



No child should ever grieve alone

2014-2015 Annual Report

**Mourning HOPE**
grief center



100s of Lincoln Men Who Care

In May of 2015, Mourning Hope was introduced to a newly-formed group called "100s of Lincoln Men Who Care." This powerful group of community leaders meets four times a year, and each member commits to giving \$100 to a nominated nonprofit.



Mourning Hope was the recipient of their first event, with donations totaling \$18,300! Those dollars were specifically earmarked for scholarships to Camp Erin Lincoln. Because the camp is offered at no-cost to the participants, we originally planned to take 35 kids. But thanks to the generosity of the 100s of Lincoln Men Who Care, we were able to accept 50!

Camp Erin Lincoln

Camp Erin Lincoln® is a weekend-long, overnight bereavement camp designed for children between the ages of 6-17 who have experienced the death of someone close to them. At Camp Erin, youth have the opportunity to be around other children and teens that have experienced similar loss. The retreat weekend is designed to help bereaved youth share their grief experiences in creative ways through art projects, time to talk and share, perform outdoor games and challenge courses, participate in memorial activities and even share a campfire experience.

Camp Erin is an initiative created and funded by The Moyer Foundation, a nonprofit organization established by World Series Champion and Major League All-Star Pitcher Jamie Moyer and his wife, Karen. The Moyer Foundation partners with bereavement organizations in communities across the country, providing a long-term commitment to bring hope and healing to thousands of children each year.



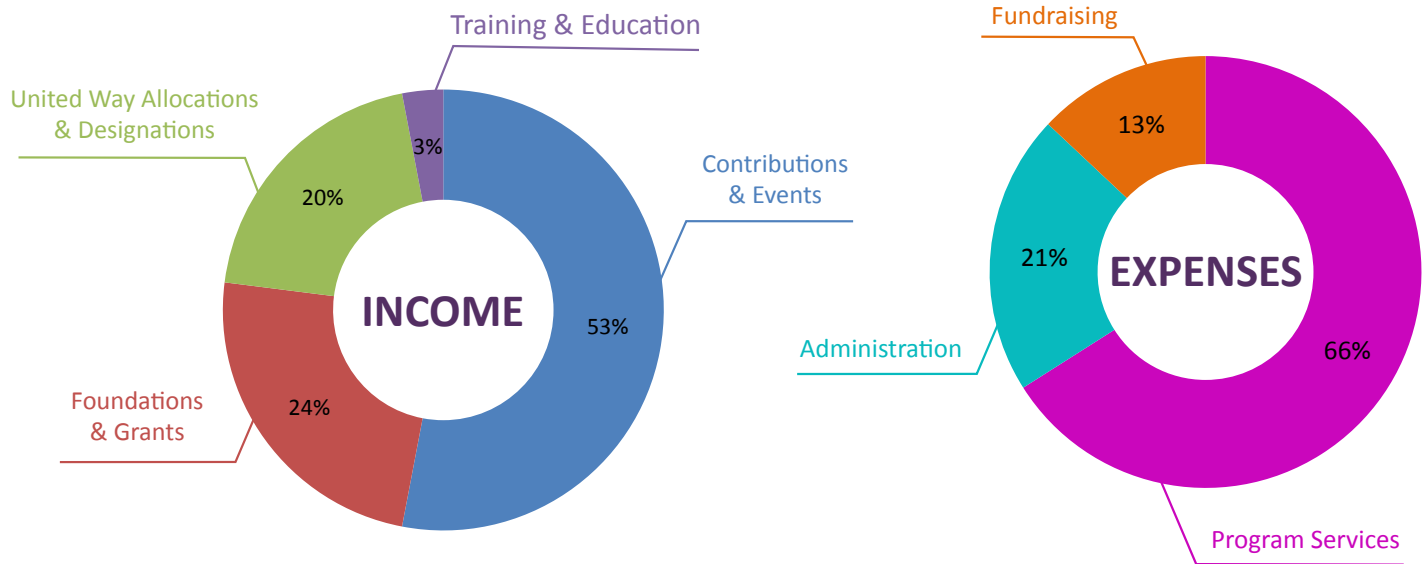
Volunteer Quote:

"I want to take a moment to thank Pam, the Mourning Hope Grief Center and the Moyer Foundation for allowing me the opportunity to volunteer for this experience. Camp Erin changed my perspective. I have been grieving my father for eleven years and never received the care and compassion shown to the kids at Camp Erin. After this experience I understand things a little more clearly now. I learned, above all, that I am not alone in this. That is an invaluable feeling to me. Thank you a million for all your hard work!"

