



FORGET-ME-NOT

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FROM OUR HEART TO YOURS

Save the Dates!

Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo Remembrance Service	December 4, 2013
Caring Arms Support Circle Candlelight Service	December 8, 2013
Footprints on the Heart Holiday Candlelight Service	January 10, 2014

WNYPBN MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Baby's Sweet Beginnings Lactation & Wellness Center	Kaleida Health Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital	SICD: Sudden Infant & Child Death Resource Center
Brooks Memorial Hospital	Jones Memorial Hospital	Olean General Hospital
Catholic Health System Mercy Hospital Sisters of Charity Hospital	Life Transitions Center, Inc.	United Memorial Medical Center
The Center for Hospice & Palliative Care	Mount St. Mary's Hospital of Lewiston	WCA Hospital
Eastern Niagara Hospital— Lockport Division	Niagara Falls Memorial Hospital	Wyoming County Community Health System

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I think I blinked and missed most of this autumn. I swear I was just swimming a few days ago... but not really. It seemed to be quite the whirlwind of events throughout October... and I'm pretty relieved they are finished!

That means that the holidays are fast approaching. Shopping, baking, wrapping, decorating... lots to do to keep a mind busy. I'm afraid to blink again!!

We all know that the holidays may hit us hard. We miss our

babies. My most sincere hope is that we may be able to rely on each other during what may be some very difficult days ahead. Let me remind you to be kind to yourselves if you find the days to be hard. Don't feel you have to make it to all of those parties. Give yourself permission to change what used to be your traditions so that you can be more comfortable with who you are now. Take time to remember and rejoice that our lives were touched by someone beautiful

who will live on in our hearts forever.

I hope that most of you were able to attend one or more of the October awareness events, like one of the Walks to Remember, or one of the candle-lighting services for Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. The ones I attended were lovely. I was able to focus on my girls... and that gives me such solace.

Peace,



MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Western New York Perinatal Bereavement Network (WNYPBN), Inc. is to assist the community to meet the needs of people facing the pain

of perinatal death. We promote standards of bereavement intervention through educational support, community programs, and referral services to bereaved

parents. The WNYPBN supports an established standard of care following a perinatal death, regardless of the facility where the birth took place.



Network News



From the desk of Christine Scott
WNYPBN Executive Director



Bereaved Mother of Jacob Wesley Scott—May 27, 2000

“There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots; the other, wings.”~Cecilia Lasbury

This quote is engraved in stone on our beautiful monument in our New Wings of Love Memorial Garden at Acacia Park Cemetery in North Tonawanda. The main mission of Wings of Love is to ease some of the unexpected financial burden placed on grieving families during the tragic loss of their infant. This mission continues to be fulfilled as we have assisted hundreds of WNY families financially in the last 7 years granting over \$30,000.

In 2007, 7 years after I kissed Jacob goodbye Wings of Love was born. The name, Wings of Love, is very symbolic for me. “Wings” symbolizes the monarch butterfly which gave me hope and light during some of my darkest days when I lost Jacob. “Love” symbolizes the forever love we all have for our children knowing that love doesn’t die when death walks in: love lives forever. The financial need that Wings of Love meets has helped our community repeatedly since its inception. However, there is an emotional need that we know needs to be fulfilled. It is to tend to this emotional need that Wings of Love has created Memorial Gardens. The memorial garden concept provides a foundation for a peaceful, permanent, commemorative place for parents who lose their children.

It is a known fact that symbolic gestures do play an important role in the healing process. But we ran into a problem and the question was, how can a not-for-profit afford to provide these

gardens on a limited budget? The answer? A very generous and caring community. It all started with a phone call I received on May 17, 2010. A wonderful man, Mr. Keith Barber, called wanting to donate four adult plots to Wings of Love that would assist us in helping our families. The first piece of the puzzle was put in place and the rest followed. I met with Patti and the wonderful management and staff at Acacia Park Cemetery. She learned about our vision and received more burial plot donations. She was instrumental in having the Cemetery donate a monument and foundation for the Garden. There are 22 infant plots of sacred gifted land that will be the final resting place for babies who are born still or pass in the early weeks and months of their precious lives.

The generosity did not stop there! I had a vision of the garden but it was a blank canvas and I knew I needed to call in the experts at Elbers Landscape Service. Mr. Jim Hornung Sr. took my vision and his crew created this peaceful and symbolic garden. Butterfly Bushes were chosen and placed in the garden to attract our symbol of hope! The Bradford pear trees were chosen for their special qualities and gifts like the size, each child will always be seen as small and the Bradford pear remains small. The blossoms: each child is innocent, pure and sweet, the blossom of the Bradford pear in spring reminds us of these same qualities. The Leaves: like each child the leaves have a natural beauty, they are abundant and have a glossy finish. Finally, care: the children who have died cannot

receive the care we have longed to give them, they can only receive our love. The Bradford pear requires little care, it shapes itself. It is resistant to extremes of cold and shows resistance to insects and disease. Through this tree the memory of each child will live on.

