



Mother's Day and Father's Day Survey

Every year our May/June newsletter focuses on Mother's Day and Father's Day, perhaps two of the most difficult days of the year for grieving parents. Each year during the months of April, May, and June, these two Sundays seem to be the topic of discussion at our support groups. After a few years of hearing the stories of hurting parents, I began to realize how truly hard, and even traumatic, these days can be. I further noticed that a good number of parents who have suffered a loss tend to not keep their normal Sunday practice of attending church on these days, and some even stay home and isolate themselves from the rest of their family.

In 2002, I decided to take a very informal survey of our Dallas support group membership and ask them a few questions about these holidays and how they felt about them. This year when thinking about what I wanted to write concerning Mother's Day and Father's Day, I decided to ask these questions again throughout our organization. I hoped the results would show our efforts of pregnancy and infant loss awareness to our communities have somewhat changed the way our families, friends, and churches respond to these days with grieving parents in mind. I found the comparative results quite interesting. While some of the answers remained pretty much the same as those of nine years ago, a few of the answers indicate that we have seemingly helped make those around us aware of how painful it is for parents who have lost a child to celebrate motherhood and fatherhood. Yet, as you

will see, we still have some work to do in a few areas of awareness.

As I wrote in 2002, the results of these surveys are not to influence your decision whether or not to attend church on Mother's Day or Father's Day. Instead, it is to make us, as parents who have lost a baby, realize that we have made strides in educating our pastors on the unique hurt that fills the sanctuaries of our churches; but still more awareness needs to be created and accomplished. And as I encouraged you to do several years ago, make a copy of this issue and send it to your pastor. Make him/her aware that maybe their sermon could be amended or church traditions should be reconsidered, such as having the moms with the most children stand up. Let them know that just a few simple sensitive words in a prayer asking for peace over the hurting parents who have lost a baby or even for couples who desire to be parents some day would be nice. Or like my church did last year, offer the idea of celebrating womanhood and manhood, instead of honing in specifically on mothers and fathers. And if these changes are made, be sure to express your appreciation to your pastor. But if your pastor does not feel comfortable with these ideas, be patient and pray their heart will soften for next year. And always remember that you are indeed a parent and deserve celebration, even if those around you fail to honor you. Whether this is your first Mother's Day and Father's Day since your loss, or if, like me, you have endured many, I pray the Lord will continue to give us His peace, His comfort, and

	2002	2011
Do you plan to attend church on Mother's Day?	Yes: 50% No: 50%	Yes: 77% No: 23%
Does your church (pastor from the pulpit) acknowledge hurting mothers on Mother's Day? (* 25% stated it was their first Mother's Day after a loss and they haven't noticed in the past)	Yes: 35% No: 65%	Yes: 30% No: 70%
If your pastor does NOT mention grieving parents, do you wish they would?	Yes: 85% No: 15%	Yes: 99% No: 1%
Should your church improve their services on Mother's Day to not isolate those who have experienced a loss?	Yes: 90% No, they're doing all they can: 10%	Yes: 34% No, they're doing all they can: 66%
Will you keep your previous Mother's Day tradition or do something different/isolate?	Keep traditions: 80% Something different/isolate: 20%	Keep traditions: 63% Something different/isolate: 37%
If this is not your first Mother's Day, were you acknowledged as a mother to the baby you lost by friends and family?	Yes: 75% No: 25%	Yes: 57% No: 43%
Do you desire to ALWAYS be acknowledged as a mom to the baby(ies) you lost?	Yes: 100% No: 0% Not sure: 0%	Yes: 97% No: 0% Not sure: 3%

Nota Español: El artículo de Rebekah Mitchell aparece en cada emisión de nuestro boletín para la audiencia latina. Para ver el artículo de este mes en español, por favor vea la página número 10.

M.E.N.D. is a Christian nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to reach out to those who have lost a child to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death and offer a way to share experiences and information through monthly meetings, this newsletter, and our Web site.