Camper Quote:

"Camp Erin helped me know that people are there for you even when you don't think they are. There is a lot of support surrounding you. It helped me realize that just because the person is gone, doesn't mean they left your heart. I liked the luminaries because it shows that light will shine through your path and you are not alone."

2014/2015 Fiscal Year



2014/2015 Programs At-A-Glance

4,123

People were directly impacted by Mourning Hope during FYE 6/30/15. This represents a **14% increase in service utilization** over the last fiscal year.



SUPPORT GROUPS

292 unduplicated participants attended Mourning Hope's grief support groups



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

People attending Mourning Hope's community education presentations



GRIEF RESOURCES & REFERRALS

937 calls/contacts were received

Board of Directors

- President – Deb Buhro
- Past President – Terry Hansen
- Treasurer – Sue Kittinger
- Secretary – Diane Brestel
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- Yinka Akinyemi
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- Steve Brestel
- Stephanie Brummond
- Dave Dermann
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- Nicole Hecht Juranek
- Chad Horsham
- Jason McCown
- Diane Lydick
- Joseph Meduna
- Gayla Nelsen
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- Dr. Fred & Rosemary Ohles
- Tonn & Holly Ostergard
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- Judy & Bill Roper
- Pat & Larry Ruth
- Mark & Deb Schorr
- Rev. Jennifer Strickland & Rev. Jacob Buchholz
- Terry Wagner
- Rick Wallace
- Hank & Cynthia Woods

Staff

- Carly Woythaler-Runestad, MHA, Executive Director
- Caitlin Mason, MTS, Program Director
- Sandi Fabry, Community Outreach Coordinator
- Lauren Patton, Program Resources Coordinator
- Rachael Kluck-Spann, MA, Community Program Coordinator
- Pam Fuhr-Dinneen, MS, LMHP, FT, Camp Erin Program Director
- Kaycee Greenfield, Nebraska Wesleyan University Work Study Student
- Mikayla Tremain, Nebraska Wesleyan University Work Study Student

Legacy of Hope

Several years ago, Mourning Hope implemented the Legacy of Hope Society, which requests donors commit to a monetary pledge of \$1,000 or more annually for five years. Through Legacy of Hope Society members, Mourning Hope is able to better plan resources, serve more children through new and expanded programming, and encourage other community members to donate as well. This additional financial stream greatly contributes to the enduring sustainability of our programs and services.

For more information on how to become a Legacy of Hope Society member, contact Mourning Hope at hope@mourninghope.org or call 402.488.8989.

Mourning Hope expresses deep appreciation to the following individuals for serving as the Legacy of Hope Society Members:

- Dr. Jeff & Sarah David
- John & Pam Dinneen
- Terry & Dave Hansen
- Chad & Stacy Horsham
- Tonn & Holly Ostergard
- Dr. Lindy Mullin
- Pat & Larry Ruth
- Bill & Judy Roper

Mayor's Arts Awards

Since 1978 the Mayor's Arts Awards has become a much anticipated yearly festivity to recognize Lincoln's rich artistic diversity. Each year the community gives kudos to individual achievement in all artistic mediums, from educational excellence to urban design; from organizational, volunteer and philanthropic dedication to the arts, to arts organizations and outstanding arts events. With our city's Mayor, people of all ages and socio-economic levels are brought together to honor the arts and those that make it happen.

This year Mourning Hope was delighted to be presented with The Lincoln Community Foundation Arts for Kids Award for incorporating art projects into our grief peer support programs for children and teens. This award was designed to recognize an individual or organization from outside of the arts professions whose leadership has enhanced arts activities and experiences for children.

