



June 1, 2020

Dear Friend,

Children grieve differently than adults and have special needs to work through their grief and loss. We at State of the Heart Care provide an important outreach for them—a grief camp for children called **Camp Encourage!** It is provided free to anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. There need be no association with hospice, and as a matter of fact, 95 percent of those attending have no association with our agency. Due to COVID-19, we will be hosting our annual camp virtually on the weekend of July 10-12.

In your daily work, some of you interact with families that have suffered a loss. You know of a child or several children who could benefit from our camp. Please review the enclosed flier and seriously consider any families with children that may be interested in attending camp. You may also know of someone who may be interested in volunteering for this camp. If so, please pass along the information to them.

Our virtual camp will begin on Friday evening with video meetings scheduled throughout the weekend so that the campers can participate in activities together and still have time for play at home. We will be offering some of our favorite activities such as the Panel of Experts, Music Therapy, and our group/buddy time through our virtual media. We will be focusing on positive emotional expression, serious dialogue about grief and loss, and sharing within a safe and supportive place. In the past, children have said that they feel comfortable for the first time sharing about their loss, and that they are not alone in their feelings.

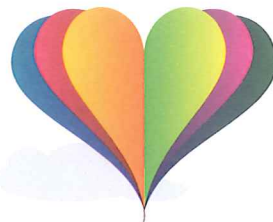
If you know of a child in your life that might benefit from camp, please provide their parents with information about Camp Encourage with an application available at our website: www.stateoftheheartcare.org/camp-encourage. There is no cost to attend camp. Registration to attend the camp is necessary; applications are accepted on a first come basis.

This will be the 20th year for Camp Encourage! We have been able to serve over 750 youth in that time. The feedback we receive is positive and affirming that the camp is of great value and helpful to the youth who need help in dealing with their grief. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the Bereavement Staff at 800-417-7535. If a family member has questions, feel free to give them our phone number or bereavement staff email: bereavementservices@stateoftheheartcare.org. I would be happy to answer any questions they may have.

Sincerely,

Ashlee Slavin MT-BC

Ashlee Slavin, MT-BC
Camp Encourage Director
State of the Heart Care



CAMP *Encourage* at home

July 10, 11, & 12 2020



VIRTUALLY

This virtual weekend camp is for children experiencing grief, providing them a safe place to come together virtually in an environment of love and acceptance. "Camp Encourage at Home" is open to any child ages 6-15, courtesy of State of the Heart Care.

For more information or to register, please visit www.stateoftheheartcare.org or contact Camp Director Ashlee Slavin or Assistant Camp Director Sarah DePoy at 800.417.7535.