The monument needed a symbolic carving. Randy Wagner from Wagner Monument worked his magic to create this and to define what our garden means to all that visit. Tom Koch from Stone art Memorial and his team generously worked with me on the benches that many will use to rest, reflect and commune with their child. Finally, the company and employees of Ingram Micro, who work endless hours to organize and run an annual charity golf tournament to “Give Back to Our Community,” were so very instrumental in creating this garden! They chose Wings of Love as a recipient this year which assisted us in finishing this project. The grant monies awarded from them will also assist us in creating two more Wings of Love Memorial Gardens in WNY as well as finish The Children of Love Memorial Garden at Lancaster Rural Cemetery.

“IT’S NOT HOW
MUCH WE GIVE,
BUT HOW MUCH
LOVE WE PUT INTO
GIVING”

-MOTHER TERESA



A Photograph of the new Memorial Garden at Acacia Park Cemetery.

To make the Memorial Gardens more personal to the families that visit, parents will be able to purchase engraved bronzed butterflies of different varieties. These will be mounted in the Garden as a permanent Memorial to their baby's memory... to their lives. These engraved bronzed butterflies as well as granite pavers will also be available to purchase and place at the Lancaster Rural Cemetery in the Children of Love Memorial Garden. Two more Wings of Love memorial sites in WNY are in the planning stages and will be announced sometime in 2014. Informational Brochures/order forms will be available in late November 2013 and will be mailed to our entire Network Family. As always, the information will also be available on our website. We are forever grateful for our generous donors.

Ingram Micro was also our generous Remembrance Sponsor throughout the month of October for all of our Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Events. Over 60 people came out for our first Memorial Walk in Jamestown at Ellery Park at the Southern Tier Walk to Remember. Rhonda Howard, bereaved mother of Gracie, along with her volunteers did a tremendous job of making this special for all.



Photograph from the Ingram Micro Golf Outing in August. Pictured left to right: Christine Scott (Executive Director), Susan O'Sullivan from Ingram Micro, and Lynn Weissman (WNYPBN Board Member)

On October 13th, Laura Reyda and I co-chaired the 21st Annual Walk to Remember where over 900 family members and friends gathered not only to pay tribute to their child but increase awareness of the tragedy of Perinatal loss and all that are affected. Please see pages 4-5 for more information on both Walks.

On October 15th a wave of light was created throughout the nation at 7:00 in all time zones. The WNYPBN participated along

with others across the globe as we hosted two candle-lighting services. Gavin's Light in Olean, N.Y. and the other at Acacia Park Cemetery Chapel in Buffalo, N.Y. Please see page 9 for more details.

Even though October has passed, I believe every month is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. The Board of Directors, our Network volunteers and I work hard as a team to increase awareness of pregnancy loss and infant death and the impact it has on our families in our community by remembering the lives of all our children that left this earth too soon.

As I reflect this Thanksgiving, I am grateful for all of the "gifts from grief" I witness daily. I see so many of our bereaved Network families and community volunteers reaching out to lend their hand and heart to another who is suffering. These are reminders of the "gifts" our children have given us and continue to bless us with. During this holiday season and always I wish you peace, healing and hope. Always remember our children's tiny souls have touched our own and will live on in our hearts forever.

Sincerely,
 Christine

Caring Arms Support Circle's Annual Memorial Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 8, 2013
 at 7:00 PM

St. Bartholomew's Church
 2368 Eggert Road, Tonawanda
 (Near Sheridan)

Contact Terri Fronczak (716) 743-1159

Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo Remembrance Service

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

Hellenic Orthodox Church of the Annunciation
 146 W Utica St.
 (corner of Delaware)
 Buffalo 14222

Contact Sr. Brenda 716-878-7773

Footprints on the Heart Annual Holiday Candlelight Service

Friday, January 10, 2014 at 7:00 PM

At Sisters Hospital Chapel
 Must RSVP by December 20th

716-862-1678 or acreamer@chsbuffalo.org

ADULT ONLY EVENT

COPING WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The holidays are a joyous time for many families, but for families coping with the loss of a [baby], they can be very difficult. You may be facing readjustments in family structure, changing traditions, and feel a void unable to be filled by others. These transitions, along with the memories of previous holidays, can cause grieving people to experience an array of uncomfortable emotions. Grief can affect us emotionally, psychologically, spiritually, and physically. By allowing ourselves to experience grief with a healthy balance, we can make the experience of loss a little less painful. Remember that self care is a priority and that the wise person accepts support when it is offered. Coping with the holidays is a learning process; what works for one may not work for another. Below are suggestions for getting through the holiday season while honoring the memory of your [baby]:

- Be patient and kind with yourself and others.
- Listen to your feelings and lower self-expectations.
- Do not place extra commitments on yourself.
- Inform others of your needs and recognize that it is okay to make changes.
- Plan your day and keep it simple.
- Share holiday tasks, including family dinner responsibilities.
- Create a memory tree, shadow box, or wall collage with items that symbolize your [baby].
- Give yourself permission to skip holiday cards this year.
- Light a candle, purchase an ornament, or hang a stocking in memory of your [baby].
- Instead of gift giving, you may want to purchase a lasting memorial or donate to [a] charity.
- Write a poem, meditate, or pray.

This year give yourself the gift of time, patience, love, and understanding. Observe the holidays in a way that is comfortable for you and acknowledge that there is no right or wrong way to grieve. Maintaining hope during your grief journey will help you adjust, as you incorporate the loss of your [baby] into your life, at your own pace.

By: Nicole Doroszczuk & Michelle LeVine
 Life Transitions Center, Inc.



