



## **School-Based 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 School-Based 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 students and staff.
- Approach grief as a personal, individual, and unique 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.
- Support and educate school staff with grieving students.

### **Responsibilities of School-Based Support Group Facilitators:**

- Attend Annie's Hope Volunteer Training before facilitating school groups.
- Complete and pass background checks.
- Maintain the confidentiality of students during and after the program.
- Prepare each week's focus and activity with a specific goal while maintaining flexibility with plans to meet the participants' needs weekly.
- Communicate with the program coordinator supplies needed for each meeting at least 24 hours in advance.
- Communicate and work with school representatives for the duration of the group, including the follow-up session.
- Arrive on time for scheduled meetings and groups.
- Identify yourself as a volunteer by wearing a name tag at all meetings.
- Address the progress, needs, and challenges of the participants and the group with the school representative and program coordinator regularly.
- 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 [kidsgriefmatters@annieshope.org](mailto:kidsgriefmatters@annieshope.org).**