For inquiries, subscription requests, deletions, and submissions to the newsletter, contact us at

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International Stillbirth Alliance

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A Mother's Day Ode

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I am your mother, but you, my child, I cannot hold.
It'll get easier with time, or so I'm told.
People may forget that I am your mother.
I'm part of a secret club we only share with one another.
But that doesn't diminish my love for you.
I think of you the whole day through.
I wonder what you're doing, my Precious Little One.
We are connected by an Infinite bond which cannot come undone.
I will not let Death tear us apart.
I promise to always keep you alive in my heart.

with permission from Susan Mosquera from www.myforeverchild.com

Book Review

When Your Family's Lost a Loved One: Finding Hope Together

By David and Nancy Guthrie

When Your Family's Lost a Loved One is a wonderful resource for infant loss as well as any type of loss. David and Nancy Guthrie have lost two babies and know the challenges of keeping a family together and strong after such a loss. It is a great book for both men and women as we get a glimpse of both the husband's and wife's perspectives and how each grieves differently. This book answers questions many grieving couples face: Will my marriage survive the loss of a child? How can we honor our loved one's memory? Can we hold on to our faith?

The book also includes numerous interviews with people who've experienced a death in their family, including some celebrities. Interviews with experts in psychiatry, education, and parenting add a breadth of experience and expertise to the resource. The book is available online at www.christianbook.com for \$10.99. For more about the Guthries and their ministry, visit www.nancyguthrie.com.

♥ Review by Jaimie Crump, director

M.E.N.D.—Houston

M.E.N.D. has a complete list of books, Web sites, organizations, and music resources available online at www.mend.org.

If you would like to submit a review of books, music, Web sites or other resources dealing with infant loss, please email them to our newsletter editor Jennifer Harrison at jennifer@mend.org.

Passing the Torch

I can't believe it's been three years! When I took over as editor for our newsletter in 2008, I had no idea the blessing it would be for me. As a member of M.E.N.D. since 2004, following the death of our son Caleb Scott, the newsletter had been a great resource for our family. As editor, I've been honored to lovingly recognize so many of your babies and to rejoice with you as your families have grown. I've also been amazed at the insight so many of you share with your articles. But life changes, as we all know, and with a growing chapter to direct, my husband's pending deployment, a very active 3 1/2 year old daughter, Madison, and an anticipated adoption in 2014, it was time for a change in the newsletter. I'm so grateful—and proud—that the new editor is a product of my own chapter. Jenn and her husband Curtis have authentically shared their struggles with our group following the loss of Serenity, and it's been a blessing to see them progress in their grief. I know that Jenn will do an amazing job and pray that she will experience the blessing as I have of being part of each of your families. Thank you all for letting me share your stories for the last three years.

♥ *Heather Fann, Director*
mommy to Caleb Scott and Baby August,
 M.E.N.D.—SW Missouri

Hello everyone! I am excited to be the new newsletter editor for M.E.N.D. My husband, Curtis, and I will be married 10 years this September. Our little daughter, Serenity, was welcomed by her heavenly father on December 3, 2009, and we look forward to the day we see her again. We live in a little town called Walnut Grove, and work and attend church in Springfield, Missouri. We also recently learned we are expecting again in December! M.E.N.D. has been a tremendous blessing to us in our grieving the loss of our daughter, and I am thankful for this opportunity to be more involved in such a loving organization.

♥ *Jennifer (Jenn) Harrison, Newsletter Editor*
mommy to Serenity Harrison,
 M.E.N.D.—SW Missouri

Readers' Corner

Dearest Rebekah,

Another year and your gentle hand still reaches out to confused families that are feeling so broken with empty arms. You're filling a place in so many hearts. Thank you my dear friend and messenger from God.

When I think of the nights you sat and always replied to every letter. You truly are an angel. Love you!