The 21st Annual Walk to Remember

The 21st Annual Walk to Remember was held on October 13, 2013 at Cheektowaga Town Park. It was a beautiful and special ceremony that paid tribute to the over 850,000 babies who die each year due to miscarriage, stillbirth, ectopic pregnancy or early infant death. Over 800 family members, friends, health care professionals and volunteers attended and helped create a safe and calming atmosphere in which to remember our lost babies.



21st Annual Walk to Remember

Although the day was cool and misty with a slight drizzle early on, any true rain held off and made for a pleasant day. The WNY-PBN's Executive Director, Christine Scott, gave a loving welcoming address, while Co-Chair, Laura Reyda, acted as Master of Ceremonies.

We were again blessed to have Fr. Richard "Duke" Zajac give a Prayer of Gathering. His words and incense give so much peace and comfort.

Vivian Comins, Molly Bigaj, Danae Graupmann and LaVita Spentz read poems and lit the candles during the ceremony. Each candle marking points in our healing journey through grief.

We were also blessed by Abby Unger's beautiful voice singing the interludes that add so very much to the Walk year after year. Thank you, Abby, for always being there!

Bereaved Mother, Molly Bigaj, created a beautiful video tribute to those that have given their time and talent to the Walk for 21 years! All were enthralled with this wonderful video—thank you, Molly, for giving your time and talent to put this together.



Balloon Release to honor our lost angels

This year, we again released balloons to our babies gone too soon. The weather was clearing up allowing all to witness the beautiful sight.

The Walk banner was presented by Lisa Wolff (RN, bereaved mother and bereavement coordinator at South Buffalo Mercy Hospital) and Amy Creamer (bereavement coordinator at Sisters of Charity Hospital).



Presentation of the Walk Banner by Lisa Wolff and Amy Creamer

A new "Butterfly Garden of Hope" was created this year. Pre-registered families were given a butterfly garden stake to personalize with their baby's name and/or honored dates. These stakes were placed around the Bradford Pear Tree that was planted in honor of our babies. All families were able to take home their stakes after the Walk program was completed.



Butterfly Garden of Hope surrounding the Bradford Pear Tree

There were a number of Walk to Remember souvenirs (including T-shirts) that were available the day of the Walk, many of which are still available through the WNY-PBN offices. Please call Christine Scott at 716-626-6363 if you are interested.

Finally, so much work goes into the planning of this huge event. Most people do not realize the countless hours and sleepless nights that make the event the amazing Walk that it is. Thank you, Christine Scott, for all you do! So many of us would be completely lost without you!

HELP NEEDED!! If you are interested in planning the Walk to Remember next year, please contact Christine Scott at 716-626-6363 or at Christine@wnypbn.org as soon as you can! Planning begins in late winter/early spring.

By: Dawn Both-Kim

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts, for dedicating the time, energy, and love into making the 21st Annual "Walk to Remember" so unforgettable! Without all of your help, the success of this event would not have been possible. All of the funds that we raised will ensure the success of so many of our programs and outreach to so many in the coming months.

To our friends, and families: all of you con-

tinue to make our invaluable work possible! All of your time, your love, and most certainly your presence! Please continue keeping the memories of all of our Angels alive and give us the ability to be there for so many more families.

Don't forget to keep up with us on Facebook, and at our website, www.WNYPBN.org and we look forward to seeing you all again throughout the year, whether it's at our

events, or perhaps one of our programs or services.

Our Heartfelt Thanks to You All,
Most Sincerely,
Christine Scott
Executive Director, WNYPBN
& Laura Reyda
21st Annual "Walk to Remember" Co-Chair

SPONSORSHIP

We would like to give a special "Thank You" to the 21st Annual Walk to Remember Sponsors:

Presenting Sponsor:

Ingram Micro

Butterfly Sponsors

Catholic Health System:

Sisters of Charity Hospital &
Mercy Hospital of Buffalo

Women & Children's Hospital of
Buffalo

Women of AT&T—NY Chapter

PHH Mortgage

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burg

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MFSH

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Associates UBMD

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Pietszak Funeral Home

Media Sponsor

WKBW—Channel 7—ABC

Family Picnic Donors

Frontier Catering

Sahlen's

Pepsi Cola Company

Try-It Distributing

Wendy's

J&D Ice

Family Donations:

Thank you to all the families that made donations and collected funds to help support the important programs of the WNYPBN. These funds were collected both in person and via the [First Giving Website](http://www.firstgiving.com/WNYPBN) (www.firstgiving.com/WNYPBN). This website is still available to continue to collect donations toward this worthy cause!

Team Bley, Team Abigail Margaret, Team Alyssa and Team Lilya for bringing in well over **\$1,000 in donations** each!

\$500 & over

Prayers for Parker
Team Emily Ann Jank
Three Little Birds
Team Aurora Lynn
Hart
Bolt Family
Harrigan

\$200 & Over

Team Maddie
Peyton
Team Arianna
Becker

Ella's Angels
Team Grace Lee
Quinn DePriest
Team Kim Babies
Team Jameson
Benjamin
Anderson Family
Team Mandy Rose

As well as all of the other families and friends who donated what they could to support our worthwhile event!!

Thank you to the following for their donations of time and talent with the following:

Programs printed courtesy of

Kevin Knab Graphics

Signs printed courtesy of

Hale Expo Services, Inc.

