camp from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm for grieving children, ages 7 - 14, held at the Mauthe/Ecumenical Center on the beautiful University of Wisconsin-Green Bay campus. The camp is filled with **fun activities** such as arts and crafts, music, games, swimming and hiking. It is also a time for campers to **explore their own experiences of grief**, find support from each other and realize that their feelings are normal. The **Camp Lloyd** staff consists of **professional grief counselors** and trained student interns from the UW-Green Bay. Returning campers who have two+ years of Camp Lloyd experience register on a case by case basis.

**Parent/Guardian Orientation: Thursday June 15, 2017 4:30 - 6:00 pm**

Online camper registration can be found at this link: <http://www.uwgb.edu/camployd/>

A bus will be running morning/afternoon from the Boys & Girls Club Fox Valley to Camp. Sign up when you register.



Loris Damerow, Director  
 160 S. Badger Ave  
 Phone: 920-750-5839  
 ldamerow@bgclubfoxvalley.org  
 www.cgcfvalley.org



### More families will be joining CGC

Through a partnership with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, the Center will be offering an additional small group on Family Nights.

This break-out group will be for adults who have experienced the death of a child; newborn to 18 years of age.

Adults do not need to have other children coming to the Center in order to participate in this group.

CGC volunteer, Rose Fochs, from Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, coordinates this new group within our Family Night array.

WELCOME

The Fox Valley and entire state of Wisconsin

### Texting 'HOPELINE'



- Need to connect?
- Need encouragement?
- Need help?
- Having a bad day?
- Want to find resources?
- Teens and Adults

Text

"Hopeline" to 839863

### Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14, 2017

### Father's Day

Sunday, June 18, 2017



Bereaved children often have mixed feelings on these holidays. They may particularly miss their Mom or Dad or feel left out because they are different than their peers. It is important to validate the child's feelings, and at the same time gently remind them that they will ALWAYS have a Mom or Dad even though they can no longer see nor be with that special person. Take the opportunity to focus on the memory and/or spirit of that important person and honor the aspects of connection that remain.

For younger children, drawing or writing about their favorite activities or memories are often useful. This can help kids feel connected to their loved one, as well as document precious memories that may become less vivid in later years.

Younger children also love animals, so any activity in which you have them identify "parent" and "kid" animals can be fun and educational. The activity can focus on how animals take care of their babies. Modify the activities to include more details and levels of discussion for older kids.

Pre-teens and teens may or may not be into doing any activities. Discussions or projects that focus on the "role" of the parent rather than a specific individual can be helpful. Teens can identify what traits of their mother or father role model they have, would like to develop, and even want to change.

It can be hard to do, but it IS helpful for your child to talk about the topic with them and to involve them in the process of deciding how to recognize the day. Children will often not bring it up the subject in their family because they are afraid of upsetting others, and even themselves. It may be helpful to realize that each year, especially as the children grow up, the topic should be revisited as how they want to, or even if they want to, celebrate the day. Their thoughts and feelings around these special days are likely to change with time, as should traditions.

Overall, schools can have activities that focus more on the role of Mothers and Fathers than on the actual person. Children may not have a biological mother or father in their life (for a variety of reasons, death being only one), but someone else that fits that role. If the activity focuses on the "role" rather than the person, you will help the child identify positive role models in their life.