With warmest regards,
 ♥ *Kathie Menough,*
grandmother to Colten Benjamin Ballmer
 Ohio

July/August Topic

Miscarriage/Ectopic Pregnancies
 Deadline: May 31, 2011

September/October Topic

Heavenly Birthday Traditions
 Deadline: July 31, 2011

Stories, poems, thoughts, and/or feelings regarding these topics are welcomed. Submissions must be received by the deadline to be considered for publication in the newsletter. Unfortunately, there is not enough room to include all submissions. Choices will be left to the discretion of the editors. Please see page two of the newsletter for the appropriate address to send your submissions. Any submission printed in our newsletter will also be posted to our Web site indefinitely unless we receive notice in writing that you are only granting permission for your submission to appear in the printed version of the newsletter.

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Letters to the Editor should be sent to jennifer@mend.org. All letters submitted to the editor are subject to be published in future issues, both in the print version and online, unless a letter's author expressly requests that it not be published.

Visit our Web site at:
www.mend.org



Birthday

Happy 2nd Birthday, Alethia Joy!

How we wish you were here with us. We think about you every day and miss you so very much. We wonder what you would look like and how you would act now as a 2-year-old. What a joy it would be to see you play with your baby sister, Hannah Beth. We're so thankful that the Lord is using your little life to bring Him glory and draw us closer to Him through this trial and loss. We know you are safe in Jesus' arms and can't wait to see you one day again in heaven! We love you, sweet baby girl!

Love,
Daddy and Mommy

Alethia Joy Myers
Full-term Stillborn February 3, 2009
Unknown cause
Parents: Tony and Charity Myers



Happy 1st Birthday, Cierra!

To our precious little girl who will always be remembered in our hearts. We will hold you in heaven sweetheart!

Cierra Marie Berry
Stillborn May 23, 2010
Parents: Seth and Melissa Berry



Happy 1st Birthday, Piper!

On December 11, 2010, I should have looked into your eyes and instantly been happy. Yet on this day I find sadness. Happy birthday, my sweet angel. I l-

Piper Johnson
June 7-December 11, 2010
Turners Syndrome
Parents: Ahmad and Nikki Johnson
~~*Siblings: Autumn and Jada*~~



Happy 3rd Birthday, Terrence!

You are always in our hearts!
We miss you!
Love,

Daddy, Mommy, and Little Brothe

Terrence Alexander Johnson
April 9, 2008
Cord accident
Parents: Terry and LaToya Johnson



Little brother: Kendall

Happy 1st Birthday, Emma Jean!

Missing you so very much!

Love,
Mommy and Daddy

Emma Jean Remy
June 18, 2010
Incompetent cervix

~~*Parents: Mitch and Crystal Remy*~~



Happy 2nd Birthday, Raylee!

Happy birthday, baby girl. Mommy loves you. I hope you are having fun jumping on the clouds and running on the streets of gold with Grandma and Great-Grandpa. I can't wait to hold you in my arms again.

Love,
Mommy

Raylee Lynn Dixon
June 8-22, 2009
Unknown cause

~~*Mommy: Jessica Hartsell*~~



Happy 4th Birthday, Timothy!

You are loved and missed!

Timothy Isaac Meyers
May 28, 2007
Unknown cause

Parents: Joel and Elizabeth Meyers
Siblings: Josh, Abby, Sam, Jake, Becky,
~~*Mary Faith, and Hannah*~~



Happy 1st Birthday, Mason!

Our precious baby boy Mason will be 1 year old April 9. We were given the heartbreaking news several weeks before he was born that he had multiple heart tumors causing hydrops. Although he fought so hard, God called him home to His kingdom. We are so sad that he is not here for us to hug or kiss every day, but we know that he is in a much better place and we will all be together one day.

We love you so much, Mason!

Love,
Mom and Dad

Mason Light Koler
April 9, 2010
Heart tumors
Parents: Dale and Lindsay Koler



Happy 1st Birthday, Riley!

You will always and forever be in our hearts.