Sound System
& Music courtesy of
Tim & Beth Mott
Abby Unger

Flowers courtesy of
Elaine's Flower Shoppe
Flags for Baby Angels
Crystal Swader

Popcorn Machine courtesy of

Bouncing on Air
Alison & Terri Courtney

Kids' Zone

Mr. Paul Children's Entertainer

Kids' Zone Prizes courtesy of

Dollar Galaxy

Photography courtesy of
John Curr

Wings of Love Table courtesy of

Rhonda & Brad Howard
Dianne Pierce

Volunteer Groups
Cheektowaga YES
Women of AT&T

Finally, a most sincere thank you to all of the DAY OF volunteers and the Walk to Remember Committee Members who gave so much of their time to make this event the beautiful day that it was:

Kelly Anderson

Mike Anderson

Kelly Arena

Renee Backstrom

Molly Bigaj

Dawn Both-Kim

Melissa Browne

Michelle Bukowski

Lisa Casper

Vivian Comins

John & Noreen Curr

Stacy Davis

Terri Fronczak

Dawn Gayadeen

Sharon Goldyn

Sara Healey

Lisa Jerebko

Michelle Morgan

Migon Otis

Carrie Salzman

Juliette Swiatek

Janeen Wilder

Lisa Wolff

Donna Zimmer



Forget-YOU-NotS

In Loving Memory Of..

- Jonah Robert Allen** July 19, 2012
Parents: Shawn & Amanda Allen
- Michael Anthony Anderson** April 5, 2005
 Always, Always in our Hearts! Love Nana & Papa xxxooo
 We love you always! Love, Mommy, Daddy & Mia
Parents: Michael & Kelly Anderson
- Benjamin Pasquale Bemis** August 6th, 2013
 Benny we miss you and love you so so very much! Your tree is growing in our yard. You are so loved and I know you are watching over us. Love, Mommy Daddy and Jager
Parents: M. Jennifer Liberti & David Bemis
- Lucas Brown** December 30, 2005
 Happy Birthday sweet baby! We love you! Mommy and Ken
Parent: Heidi Brown
- Izabella Buchholz** April 27, 2013
 I love you so much! You will be forever missed!
Parents: Brad & Denise Buchholz
- Gavin Joseph Buckner** September 15, 2009
 We love you so much! Hope you had a good 4th birthday in heaven! Miss you! Love, Mama, Daddy, Zack & Sebastian
Parents: Amy & Ryan Buckner
- Angela Marie Capage** August 28, 2003
 "Farewell, my dear child, and pray for me, and I shall for you... that we may merrily meet in heaven."
 —St. Thomas Moore
 Love, Grandma Nina
Parents: Lisa & Chuck Capage
- Alexandra Lewandowski** Sept 23, 1995 – Oct 10, 1995
 We miss you baby and love you!
- Isabella Caswell** November 18, 2008
 We miss and love you, baby.
- Anthony Caswell** November 9, 2009
 We miss you and love you.
Parents: Annette & Mark Caswell
- Jameson Thomas Durfey** April 25, 2013
Parents: Brooke & Benjamin Durfey
- Grace Curr** November 2, 2004
Jack Matthew Curr October 6, 2005
 Happy Angel Day to both of you. Missing you bunches! All our love...
Parents: Noreen & John Curr
- Joseph Albert Fontaine** September 28, 2013
Parents: Michael & Amy Fontaine
- Cassandra Elizabeth Goldyn** September 13, 1999
 We look for you in the sun that shines, the stars that twinkle, and the moon that glows.. Love, Mommy daddy and Big sis, Chelsea
Parents: Sharon & Tom Goldyn
- Baby Hart** February 10, 2010
Baby Hart March 28, 2013
Baby Hart July 3, 2013
 "Dear Lord, we would have loved to hold our children in our laps and tell them about you. But since we didn't get the chance, will you please hold them in your lap and tell them about us?" Forever in our hearts, love always Mommy and Daddy.
Parents: Janell & James Hart
- Brooke Marie Helper** December 7, 2010
 We miss you more and more every day. Have a happy 3rd heavenly birthday. We will be celebrating your life, and remembering you always! With our never-ending love, Mommy, Daddy, Big Sister Ella, and Little Sister Molly
Parents: Patrick & Lauren Helper
- Ava Kuhrt** April 25, 2013
Isabella Kuhrt
Baby 6 Kuhrt February 2012
 Mommy, Daddy and your big brother, Aidan, miss you more than words can express. We think of you constantly and search for signs from you everywhere. We love you so very much and long for the day when we can see your precious faces. Until then, we know God is keeping you safe with Him in heaven. Love always and forever, Mommy, Daddy and Aidan
Parents: Lindsey & Jim Kuhrt
- John Paul Jerebko** November 18, 1999
 You will always be remembered
Parents: Peter & Lisa Jerebko

Forget-YOU-Not's

In Loving Memory Of...

