



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Patricia Klein
Public Relations Specialist
LifePath Hospice and Palliative Care

813-871-8417 (desk)
813-352-0990 (cell)
kleinp@lifepath-hospice.org

Date: March 26, 2007

Camping with a cause Camp Circle of Love helps children deal with grief

TAMPA – “Thank you for showing the girls they were not alone in their situation.” “They had reservations about going, but when they returned they were elated.” “Thanks to everyone involved.”

Those are just some of the comments from last year’s Camp Circle of Love, a weekend camp sponsored by LifePath Hospice to help children from Hillsborough County deal with the grief associated with the death of a loved-one. This year’s camp will be held the weekend of May 4 at the Lakewood Retreat Center in Brooksville and marks the 15th year Camp Circle of Love has helped grieving children.

“Many times, children who are dealing with the death of a loved-one feel as if they are alone in their grief,” said Tammy Alsing, Camp Circle of Love director. “Camp Circle of Love is a place where they can learn that they are not the only ones who are in this situation. In fact, we have former campers who now volunteer, so current campers can see examples that life can go on.”

At Camp Circle of Love, children can take part in fun activities such as swimming, canoeing, hayrides, team sports, arts and crafts, and puppet shows. The campers also have opportunities for brief discussions lead by professionally trained cabin leaders to help the children cope with their grief. A highlight for many campers and volunteers is the Saturday evening memorial service.

Camp Circle of Love is open to all children from Hillsborough County, ages six to 16, who have experienced the death of a loved-one. The fee for camp ranges from \$1 to \$25, based on income. Campers have until April 20 to register. For more information on Camp Circle of Love, contact Scott Cornelius at 813-357-5603.

LifePath Hospice and Palliative Care embraces its mission to make the most of life by relieving the suffering of patients and their families affected by life-limiting illnesses or end-of-life issues. LifePath Hospice is a Joint Commission accredited, community-based, not-for-profit hospice that serves Hillsborough, Polk, Hardee and Highlands counties in central Florida. For more information, visit the LifePath Hospice website at www.lifepath-hospice.org

###