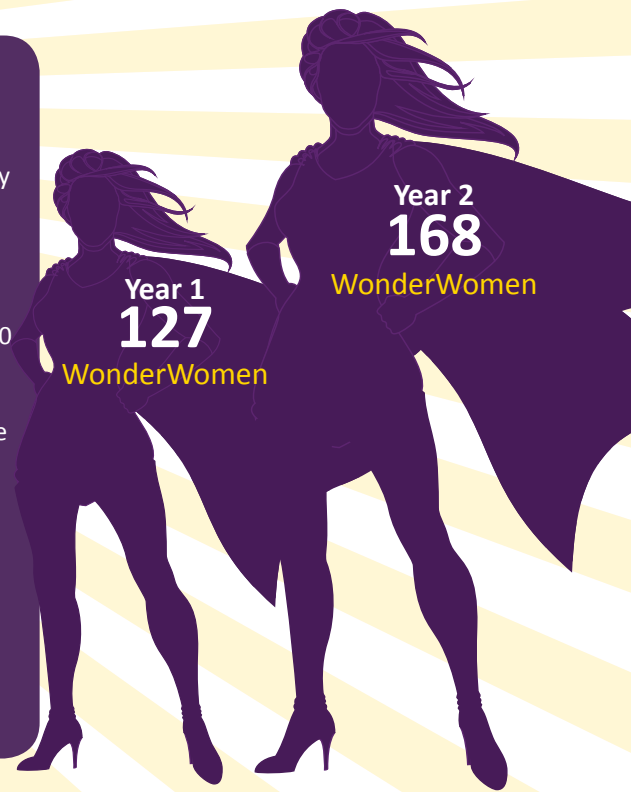


2015 WonderWomen

Two years ago, several Mourning Hope volunteers created a new fundraising event for the Center. We wanted this new fundraiser to have very little overhead whereby the majority of the proceeds would go directly back to the grieving families who attend Mourning Hope. We know "little overhead" is important and this novel concept was created to eliminate most of these traditional fundraising obstacles.

As a Mourning Hope WonderWoman, individuals were asked to simply donate \$100 on an annual basis. During year one, 127 amazing women joined the group, and in year two, 168 came on board. This has provided our organization with \$29,500 of operating funds dedicated toward the bereaved youth and caregivers served by the Center. Families are not charged for grief support services at Mourning Hope and the WonderWomen donations ensure these programs and resources are available for everyone in our community!

Our goal this year is to have 200 women in the Lincoln Community become a Mourning Hope WonderWoman. We hope that YOU might consider becoming one of these 200. As a "thank you," participating WonderWomen are invited to join forces for an October cocktail party to celebrate friendships and a legacy of charitable giving.



Amy Anderson
Amy Lipins
Angie Muhleisen
Ann Campbell
Anna Pressler
Barb Hoppe
Barb Tegt
Barb Youngscap
Barbara Anderson
Barbara Woythaler
Beatty Brasch
Betty Lou Ball
Caitlin Mason
Carly Runestad
Carolyn Otte
Cathy Blythe
Christie Schwartzkopf
Schroff
Claudia Russell
Coleen Pegler
Connie Duncan
Connie Heier
Cynthia Harre
Deb Buhro
Deb Schorr
Debbie Sitzman
Debbie Stuart
Denise McLain
Diane Brestel
Diane Dudley
Diane Guthery
Diane Hansen
Diane Lydick

Diane Richters
Diedre Kobler
Elizabeth Hilsabeck
Elizabeth Wanamaker
Faye Darling
Gayla Nelsen
Holly Leach
Holly Ostergard
Ida Lim
Jaclyn Strasburger
Jamie Hansen
Jamie Semrad
Jan Douglas
Jan Lau
Jan Prettyman
Jan Sheridan
Jana Spilker
Jana Tanner
Janee Dlugosh
Jeanette Adams
Jeanine Curtis
Jeanne Sheridan
Jennifer Connelly
Jennifer Strand
Jennifer Strickland
Jenny Unruh
Jessie Waller
Jill Hoover
Joan Campbell Foote
Joan Roberts
JoAnn Martin
JoAnne Bettenhausen
JoAnne Kissel