Marrina Kim August 3-4, 2005
Ella Grace Kim June 8, 2007
 Wishing you were with us... always. Love, Mommy, Daddy & Trent
Parents: Mark & Dawn Kim

Joey Mamott September 22, 2012
 One year ago my world came crashing down as we lost you. We celebrated your angelsary by creating a memorial garden. It's incredible that in one year, almost to the date, you brought us our Rainbow baby, Kessa. I know you hand-picked her for us and watched over her insuring a safe arrival. Kessa has the most precious guardian angel. Thank you for bringing her to us, but know that mommy and daddy think about you daily.
 Always on our mind, Mommy & Daddy
Parents: Kristina & Joe Mamott

Anthony Francis McCooley-Viele June 2, 2005
Hope McCooley-Viele January 3, 2008
Nylah McCooley-Male April 8, 2011
 Happy thanksgiving in Heaven to my 3 angel babies Anthony, Hope & Nylah. Mommy misses you so much! I think of you every day. Your brother Vinny talks about you all the time. Even though he's never met you, Anthony, he always says how he misses playing with you. We all love & miss you guys! Love, Mommy, Shawn, Aaron, Alena, Javen and Vinny.
Parent: Starr McCooley

Theresa Marie Mott September 12, 2005
Bud Charles Mott
Parents: Beth & Timothy Mott

Amelio Esker Muscarella February 18, 2013
 You are going to be a big brother! Love always, Mommy, daddy and baby brother Angelo
Parents: Alisha Binkley & Angelo Muscarella

Sean Christopher Parrinello March 1, 2013
Parents: Sarah & Chris Parrinello

Michael James Quigley October 24, 1992
 Miss you more and more! 'Til we meet again! Love, mom
Parent: Debi Zmuda

Alexander Rosario Jr. August 14, 2010
Parents: Alexander & Christine Rosario

Jacob Wesley Scott May 27, 2000
 We love you and think of you every day! Butterfly kisses, buddy! Love, Mom, Dad, Thomas & Mandy
Parents: Phillip & Christine Scott

Steven Serrano March 16, 2006
 You will forever be my angel. I love and miss you every day!
Parent: Lisa Salgot

Lillyanna Servos November 21, 2012
Parents: Teresa & Brandan Servos

Alexis Treece February 28, 2005
 You are loved and missed every day.
Parent: Michelle Treece

Jackson Urso February 12, 2012
Joshua Urso
 Too beautiful for this earth. Always in our hearts.
Parents: Mike & Robyn Urso

Nicholas Anthony Wolff July 23rd, 1989
 I loved you for your entire life, I will love and miss you for the rest of mine. Keep watch over all of us, Nicky. Love you always, Mom, Dad, Eric, Ashley and Mark
Parents: Mark & Lisa Wolff

Johnathon Michael Yesis July 30, 2013
 If love was enough...
 Fly high my angel! Love Always...
Parents: Eileen & Michael Yesis

Greyson Zona November 27, 2012
 Too beautiful for this earth. Always in our hearts.
Parents: Jason & Danielle Zona

Interested in Submitting a Memorial?
 Please email your baby's Forget-YOU-Not to:
forgetmenotnewsletter@hotmail.com
 Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to the issue month.
 Family members and friends are also encouraged to submit:
 not just parents!

THE CARE I RECEIVED AT THE HOSPITAL...

A few months ago, I asked on FaceBook about the care that people received at their hospitals when they lost their precious babies. As patients, but more as consumers, we tend to make our displeasure at our service very well known to the management. Yet, when we receive good service, we take it as, "this is the way it is supposed to be." We tend not to make our appreciation known to the hospitals themselves, but rather just thank the wonderful staff for what they did for us. If hospitals do not know about the positive experiences they are creating within their facilities, it is possible that funding and positions may be lost, or their bereavement programs are seen as unnecessary or extraneous. We all know these programs, and the women who run them for us, are vital and needed in our community and especially in our lives.

Here are a number of responses that we received from the FaceBook inquiry.

Going into labor knowing our baby wasn't going to make it, was extremely difficult. The nurses and doctors at Sisters Hospital were simply amazing. They did everything possible to ensure that we spent enough time with our daughter and all the keepsakes were beautiful and perfect. We, along with our families, will be forever grateful for the keepsakes and cherished moments we were able to spend with our daughter before parting.

Thank you,

Ashley Gorlick and Ryan Brandt

During such a horrible time in my life the doctors and staff were what made me get through the loss of my son. Strong Memorial Hospital is where I was meant to have Jameson because without my nurse and the love and support from them, I would have been a LOT worse off. All of the pictures taken and memory box made for my husband and I was the most gracious gift and is priceless. Thank you to all of the people and family who were there for me, it's something I could never repay.

Brooke Elizabeth

The staff at Mercy Hospital were fantastic! They let me rest, didn't bother me, and even gave me a little box with my daughter's footprints, Certificate of Blessing, baby blanket, baby bonnet and photos of my little one.

Lisa Parucki

A year ago this week we lost our son James Edward, and I myself was fighting to stay alive. We were blessed to have the most wonderful nurses in the world in Labor and Delivery at Mercy Hospital. They hugged me when I cried, sat at the end of my bed when I felt alone and sad. They cried with me and never gave up on me. Dr. Rojek and Dr. Todoro saved my life. After seven days in the hospital, I owe my life to the staff.

Ann Marie Evans Coric

I delivered my full term angel baby girl

three years ago on July 9th. I was at Mercy Hospital and the staff was all wonderful to me. The head nurse of L&D, Lisa, was so good to me and she treated my angel with so much love. The mid wife who delivered my angel, her name was Jenn, was just as amazing as the nurse was! The day I left the hospital, I felt so much better knowing that my angel was in good hands with them. I thank them both from the bottom of my heart. Nadiyah Marie Carrion born sleeping July 9, 2010.

