

## Frequently Asked Questions



### 1. What is Camp Erin?

Camp Erin is a weekend, overnight camp for children and teens who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. It is a traditional, fun, high-energy camp combined with grief education and emotional support.

### 2. When and where will Camp Erin take place?

Camp will be held the weekend of August 12-14, 2011 at Camp Wondervu, which is about 40 miles west of Denver and Boulder ( [www.campwondervu.org](http://www.campwondervu.org) ). Activities will begin late Friday afternoon and end Sunday afternoon.

### 3. Who can attend Camp Erin?

Camp Erin is open to children and teens from ages 6 to 17 who have experienced the death of someone close to them. To ensure the best possible experience for each participant, there is an application and an in-person interview process (see Question #11). Due to the large number of applicants expected, campers will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Priority will be given to campers who have never attended Camp Erin before.

### 4. How much does Camp Erin cost?

Through an initial grant from The Moyer Foundation and through the generous support of HospiceCare's community and volunteers, Camp Erin will be free to all campers.

### 5. Is Camp Erin a religious camp?

Camp Erin is not affiliated with any religious organization, and therefore, religious instruction will not be provided at camp. Children will be allowed, however, to grieve their loss in the way that is most appropriate and comfortable for them. No child will be prevented from accessing his/her faith during the weekend.

### 6. What activities are provided for the children at Camp Erin?

Some activities at Camp Erin are designed to help children and teens to understand more about the normal grief experience, to express their grief in ways that are natural to them, and to build their strengths and skills for coping with change and loss. Other activities are available just for pure fun! There will be ample activities for children of all ages and abilities. Possible camp activities are:

#### Grief Support Activities:

- Sharing
- Arts & Crafts
- Music
- Storytelling
- Luminary Ceremony
- Challenge Course (age and height requirements)

#### Free-Time Activities:

- Arts & Crafts
- Volleyball, Tetherball, Basketball, Baseball
- Nature Walks/ Hikes
- Canoes
- Other games and activities

### 7. Will HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties provide transportation for the children to attend Camp Erin?

No, families must provide their own transportation to and from Camp Wondervu, where Camp Erin will be held. Families might want to consider carpooling.

### 8. Who runs Camp Erin?

The camp is staffed by Grief Counselors from HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties as well as volunteers who are professionally trained by HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties staff. If you have any questions about Camp Erin, you may contact Shelli Worrall, Camp Coordinator, at (303) 604-5279.

### **9. How did Camp Erin get started? Why is it called Camp Erin?**

Camp Erin is named in memory of Erin Metcalf, a young woman who developed liver cancer at the age of 15. Karen and Jamie Moyer, founders of The Moyer Foundation, met Erin during Spring Training in 1998, and they developed a special friendship with Erin and her family. In June of 2000, when Erin died at the age of 17, the Moyers wished to honor Erin's memory and her caring spirit. Because Erin had such a desire to help other children, the Moyers felt that a grief camp for children would be an appropriate tribute to her caring spirit.

### **10. What is The Moyer Foundation?**

The Moyer Foundation - (a public, 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization) was founded in 2000 by Major League All-Star pitcher Jamie Moyer and his wife, Karen. The Foundation's mission is to provide comfort and support to children enduring a time of profound physical, emotional, or financial distress. Through the generosity of many individuals, corporate, and in-kind donors, The Moyer Foundation has raised more than \$19 million to help support hundreds of different organizations dedicated to helping children in distress.

In addition to providing support through grants, The Moyer Foundation created and funds several key initiatives and community partnerships including Camp Erin, the largest network of bereavement camps in the country with over 40 camps in more than 25 states; Camp Mariposa, for children affected by addiction in their families; The Gregory Fund, for early cancer detection research; and The Moyer Foundation Endowment for Excellence in Pediatric Palliative Care at Seattle's Children's Hospital. For more information, visit [www.moyerfoundation.org](http://www.moyerfoundation.org).

### **11. What is the relationship between HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties and The Moyer Foundation?**

The Moyer Foundation partners with healthcare and bereavement organizations in local communities to help fund, develop and grow Camp Erin nationwide. The Moyer Foundation has selected HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties to establish and run Camp Erin – Denver/Boulder.

### **12. What are the selection criteria for campers to attend Camp Erin?**

Potential campers will be required to fill out an application form containing personal, bereavement, and medical information. Because we want to ensure the best possible experience for every Camp Erin participant, each application will be reviewed in detail. Each applicant will be required to attend an in-person interview before the application process is complete. Due to the large number of applications expected, campers will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Priority will be given to campers who have never attended Camp Erin before. This will ensure that each year we give as many children as possible the opportunity to attend Camp Erin. In the event we have more applications than Camper spots, we will establish a waiting list for kids and teens in the order that their applications are received.

### **13. How do I get my child or teen involved in Camp Erin?**

Parents or guardians of potential campers may contact Shelli Worrall, Camp Erin Coordinator, for more information and to have an application mailed to them. Another option is to go to [www.hospicecareonline.org](http://www.hospicecareonline.org), click on the Camp Erin website, and scroll down to the downloadable camp application. Please mail applications to Shelli Worrall at the address below.

#### **Contact Information**

Shelli Worrall, Camp Erin Coordinator  
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