Joy Ullstrom
Joyce Douglas
Judy Haney
Judy Roper
Judy Runion
Julie Ashburn
Julie Olson
Julie Pittenger
Julie Seever
Julie Smith
Karen Ravenscroft
Kathleen Allan
Kathy Collingsworth
Kathy LeBaron
Kathy Moore
Kathy Stewart
Katie Kloefkorn
Kaycee Greenfield
Kerri McLain
Kim Russel
Kris Bergmeyer
Kylie Legree
Lana Peterson-Pressler
Laurel Crusinberry
Lauren Patton
Leirion Gaylor Baird
Linda Davis
Linda Hemmingsen
Linda Lichtenberg
Lindy Mullin
Lisa Smith
Lori McClurg
Lori Molzer

Lyndsie Mullin
Marcia Roth
Margaret Puls
Marilyn Harris
Marilyn Moore
Mary Abel
Mary Carper
Mary Curtis
Mary Hawk
Mary Hergert
Mary Kingery
Mary Sue Meyers
Mary Reiman
Maryanne Heiser
Meg Lauerman
Megan Darling
Mikayla Tremain
Molly Nance
Nancy Bare
Nancy Heiser
Nancy Stuckey
Nancy Tegeler
Nancy Wanek
Nelle Jamison
Norma Fuhr
Pam Dinneen
Pam Ganz
Pam Wessel
Patricia Ruth
Patty Pansing Brooks
Paula Metcalf
Raette Bahe
Rebecca Scott

Rosemary Ohles
Roxanne Nissen
Samantha Eckhardt
Sandi Fabry
Sarah Baltensperger
Sarah David
Sarah Minarick
Sharla Dinneen
Sharon Zehr
Shelley Forney
Sheree Bacus
Sheryl Laduke
Soni Fabry
Stephanie Stearley
Sue Anderson
Sue Gabriel
Sue Kittinger
Sue Tallman
Sue Tricker
Susan Gourley
Susie Dinkelman
Susie Windle
Tammy Ward
Terry Hansen
Tiffany Heier
Tina Breitenbach
Tracy Vuchetich
Wendy Van

Interested in becoming a 100+ WonderWoman?

Contact Carly Runestad at crunestad@mourninghope.org or call 402.488.8989.

Become a Friend of Mourning Hope

Mourning Hope exists because every child deserves the opportunity to grieve in a supportive and understanding environment. Because the death of a family member brings financial instability, along with other life-altering changes, our services are available at no cost to the participants, and no family is ever turned away.

YES! I would like to help grieving children through Mourning Hope. Enclosed, please find my gift of \$_____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

My gift is given in remembrance of: _____

Mail donation to: Mourning Hope Grief Center, 4919 Baldwin Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68504. Donations may also be made online via credit card at mourninghope.org.

Our Supporters

\$10,000+

100s of Lincoln Men Who Care
Rogers Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Cooper Foundation
The Grainger Foundation
St. Anthony Foundation

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Business Network International
Dave & Terry Hansen
New York Life Foundation
Tonn & Holly Ostergard
Project Impact Lincoln
Swanson Russell Associates
Union Bank & Trust

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Abel Foundation
Allstate Life Insurance Company
Ameritas Charitable Foundation
AseraCare Hospice Foundation
Bryan Medical Center
CHI Health
Community Health Endowment of
Lincoln
Jeff & Sarah David
Pam & John Dinneen
May L. Flanagan Foundation
Grafton & Associates
Barry & Susan Gourley
Marilyn & Bob Harris Family
Foundation
Frank & Elizabeth Hilsabeck
Brian Hoffart
Home Services of Nebraska
HoriSun Hospice Community
Foundation
Lauren Madsen
Leo & Denise Meduna
Jon & Joan Michelsen
The Moyer Foundation

Lindy Mullin
Nebraska Hematology Oncology
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Pegler Family Foundation
Bill & Judy Roper
Roper & Son's Funeral Services
Larry & Patricia Ruth
State Farm Insurance Company
Lee Rankin Stuart Family Foundation
Jeannine Stewart
Devon Wegner