Rebecca Mancini

During the most traumatic event of our lives, the nurses and staff at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital were amazing. They provided love, support and gentle kindness that can only come from caring nurses. The memory box and binder of support resources were the most priceless gifts we received. From the tiny bonnet and gown to the blankets and itty bitty memorial rings, each item serving a purpose to remember our baby gone too soon. We will be forever grateful to all those who held our hand as we began our journey of grief.

Thank you!

Donna & Russell Zimmer

Thank you to all who responded... but more: thank you to the amazing staff at the hospitals who helped us through the worst time in our lives.

By: Dawn Both-Kim

ELEGANT EVENING TO REMEMBER NOMINATIONS

We will be hosting the 3rd Annual Elegant Evening to Remember in the Spring of 2014 and we would like to recognize those who have made a great impact in our bereaved community. If you would like to nominate an individual or organization/business for an award please send an e-mail to Christine Scott at Christine@wnypbn.org or call the WNY PBN office at 716-626-6363 by January 15, 2014.

Please be sure to give the name of the individual or organization & the award category.

Physician of the Year Award

Nurse of the Year Award

Volunteer of the Year Award

Community Service Award

The Community Awareness Award

For more information about the awards, please see our website: www.WNY PBN.org

Thank you for taking the time to nominate a deserving individual, business or organization!

TASTEFULLY SIMPLE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who participated in the September/October Tastefully Simple fundraiser! I am completely HONORED to have been able to offer something for the families to allow them to "give back" in memory of their children. THANK YOU from the

bottom of my heart, and for allowing me to help keep Theresa Marie and Bud Charles' memories alive!

The total money donated to the WNY PBN and specifically the Wings of Love Memorial Fund, was \$574.00. Monies were do-

nated in loving memory of Helen Lois Pritchett (1/4-13/2012), Babies Bielefeld (August 2012 and 2013), Joseph Thomas Bukowski (10/18-28/2009), Marrina Kim (8/3-4/2005), Ella Grace Kim (6/8/2007)

By: Beth Mott

LETTER FOR BENJAMIN

I feel like life is a constant test on our strength and I know that strength comes from the love and support of our friends and family. We couldn't get through the loss of our son Benjamin without this group of people.

As difficult as this is and will continue to be, we wouldn't wish him away. I loved being pregnant. I felt his first kick in Florida visiting my dad. We got to meet our son and see how beautiful he is, and hold and kiss him and say goodbye. I don't want people to leave here angry. I want my son to be a reminder of peace and love in your hearts, so please don't view him as a bad thing that happened to us, because he was a small angel that just didn't get to stay here as long as the rest of us. Please use his memory to get through a bad day or pray to him when you need him to watch over you.

Benjamin, you were a dream come true. Such a big boy: 4 pounds and 14 ounces

and 18 inches long. You are so loved and will live in our hearts forever. You had Daddy's Button nose and mommy's lips. Daddy planted some trees so we can watch you grow. I know you're an angel watching over us all.

Benjamin, Mommy and Daddy love you so so much and thank you for the joy you brought briefly to our lives.

By: M. Jennifer Liberti

The Legend of the Daisy

The Creator looked down.
All over the earth He saw parents whose hearts were heavy.
They had lost the littlest of His creatures, their precious children.
He saw their tears and heard their silent prayers.

He sent to earth a special flower...
A flower that would be just for them.

He scattered this little flower far and wide... in gardens and in fields, along roads and paths, in bright sunlit pastures, and in the darkest corners.

The Creator sent these saddened parents the daisy... to be watered with their tears. The daisy symbolized the souls of their children. Its bright white petals for their purity and innocence... and the green of its leaves for the promise and hope of Brighter days to come. The daisy thrived everywhere.

It stretched its bright face toward heaven. The special little flower was given to remind each parent... that their little one now rests in the light and beauty of the Creator.

Author Unknown
Submitted by M. Jennifer Liberti in loving memory of Benjamin Pasquale Bemis

FULL CIRCLE

One year ago, my world came crashing down. I lost my first baby mid-way through. My life changed and I would never be the same. How does one get over that type of pain? The small blessing that arose from our situation was that I have made some lifelong baby-loss-mama friends who knew what I was going through. Together, we cried, we laughed, and we picked each other up along with encouraging one another to never give up. We all lost our babies at the same time, and by God's grace, we all became pregnant at the same time with our Rainbow babies.

It's ironic to see life come full circle. 13 months after losing Joey, I prepared for delivery at the same hospital in which I delivered my angel Joey. The most incredible part was that they put me in the same room to deliver my rainbow baby in as they did with my angel baby. When I mentioned it to the nurses, they were concerned that I wasn't "ok" with the idea. But I was!! It felt right. I was going to deliver both of my babies in the same room! This time with a different outcome. Joey made that happen. He wanted me to experience the worst day of my life and the best day of my life in the

same room. He was there both times. This time I would take my baby home! My Rainbow baby, Kessa was born at 4:07pm, the exact time I arrived at the hospital to deliver her brother 13 months prior. It's amazing what God and an angel can do! My heart may never fully be healed, but God, does it feel amazing to have a baby in my arms!

