



## **Family Support Group Facilitator Volunteer Position Description and Expectations**

**The mission of Annie's Hope is to provide comprehensive support services to children, teens, and their families who are grieving a death.**

### **Roles of Family Support Group Facilitators:**

- Facilitate support groups in such a way as to allow participants to explore and express their grief in a healthy and healing manner.
- Provide a safe, open, non-judgmental, and positive space for kids and families.
- Approach grief as an individual and family experience.
- Allow open, non-lecture style, discussions by listening to and honoring the participants' experience.
- Provide opportunities for participants to express their grief experience using creative expressions.
- Represent Annie's Hope, overall, respectfully, and positively.

### **Responsibilities of Family Support Group Facilitators:**

- Attend Annie's Hope Volunteer training and meet with the Family Support Group Coordinator before facilitating Family Support Groups.
- Complete and pass background checks.
- Plan each week's focus and activity and communicate with the Family Support Group Coordinator the supplies needed for each meeting at least 24 hours in advance.
- Incorporate a team approach by collaborating with co-facilitators in the planning of each meeting and writing the "Car Ride Home."
- Address the progress, needs, and challenges of the participants and the group with the Family Support Group Coordinator and other facilitators during scheduled debriefing times.
- Assist in clean-up of group space after meetings.
- Socialize and communicate with kids and parents/guardians of kids during supper and at the end of the evening (and via email or phone call as deemed needed).
- Maintain the confidentiality of families during and after the program.
- Arrive on time for scheduled meetings and groups.
- Identify yourself as a volunteer by wearing a name tag at all meetings.
- Gain and/or maintain an increased awareness of your (the volunteer's) personal grief experiences and communicate with the program coordinator any personal challenges and needs that may impact your ability to volunteer effectively within the program.
- Have an active plan for self-care.

**For more information, contact Annie's Hope at (314) 965-5015 or [kidsriefmatters@annieshope.org](mailto:kidsriefmatters@annieshope.org).**