Fernside Friendship Endures 20 Years Later

As we continue to celebrate our 25th Anniversary, we are highlighting reflections in each newsletter. Heather Carvell, a married mother of two and a teacher and Literature Department Chair at McLean School of Maryland, shares her story below:

My name is Heather Carvell. I started attending Fernside in 1991 after my brother, Gabe, died suddenly at the age of 18. My father had died eight years earlier. Fernside was my haven. After attending groups I volunteered by serving pizza. I now teach high school and went to the Fernside website today to send materials to my fellow teachers to help support a young student who recently lost her father. In conversations with the student’s grieving mom, I realized how essential Fernside is and was to my life. I was stunned to read how many sites you have and that you serve over 900 children each year! My experiences with Fernside have helped over a dozen students in my 15 years as a high school teacher because I know how to support them.

One of my closest friends, Tonya Meeks, is someone I met at Fernside. Tonya was in the Sibling Loss group with me. She lost her brother, Todd a few months before I lost mine. Since attending Fernside, we have also both lost our mothers. Tonya works as a therapist in California. After college we remained friends even though we live on opposite coasts.

If I lived in Cincinnati I would be your most active volunteer! Fernside is a beautiful community. Thank you for all your work. I am more thrilled than you know that you are still a thriving organization!

Most Sincerely,
Heather L. Carvell (nee Trabert)
Program News

Teaching the Helpers of Tomorrow
Fernside provides free services to local colleges/universities

Fernside’s Educational Outreach Program provides many services to our community but one of the most important is educating college students at both the undergrad and graduate school levels about the needs of grieving children and families and how they can have a positive impact. Listed below are colleges and universities we’ve assisted:

- **Cincinnati Christian University**
  Biblical Studies Major/Education Program
- **Cincinnati State Technical & Community College**
  Criminal Justice Program
- **College of Mount Saint Joseph**
  Master of Nursing Graduate Program & Social Work Program
- **Miami University**
  Integrative Studies Program & School of Education Graduate Program
- **Northern Kentucky University**
  Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society
- **Thomas More College**
  College of Liberal Arts
- **University of Cincinnati**
  College of Allied Health Sciences, Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling & School of Social Work, Undergraduate and Graduate Programs
  Raymond Walters College, Human Services Certificate Program
- **Xavier University**
  Graduate Program in Health Services Administration (GPHSA)
  & College of Arts and Sciences

Development News

Blogs & Bake Sales Blast to the Finish Line!
Fernside’s Team finds creative ways to raise pledges

This marks the 5th year that Fernside has sponsored a team in the Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon. Thanks to the 2011 Fernside Team who collectively raised over $2,100.00! And it’s still coming in!

Mary Kay Anaya and Jill, Bradley & Rachel Cutter each raised over $200.00! Sarah Dixon a Fernside volunteer raised over $260.00 and recruited her friend Becky Little to join our team!

Jen Garrett a former Fernside volunteer raised $130.00! Becky Little created a blog so supporters could follow her training progress. Becky raised $595.22! Beth Meyers Graham a Fernside alum, held a bake sale at work and collected pledges raising $450.00! Betsy Sundermann a Fernside volunteer coordinated a team of fellow Hamilton County Prosecutors including Dave Laing, Corie Spiakle, Ed Spiakle, Meg Tedder, Jess Tedder who together raised $200.00! Other team members who raised money include: Susan Davis, Lauren Haar, Mary Clare Rietz, Megan Schmutte and Stephanie Warnock.

This is the last year that our Administrative Assistant and Flying Pig Coordinator Extraordinaire will be leading this team. Margie Doran has relocated south. Margie, an avid runner, started our team five years ago and the Fernside teams have collectively raised over $14,500! Thank you Margie for all you have done. We will miss you!
Volunteer News

Thanking Those Who Make It Happen

Some people want it to happen, some wish it to happen and others make it happen. We know what happens at Fernside is due to our many volunteers, past and present. Your dedication and compassion continue to strengthen our program.

In celebration of our anniversary year, our annual Volunteer Recognition Party became a 25-year reunion! Whether you stuffed an envelope, picked up pizza, served on the board or facilitated a group, you attended. Over 125 current and former volunteers came together on April 29th to meet, reconnect and ultimately celebrate their love of Fernside. It was great seeing all of you! Thanks again for 25 years of service.

“Just a note to let you know how very much we enjoyed having the opportunity to reunite with those we knew especially from the very early days of Fernside. Our gratitude goes to the entire staff...the best part was being able to once again see and visit with those who were such a special part of our lives. All your efforts were deeply appreciated!” – Doretta & Larry Lampe

Welcome New Volunteers

Each year we say how lucky we are to get the most amazing volunteers who want to work with our families. And this year is no exception! Join us in welcoming our Spring 2011 Facilitator Training class!

Ceci Bodet
Stephanie Clark
Mark Ivey
Jacqueline Kowalski
Patricia Loreto
Megan McAuliffe
Janine Melink-Hueber

Hands-on Learning during Training

Bethanie Mettling
Michael Mettling
Lindsay Paulenich
Nicci Stemler
Elaine Walroth
Tyra Warner
25 Drive Races On

This year-long fundraiser is in full swing

We have already raised over $6,060.00! A special thanks goes out to our sponsors, an Anonymous Supporter and Strauss & Troy.

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations who have helped kick things off:

- ABC Early Childhood Learning Center • Bethesda North HR Department
- Camargo Pharmaceutical Services • Cate Campbell’s piggy bank
- Chandler’s on Market • Good Sam Hospital Administration
- Good Sam Hospital HR Department • Hospice of Cincinnati Administration
- Hospice of Hamilton Board Members
- Junior League of Cincinnati, Provisional Class • Kilgour Elementary
- Mt. Notre Dame High School • Rebisso Plumbing & Heating
- Taco Casa, Harper’s Point • Taco Casa, Hyde Park • Trihealth Fitness & Health Pavilion • West Chester Jazzercise • Xavier University, IT Department

Sponsored By:

An Anonymous Supporter of Fernside

If you’d like to collect quarters for Fernside to help us celebrate 25 years of providing support to grieving families, call for your container today!

Tuesday Blue Ash Parent Loss