Forever grateful,
Kristina Mamott

OCTOBER 15TH REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES



October is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month and the 15th is allocated as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. The WNYPBN hosted two candle-lighting ceremonies: one in Tonawanda at Acacia Park Cemetery, and one in Portsville (Olean) at the Oratory of the Sacred Heart (Gavin's Light). Both of these ceremonies were a beautiful tribute to our babies gone too soon.

At ceremonies like these across the nation, candles are lit at 7:00 PM for one hour in each time zone. This creates a wave of light across the country and around the world, commemorating the loss of babies so near to our hearts. Many people who were unable to attend one of the ceremonies

lit candles in their homes to assist in creating this wave of light.

The WNYPBN would like to thank all of the people who helped make the Remembrance Day ceremonies beautiful and special to all in attendance! Thank you Amy Buckner and all of your volunteers who helped with the Gavin's Light Service in Olean. We appreciate what you do in honor of your son, Gavin Joseph Buckner.

Thank you to Christine Scott, Danae Graupmann, Lindsey Kuhr, Billy Elson, Colton Elson, Keith Kelly, Patricia Young, Vicky Michalowski and Dawn Both-Kim for making the Acacia Park Service memorable and poignant to all in attendance. The Prayer Flags for Baby Angels were also displayed at this event.

Finally, a tremendous thank you to Ingram Micro for sponsoring so many of the Awareness programs and events throughout the month of October. The WNYPBN and our Network of families appreciates all that you have done to help us!

By: Dawn Both-Kim



Acacia Park Candle-Lighting Service

Safe Arrivals

To Grant Others Hope

The Ficorilli Family would like to announce the joyful arrival of **Santino Christopher Ficorilli**, born April 23, 2012 at 6 lbs 10 ounces and 21 inches. We know you are smiling down on us Clyde and Michael (July 12, 2010)!

Austin Michael Jank was born to Heidi and Chris Jank on July 11th 2013 at 7:52 AM. He was 6 lbs 4 oz and 18 3/4 " long. The family will always remember his big sister in heaven, Emily Ann Jank (May 2-May 17, 2012).

Kessa Mary Mamott arrived October 17th, 2013 at 7lbs 12 oz & 21 inches long, to proud parents Joe & Kristina Mamott. Kessa arrived with 2 angel kisses from her brother Joey (September 22, 2012), as he laid one on each eyelid as she entered the world and told to go mend the broken hearts of their parents. Thanks buddy for being such a guardian angel and making sure Kessa arrived safely.

Anthony Ramsey and Renee Moran are very happy to introduce another healthy arrival **Wyler Anthony Ramsey** born February 26,

2013. He was 7 lbs. 10 oz. and 20.5 inches. He is watched over from heaven by his big sister Kaylee Elise Ramsey (May 16, 2003) Baby Ramsey (January 2009) and Twin Baby Ramseys (March 2010). We are also blessed to have his big sister on earth Lylia Heavyn Ramsey teaching him as he grows.

Interested in Submitting Your Safe Arrival?
Please email your new baby's information as well as their heavenly sibling's information to: forgetmenotnewsletter@hotmail.com
Submissions are due by the 15th of the month prior to the issue month.



AREA SUPPORT GROUPS

"Tiniest Angels" Parent Bereavement Support

Miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth and early infant death

When: 3rd Wednesday @ 7 PM
30 S Cayuga Rd—Lower
Williamsville

FREE—Please call to register

Facilitated by *Kathy Skipper (A Pioneer in the WNY Bereavement Community) and Kelly Arena*

Contact:

Christine Scott, (716) 626-6363



"Tiniest Angels" Support for Subsequent Pregnancy

Support for pregnancy after a perinatal loss

When: 3rd Tuesday @ 7 PM
30 S Cayuga Rd—Lower
Williamsville

FREE—Please call to register

Facilitated by *Terri Fronczak*

Contact:

Christine Scott, (716) 626-6363

"Tiniest Angels" Grandparent Support

Support for grandparents after a perinatal loss.

When: 4th Tuesday @ 7 PM

FREE—Please call to register

Different craft projects every month. Facilitated by Joanne Ferrelli and LouAnn Bajdas

Contact:

Christine Scott, (716) 626-6363

"Tiniest Angels" Support Groups are being added regularly. If you are in need of support, please contact the WNY-PBN office for information on a support group that is convenient for you! 716-626-6363 or Christine@wnypbn.org

Parent Telephone Support Team (PTST)



Contact:

Christine Scott, (716) 626-6363

Speak with another bereaved parent who has endured a similar perinatal loss.

This service is a program of the WNY-PBN, Inc.