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Mary Baker
Randy & Mary Bates
John & Beatty Brasch
Loel & Patty Pansing Brooks
Deb Buhro
Sam's Club
Linda Conrad
Sharon Doll
Sandi Fabry
The Hampton Family Foundation
Patrick & Sandra Lee Gaydusek
Oxbow Animal Health
Chad & Stacy Horsham
Diedre Kobler
Sheryl Laduke
Neil Jacobson
Pam Nienaber
Jeffrey Patterson
Pinnacle Bank - Gretna
Donde Plowman
Runza Restaurants
Kurt & Carly Runestad
Jamie Semrad
Stephanie Stearley
Jacob Buchholz &
Jennifer Strickland
Tom & Sue Tallman
Ron & Chris Harris Charitable Trust
Unico Group, Inc.
Wilma & Michael Cronin

\$250 - \$499

Jennifer & Kelly Amend
Julie Armstrong
Keith & Judy Bouwens
Steve & Diane Brestel
Lincoln Family Funeral Care
Taken To The Cleaners
Women's Welcome Club
Capitol Heating & Air Conditioning
Larry & Janice Dlugosh
Duane & Sue Gabriel
Eagle Group
Garner Industries
Jennifer Gleason
Jeffrey & Judy Greenwald
Eric & Linda Hemmingsen
L Scott & Faye Koehn
Molly & Paul Nance
Gayla Nelsen
Teri & Scott Nelson
Theodore & Cheryl Anne Parent
Kim Russel & Dr. Dirk H. Brom
Lux Middle School
Christie & Clifford Schroff
Baer Goff Financial Services
Sherry Stevenson
Complete Children's Health
Charitable Trust
Elmer & Pam Wessel

Up to \$250

Jim & Mary Abel
Ashlea Allberry
Teri Alley-Davis
Amy Anderson
Barbara Anderson
Amy Arduser
ReeAnna Armagost
Allison Arndt
Julie Ashburn
Linda Ashelford
Amy Avery
Charles & Sheree Bacus

Raette Bahe
Tom & Betty Lou Ball
Arbor Bank
Cornhusker Bank
Larry & Nancy Bare
Amanda Barker
Angela Barr
Jennifer Bass
Brian & Amy Baxter
Lori Becwar
Sharon & Glenn Bennett
Jenni Benson
Jennifer Benson
James & Kimberlye Berg
John Bergmeyer
Bettenhausen Family Foundation
Nancy Bidrowski
Daniel & Tracy Black
Lisa Borchardt
Marilyn Borchardt
Jon & Denise Borton
Kelly Bouwens
Gene Brake
Ruth Reiling & Fuller Brush
Karen Buchfinck
J.B. & Susan Burkey
Carol & Beth Butler
Cheryl & Jay Byler
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Thomas & Christina Champoux
Jennifer Chartier
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Freedom Chiropractic
Amy Christensen
Curt Christensen

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Jack & Jeanine Curtis
Jane Cutshall
Debra Daily
Faye Darling
Megan Darling
James & Sherri Daubert
Christine Starr Davis
Diann Davis
Kim Davis
Linda Davis
Dave Dermann
Kevin Deutsch
Cindy & Steve Devoe
Ann & Richard Diers
Jack & Karen Dike
Joyce Dingleline
Susie Dinkelman
Christine & Michael Dinneen
JJ & Judy Dinneen
Joe & Sharla Dinneen
Brian & Wanda Dittmann
Matt Dominy
Jan Douglas
Joyce Douglas
Dick & Diane Drommond
John & Diane Dudley
Connie Duncan
Sue Dutton
Alan Eberspacher
Travis & Samantha Eckhardt
Elton & Connie Edmond
Marvin & Victoria Ehly
Maria & Dean Eisenhauer
Debra Eschliman
Sonja Fabry
Kathleen Fimple
Colleen Finkhouse
Angela Fischer
Robert & Janice Fitzsimmons
Dr. Terence & Joan Campbell Foote
Kent & Rochelle Forney
Michael Friend
Dean & Rhonda Fuelberth
Gordon & Norma Fuhr
Doug & Pam Ganz
Kathleen Gdowski
Geeks
Leslie Gibbens & Brian Hefner
Jay & Laura Gilbert
Korby Gilbertson
Curtis Goebel
Diane Gonzolas
Network for Good
Leslie Gordon
Jennifer Green
Jack Guggenmos
John & Diane Guthery
Matt & Stacy Gutschenritter
Damon & Kendra Haifley
Allison Hamata
Doyle & Judith Haney
Bev Hansen
Diane Hansen
Vicki Hansen
Perry Haralson
Leon & Cynthia Harre
Linda & Dennis Hecht
Wesley & Nicole Hecht-Juranek

