Vicky Ott Named Fernside Director

As we continue to celebrate our 20th Anniversary, we are pleased to announce the promotion of Vicky Ott, MA, LPCC from Program Coordinator to the position of Executive Director. Vicky has been on staff for over ten years supervising program development following several years as a Fernside volunteer. Prior to her work at Fernside, Vicky provided individual, couples and family therapy in private practice. Her years of experience working with grieving families, the loss of her own mother as a young adult, along with her enthusiasm and dedication for our mission have led to this obvious choice. Please join us in celebrating her talents as she leads Fernside forward to continue to meet the needs of grieving families in our community.

Summertime Classic a Huge Success

The 2006 Hospice of Cincinnati Summertime Classic was a huge success raising over $165,000 for Fernside. Hyde Park Golf & Country Club hosted the two-day event. Over 270 guests attended dinner on Sunday evening and watched the premiere of Fernside’s 20th Anniversary video. On Monday, 220 golfers participated in separate morning and afternoon tournaments. Thanks to everyone who worked to make this event such a success, with special recognition to the Event Chairperson, Norine Gettys.
Program News

New Families Join Evening Support Groups
In April, May and June, 63 children/teens and 57 adults joined our evening support group program. We welcome all 120 new group participants to our program.

Orientation Sessions
Families interested in joining the support groups must attend an orientation. Orientations are held in Blue Ash on the third Monday of each month. Completed paperwork must be returned prior to attending an orientation. Please call the office for registration information.

2006 Camp WeBelong
Sailing the Seas: A Voyage Through Grief, Fernside’s summer camp for children ages 7 – 11, will be held August 10th – August 13th. For registration information please contact the office and ask for Katie or Lynn.

Support Groups Available

Blue Ash:
2nd and 4th Monday Parent Loss
2nd and 4th Tuesday Parent Loss
1st and 3rd Tuesday Sibling Loss
1st and 3rd Tuesday Young Extended Family Member & Friend Loss
1st and 3rd Tuesday Young Adult Support Group

Hamilton Area:
1st and 3rd Tuesday Parent Loss
1st and 3rd Tuesday Adult Extended Family Member & Friend Loss

Bridgetown
2nd and 4th Wednesday Parent Loss

Anderson Township
2nd and 4th Thursday Parent Loss

St. Peter in Chains school group

School’s Out for the Summer!
Our school group program this year experienced phenomenal growth. We served 146 students in 21 groups in only the second year of offering the program. The program grew 143% this past school year alone!

Fernside is glad to offer grief support groups to school districts throughout our community because we recognize that there are children in all districts that for a variety of reasons are unable to attend our evening groups.

As always those who have benefited from Fernside’s program say it best:

“When we look at programs that are provided at school so that students can achieve academically, Fernside is one of those programs. It allows our students to talk freely about a lost loved one.”
- Thomas Boggs, principal at Bond Hill Elementary

“I think Fernside has provided a safe place for students to emotionally exhale in grieving a loss.”
- Carol Inskeep, counselor at Mason Intermediate School

Roger Bacon school group

“The group helped me be less self conscious about the situation.”
- teen participant
Volunteer News

Facilitator training classes are scheduled to begin this fall. The dates are September 9th, 13th, 16th, 20th, 27th, and 30th. The training is a 25-hour course with 23 hours in the classroom and 2 hours of observation. Call the office and ask for Mary if you are interested in working directly with the children, teens and adults in our support groups. Join the Fernside program and make a world of difference!

The WeBelong Retreat for adolescents ages 12 – 18 is scheduled for November 4th – 5th. Volunteer camp counselors are needed. Contact Mary if you are interested.

Many thanks to the following volunteers who helped make the Hospice Summertime Classic a success: Whitney Campbell, Jill Cutter, Bill Doherty, Janet Fette, Chrissy Fogel, Mary Friedman, Anne Froelich, John Gettys, Norine Gettys, Ann Housley, Amy Lewis, David Lichtenfeld, Trina Liss, Kyle Long, Diane Mantigua, Karen Martens, Grandy Meyer, Stacey Meyer, Kerry Kane Miller, Roy Riedinger, Wanda Settle, Charlie Stocker, Rosalee Stocker, Fritz Turton, Laura Turton, Peggy Walker, Jackie West and Linda Wyler. Your time and effort are sincerely appreciated.

The Write Side

This space is devoted to the writings, drawings and quotes of Fernside children and adults who are grieving the death of someone close.

My grandma will be in my dreams forever
– Kelsey, age 8

I hope my dream catcher takes away my bad dreams
– Gabby, age 8
Fernside Receives Proceeds from the Ronald Reagan Rug!

Listeners of the Warm 98 morning show called the station a few months ago to report that a rug had been discarded on the Ronald Reagan Highway. Dean Miuccio and Randi Douglas from Warm 98’s morning show picked up the rug and decided to auction it off on their website, with the proceeds going to a local charity. Widmer’s cleaners stepped in and offered to repair and clean the rug free of charge. Don Muirheid and Vicki Lenhof-Muirheid of DLM Communications made the winning bid of $500. After hearing that Dean had chosen Fernside to receive the money, DLM Communications doubled their winning bid! Fernside accepted the donation and Todd Dykes from Channel 5 covered the story for their newscast. Thank you again Dean and Randi from Warm 98 and DLM Communications!