Caring Arms Support Circle

Stillbirth and Early Infant Death

When: 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM

Ministry Center, Rm #4

100 Gregory Ct, Williamsville

Next to Millard Fillmore Suburban

Contact:

Denise Hudden, RN, 716-568-6653

Circle of Hope

Death and/or Serious Illness—Niagara Hospice

4675 Sunset Dr., Lockport or

2186 Liberty Dr., Niagara Falls

Contact:

Outreach Dept. 716-280-0777

Footprints on the Heart

Stillbirth and early infant death

Call for further details

When: 3rd Tuesday @ 6:00 PM

M. Steven Piver Center,

Sisters Hospital, Seton Bldg

2157 Main St., Buffalo

Contact:

Amy Creamer (716) 862-2026



Heart to Heart

Early loss, miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy

When: 2nd Tuesday @ 6:00 PM
M. Steven Piver Center,
Sisters Hospital, Seton Bldg
2157 Main St., Buffalo

Contact:
Amy Creamer (716) 862-2026

**Hopeful Hearts /
Subsequent Pregnancy**

Support for pregnancy after a perinatal loss

When: 1st Tuesday @ 6:00 PM
M. Steven Piver Center,
Sisters Hospital, Seton Bldg
2157 Main St., Buffalo

Contact:
Amy Creamer (716) 862-2026

**SIDS Family Support Group**

SIDS and Infant Death

Joan A. Male Family
Support Center
60 Dingens St., Buffalo

Contact:
Jan Walkden, (716) 822-0919

Sibling Grief

Siblings 5 years and older

When: 2nd Wednesday @ 6:30 PM
First Trinity Lutheran Church
1570 Niagara Falls Blvd,
Tonawanda

Contact:
Tara Young, (716) 878-7681

On-Line Help and Internet Resources

The Western New York Perinatal Bereavement Network, Inc. (WNYPBN)
www.WNYPBN.org

Babies Remembered and Wintergreen Press
Babiesremembered.com

The Website of Sherokee Ilse: Bereaved Parent, International Speaker and Author of *Empty Arms: Coping with Miscarriage, Still-birth, and Infant Death* and many other books, including *Miscarriage: A Shattered Dream*

Baby Photo Retouching Service

www.babyphotoretouch.com

Transforms your precious baby photos through digital technology to correct some of the damaged image.

Bereaved Parents USA

www.bereavedparentsusa.org

A national non-profit self-help group that offers support, understanding, compassion and hope especially to the newly bereaved.

A Blog for Fathers When a Baby Dies

www.fathersgrievinginfantloss.blogspot.com

Born Angels Pregnancy Loss Support

www.bornangels.com

Provides links to pregnancy loss support, infertility support, neonatal loss support, and adoption resources.

Celebration Forest

www.celebrationforest.com

Allows you to plant a tree in honor of your deceased beloved one

CJ Foundation

www.cjsids.org/grief

A national non-profit devoted to eliminating the tragedy of sudden unexpected infant deaths and early childhood deaths, supporting grieving families, advancing medical research, furthering parent and professional education, and advocating for the health and survival of all children.

Compassionate Friends

www.compassionatefriends.org

Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a child, and helps others better assist the grieving family.

Facts About Miscarriage

<http://www.pregnancyloss.info>

The Grief Recovery Institute

<http://www.griefrecovery.com>

The action program for moving beyond loss

H.A.N.D.

www.handonline.org

—Help After Neonatal Death

Helping cope with the loss of a baby before, during, or after birth

Healing Hearts for Bereaved Parents

www.healingheart.net

Provides grief support and services to parents who are suffering as the result of the death of their child or children.

A Heartbreaking Choice

www.aheartbreakingchoice.com

For parents who have interrupted their pregnancies after poor prenatal diagnosis.

Hygeia.org

www.hygeia.org

An online journal for pregnancy and neonatal loss.

Memory Pendants

www.memorypendants.com

Use code: **112188** to receive a discount for families affiliated with our organization

Owner Chuck Huffman- L. Huffman Studios

M.I.S.S. Foundation

www.misschildren.org

Provides immediate and ongoing support to grieving families, empowerment through community volunteerism opportunities, public policy and legislative education, and programs to reduce infant and toddler death through research and education.

National Share Office

www.nationalshare.org

To serve those whose lives are touched by the tragic death of a baby.

A Place to Remember

www.aplacetoremember.com

Uplifting support resources for those who have been touched by a crisis in pregnancy or the death of baby.

Remembering Our Babies

<http://www.october15th.com/>

The official site of pregnancy and infant loss remembrance day.

Sudden Infant and Child Death Resource Center

(Satellite Offices in Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany, Manhattan & Long Island)

www.stonybrookmedicalcenter.org/SIDS

Stone Art Memorial

www.stoneartmemorial.com

The Right way to commemorate your memories.



**Western New York
Perinatal
Bereavement
Network, Inc.
30 S Cayuga Rd
Williamsville, NY
14221**

**Phone: 716-626-6363
Fax: 716-626-6368
E-mail: christine@wnypbn.org**



*Helping Families
Honoring Lives*

This newsletter is FREE for one year (4 issues) after your loss. If you would like to continue your subscription, please send \$5 to help defray mailing costs for an additional year. You may also find this newsletter for no cost whatsoever on-line at www.wnypbn.org. Make checks payable to WNYPBN, Inc. and send the completed form below to WNYPBN—Newsletter, 30 S. Cayuga Road—Lower, Williamsville, NY 14221. If you are receiving duplicate mailings, please let us know.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Baby's Name & Honored Date(s):

Editors reserve the right to grammatically edit or reject materials submitted. Views and opinions in this publication are not necessarily those of the WNYPBN or its member organizations, but those of the individual authors.

If you would like to be removed from the mailing list, please contact the above address. Please know that we will be here for you if you need us in the future!

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Forget-Me-Not

