Little Company of Mary hosts a unique program, “The Heart Connection”, for grieving children that encourages them to honor and express their feelings of loss. Our staff is committed to supporting families, schools and the community in caring for grieving children between the ages of 3 to 18 years of age.

HEART CONNECTION (Children’s bereavement program)
The Heart Connection is a children’s grief support program offered in the spring and fall. The mission of Heart Connection is to provide a safe and trusting environment for families with children who are mourning the death of a loved one. Special attention is given to the ongoing developmental stages of children as they process their grief, loss due to trauma, and complicated grief. Through creative activities and the companionship of children in similar circumstances, children find the necessary guidance and support for their healing. Simultaneous to the children’s group, professional grief specialists present weekly topics to parents and family members to guide and support them in helping their children, as well as caring for themselves. There is a $25 registration fee to support materials for the program. No family is denied therapeutic services for reason of financial status.

Duration: Eight weeks, spring and fall
Day/Time: Mondays 6pm - 7:30pm
Location: LCMH West Pavilion
Contact: Arlene Dulski 708.229.4299

THE BARR-HARRIS CHILDREN’S GRIEF SUPPORT CENTER (Counseling service)
The Center is a counseling service providing individual therapy to children in mourning the loss of a parent or family member through death, divorce or abandonment, and child guidance services to the family. Fees are on a sliding scale, however, no family is denied therapeutic services for reason of financial status. No family is ever turned away.

Day/Time: Set up by appointment
Location: LCMH West Pavilion 4th Floor
Contact: 312.922.7474

CHERISHED ANGEL PERINATAL LOSS (Support group for parents who have lost a baby)
The nursing and pastoral care staff at LCMH offers compassionate guidance and resources to support parents during loss due to miscarriage, stillbirth or neonatal death. Recently, members of LCMH’s Perinatal Loss Committee donated a CuddleCot TM to LCMH’s Family Birth Center, which allows the family to spend more time with their baby, precious moments where every minute counts, during his or her short time on Earth.

Day: Every third Saturday of the month
Time: 10:30am - noon
Location: LCMH West Pavilion - Room W8500
Contact: Gina Demas 708.229.5828
cherishedangelsupport@lcmh.org

Each spring families are invited to a remembrance service honoring their babies in the Cherished Angel Garden on Hospital property, providing a place of serenity and comfort.

SPANISH-SPEAKING SUPPORT RESOURCES

Si usted ha perdido un ser querido y quiere saber más información llame a departamento de cuidado Pastoral del Hospital.
Contacto: Sara Gierhahn al 708.229.4299

CONEXIÓN del CORAZON
Conexión del Corazón es un programa de apoyo para niños (de la edad 5 hasta 18 años) y sus familiares o adultos que prefieren venir solos que están en luto por la muerte de un ser querido. Los grupos de apoyo están dirigidos por voluntarios profesionales con educación en dolor. Los voluntarios guían los niños en actividades creativas para ayudarles expresar su dolor y darles la oportunidad de hablar acerca de su ser querido. Mientras los niños están en sus grupos los padres/guardianes están en su propio grupos de apoyo que son ofrecidos por una consejera que se especializa en dolor. El programa se reúne los lunes por ocho semanas. El programa/los grupos son gratis. Para más información, por favor llame a Conexión del Corazón.
Contacto: Sara Gierhahn al 708.229.4299

Please see reverse side for support resources for Spanish-speaking families.
**SUPPORT FOR GRIEVING ADULTS**

The heartache and grief following the loss of a loved one is an experience unlike any other in life. The circumstances surrounding the loss of a loved one make each person's journey through the process of grieving very personal.

**LIVING WHEN A LOVED ONE HAS DIED** (Adult bereavement program)

Living When a Loved One Has Died is structured to offer support, help and encouragement in an atmosphere of compassion, support and respect for the difficult losses suffered. Adults who have lost a spouse, child, parent, sibling or loved one and are in need of support are welcome. On each of the six evenings the entire large group gathers for a presentation on a particular grief-related topic. After the presentation, participants are gathered in support groups specific to their loss. Registration is requested at one week prior to the first gathering, and there is a $25 fee for those who are able.

Duration: Six weeks in spring and fall
Location: North Pavilion Link - Room N1703
Contact: Arlene Dulski 708.229.4299

**HOSPICE BEREAVEMENT** (Support for families and patients)

This Hospice bereavement service begins immediately once a family enters the Hospice program. Services are provided according to the family and patient's needs for supportive care counseling and spiritual support to prepare for the passing of their loved one. Services are continued by phone or visit and as needed. Additionally, Hospice offers a daytime grief support group twice a year. Hospice also provides CEU accredited training for community members interested in Hospice care.

For further information, please contact: Bereavement Coordinator 708.229.6947

**COPIING WITH THE HOLIDAYS** (Preparing bereaved families for the holidays)

An evening meeting of support and guidance offered to bereaved families preparing for the holidays is presented by a national speaker on grief and loss, Father Jim Heneghan, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

For further information, please contact: Pastoral Care Department 708.229.5480

**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS** (Support group for parents who have lost a child)

This is an independent non-profit, self-help program which offers friendship and understanding to families grieving the death of a child at any age, from any cause. LCMH hosts the South Suburban chapter.

Day: Third Sunday of each month
Time: 3pm
Location: West Pavilion - Room 8536
Contact: Mickey-May Taylor 708.748.6840

**PARENTS OF MURDERED CHILDREN, INC.** (Support group)

This national, independent non-profit, self-help organization offers support, friendship, information and guidance to families and friends whose loved one has died through violence. Little Company of Mary hosts the local chapter support meeting.

Day: First Thursday of each month
Time: 7pm - 9pm
Location: LCMH West Pavilion - Room 8536
Contact: Pat & Melvin Nichols 708.720.6104

Please see reverse side for support resources for Spanish-speaking families.