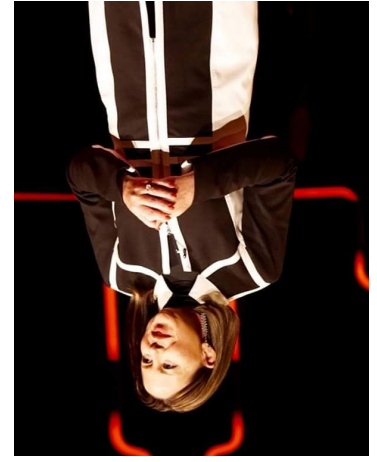
Jill Heese
Tiffany Heier
Bernard & Connie Heier
Maryanne Heiser
Mary Hergert
Erin Hergott
Gary & Mary Herr
Rodney & Cathy Hill
Jill Hobbie
Rene Hodges
Jen Hoelsing
Heidi Hoffman
Jill & Clark Hoover
Kimberly Hovendick
HBA Invesments
Kim Jacob
Kimberly Jacob
Nelle Jamison
Dick & Kathy Janda
Kay Jantzen
Amy Johnson
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Julie Smith
Lisa Smith
Craig Songster
Mary Spencer
Jana Spilker
Allison Starr
Hope Starr
Dennis Stelzer
Keith & Kathryn Stewart
Adele & Kent Stiles
Jack & Nancy Stiles
Gloria & Floyd Stingley
Joan Stolle
Jennifer Strand
Jaclyn Strasburger
Debbie Stuart
Dennis & Nancy Stuckey
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Nancy & Phil Tegeler
Steve & Jan Thelen
Gretchen Treadway
Vicki Treat
Sue Tricker
Nora Turner
Cindy Uhrmacher
Joy Ullstrom
Laura Uridil
Wendy Van
Vanderford & Associates
Melinda Varley
Peggy & Kenneth Volker
Maurice Vonasek
Tracy Vuchetich
Jessie Waller
Dale Wallman
Elizabeth Wanamaker
Nancy Wanek
Dean Way
Samuel Welsch
Marcia White
Martha White
Denise Wiemer
William Stiles
Rebecca Williams
Vernon Williams
Dayle Williamson
Bryan Willnerd
Jennifer Van Winkle
Kathy Wolfe
Catherine Wooldrik
Lenny & Barb Woythaler
Barbara Youngscap
Carol Zaretski
Sharon Zehr
Terry & Anita Zimmerman
Zoetis

Mourning Hope is a proud agency of:





TEDxLincoln

The TEDxLincoln Talk – “No Child Should Ever Grieve Alone” – can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YR9eokO8cFA&feature=youtu.be>

ever has to grieve alone.

field. Together, we can educate and empower people across the nation to ensure that no child TEDx provides an amazing platform and a diverse audience base that helps support this vital available online, we have yet another opportunity to share the message in a widespread manner. to the activity that grew out of TEDxLincoln on October 1st. And now that the recorded video is activity. Analysis of social media posts indicated that more than 600,000 people were exposed across America and people in seven countries. Twitter, Instagram and Facebook were filled with was streamed live online to 25 communities across Nebraska plus viewers in 33 other states clearly deserves. On October 1st, this presentation had an audience of 600, the video feed to ensure that childhood bereavement receives the public awareness and the resources it so “No Child Should Ever Grieve Alone.” In the often overlooked field of children’s grief, it’s essential Mournig Hope’s executive director, Carly Runestad, recently provided a TEDxLincoln Talk titled:

To learn more about Mournig Hope, or to watch the video “Hope is a Wonderful Thing,” visit Mournig Hope’s website: www.mournighope.org

Mournig Hope Grief Center companions grieving children, teens, young adults and their families when someone significant in their lives has a serious illness or has died. Mournig Hope provides support groups, community education, grief resources and referrals.

Mournig Hope’s Mission



4919 Baldwin Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68504

Because grief is the hardest work there is...
hope is a wonderful thing.