

What is Lory's Place?

Lory's Place is a family service center founded by Caring Circle, a Lakeland Health Affiliate. Our mission is to provide peer support services for grieving adults, children, and families throughout southwest Michigan and northern Indiana.

We serve as a focal point for raising awareness and supporting the needs of adults and children who grieve. Lory's Place provides a safe, comforting atmosphere, in which grief healing can take place, following the death of a family member or an important friend.

Lory's Place also offers community outreach programs, providing staff education and support, as well as peer grief support groups in elementary, middle, and high schools.

To learn more, visit our website at lorysplace.org or call 269.983.2707



What does it cost?

The effects of losing a loved one crosses all cultural and economic boundaries. Lory's Place is available at no charge to all who come for assistance. While not required, donations from participating families are gratefully accepted.



Camp Lifetimes

Lory's Place offers **Camp Lifetimes**, a summer day camp focused on fellowship, fun, and grief work for school-aged children. Camp Lifetimes is a place where children are able to meet others who are in a similar situation as theirs – and with whom they feel normal.

My family's time at Lory's Place has changed our lives. After the death of my sister, Cassie, my boys and her eldest son attended Lory's Place. When we first started going I thought it was just to help the kids and to teach me how to support them on their grief journey. It was and is so much more. Our family has benefited tremendously. The kids have learned how to talk about and deal with their grief in a healthy way. It's a wonderful place to take your family in their time of grief.

~ Angie Crabtree

What can you do to help?

Your gifts and donations make it possible to provide this unique and vital service to all those who are grieving, regardless of their financial circumstances. Please contact us to learn about our giving programs.

445 Upton Drive
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269.983.2707
800.717.3812
lorysplace.org

About Caring Circle

Caring Circle of Spectrum Health Lakeland has been established to represent the range of programs offered for quality of life care, including local non-hospice programs. Caring Circle includes services for people adjusting to living with a serious illness, as well as to people facing death, anticipating the death of a loved one, or healing their grief after the death of a loved one. Lory's Place is a grief healing and education center of Caring Circle.

269.429.7100
800.717.3811
caring-circle.org



Transitions • HouseCalls • Palliative Care • Hospice at Home
Hanson Hospice Center • Bereavement Care • Lory's Place

Grief Healing and Education





Caring Circle founded Lory's Place Grief Healing and Education Center in 2004, in memory of Dr. Lory Tonske Schults who died at age 40 in a car accident. Lory loved her family and enjoyed life fully.

Why is Lory's Place here?

Unaddressed grief, no matter the age of the person grieving, has been shown to have a negative impact on physical health and mental well-being. When people feel understood and accepted, the ability to cope with their feelings greatly increases.

Our goal is to provide both adults and children the support they need during their time of bereavement. We provide life-affirming hope and guidance, help to find answers to life's most complex questions, and build confidence for the future.

Who may come?

Lory's Place is committed to reaching out to all grieving adults, children, and their families. Children, ages three to 18 and their parents, guardians, grandparents, other relatives, and close friends are welcome. Young adults may attend independently, and adult groups are also offered.

What do we offer?

Lory's Place provides regularly scheduled support group sessions that allow children and adults to interact with peers who have suffered loss. Music, art, storytelling, nature, writing, and play promote the healing process.

Age-appropriate groups and program services are offered for children in:

- **Preschool/Kindergarten**
- **Elementary**
- **Middle & High School**

We also offer an anticipatory grief program to assist those experiencing the anticipated death of a loved one due to illness or disease. Adults and children learn to work through their grief and begin the healing process by sharing feelings, experiences, and memories with peers in a support group setting.

Not just for kids!

Lory's Place is dedicated to supporting the entire family, including adult specific support for:

- Death of someone significant regardless of the cause
- Miscarriage, still-birth, and infant death within the first year of life
- Overdose loss
- Suicide loss

Professional bereavement staff, as well as trained volunteers, facilitate the activities of Lory's Place, including crisis response and support services for grief in the workplace.



When I moved my grief started to get a little bit out of control. I knew I needed help, so I came to Lory's Place. It's been helpful to have other people around me that have experienced grief. In a situation where I'm sad, they've told me what to do and they're by my side all the time.

~ Lilly Salziger

Over the past year I have struggled with my own grief. After becoming a part of the 'Be There' program, a collaboration between Lory's Place and the Boys and Girls Club, I've been able to walk beside each participant during their grief journey. From the activities and discussions shared during our sessions with Lory's Place we leave feeling rejuvenated and hopeful that heartache does not last forever. I know that this support is vital and these groups are a reminder that our stories can truly encourage others.

~ Ronnika "RJ" Williams



We began attending the suicide loss survivor group one week after our son Michael's death. There we found the anchor our lives would need to make our long, winding path through our grief. The support we've received from Lory's Place has continually provided us the resources and guidance to understanding Michael's life and his death, and our grief from both.

~ Mike and Debbie Mattson