Love ya,
Mommy and Daddy

Riley D. Campbell

May 25, 2010

Premature birth

Parents: Reginald and Monyouette Campbell

**Happy 2nd Birthday, Mackenzie!**

It's hard to believe it's been two whole years without you! We think about you all the time and talk to your new baby sister about you, too! God blessed us with another little girl, but we want you to know that you could never be replaced. You have a permanent place in our family and will always be a special part of our lives. One day He will set all things right and our family will be whole again in heaven. We can't wait to hold you in our arms again and kiss on your sweet chubby cheeks! Watch over your little sister and know that we will tell her all about you! We love you and miss you more than words can express!

Love Always,
Daddy and Mommy

Mackenzie Noelle Frederickson

Full-term stillborn June 17, 2009

Unknown cause

Also remembering:

Baby "Skyler" Frederickson

January 2, 2010

Ectopic pregnancy

Parents: Michael and Ashley Frederickson

Little sister: Paisley Noelle

**Happy 3rd Birthday, Gabriel and Michael!**

To our sweet baby boys,

You opened our hearts to what it really means to love. You changed who we are—for the better. We miss you desperately and know we will see you on that glorious day in heaven. What a joyful day that will be!

Love,
Your Mommy and Daddy

Gabriel Charles and Michael Aaron Smith

June 19, 2008

Monoamniotic Twins—cord accident

Also Remembering:

Baby Shannon,

Miscarried November 28, 2009

Unknown cause

Parents: Lucas and Megan Smith

Sibling: Lucas Sawyer

**Happy 1st Birthday, Isaiah!**

This year is the first year. We are planning to do something as a family. We will be planning a little birthday party with me and the kids, just something for us.

Isaiah Joseph Tabares-Davidson

Stillborn March 26, 2010

Down Syndrome

Parents: Melissa Davidson and Joe Tabares

Siblings: Skyler and Kiley Davidson

**Happy 11th Birthday, Colten!**

Eleven candles on your cake! The years seem like only a moment "stopped in time." We love you and miss you so much. You will always be our precious boy.

Love,
Daddy, Mommy and Logan (Buddy, too)

Colten Benjamin Ballmer

Stillborn May 28, 2000

Umbilical Cord Stenosis—Congenital

Parents: Jamieson and Regan Benton Ballmer

Sibling: Logan Tanner

**Happy 3rd Birthday, Sweet Baby!**

I think of you when I see butterflies. As you know, there are many reasons for that. But now, I think of how you came into our life so briefly, bringing so much joy and wonder, just like a butterfly. I'm so happy that my birthday will always remind me of you. We are joined together for eternity, and I am so proud to be your Mommy. Daddy loves you so much and C.J. so very often tells me that he wishes you were here. We love you, Honey, and look forward to lifetimes upon lifetimes with you.

Happy birthday, Baby!

Baby Stephens I

June 30, 2008

Ectopic Pregnancy

Also Remembering:

David Atkins Stephens

October 23, 2003

MTHFR Gene Mutation

Baby Stephens II

January, 2009

MTHFR Gene Mutation

Baby Stephens III

February 15, 2010

Ectopic Pregnancy

Parents: Rob and Melissa Stephens

Brother: C.J.



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Happy 1st Birthday, Sweet Livie!

Though I wish you were here celebrating your first birthday, I bet you are having a blast celebrating it in heaven. Both Mommy and Daddy miss you so much. Your memory remains with us in our hearts every day. We love and miss you, baby girl.

Love,
Mommy and Daddy

Olivia Vaughan
May 3, 2010
Premature birth
Parents: Andrew and Mary Vaughan



Happy 2nd Birthday, Emma

Dear Emma,

We constantly talk about you and how brave you were fighting for your life. We imagine your character, your personality and the things you would like.

Big sister: You gave up your life for mine. I wouldn't be here without your sacrifice. You guide me from heaven and I follow in earth. I will never let you down and love you so much.

We love you and miss you so very much.
Mommy, Daddy and little sister Isabella.

Emma Krymkiewicz
May 5, 2009
Neonatal Hemochromatosis
Also remembering:
Baby Girl Krymkiewicz
Miscarried June 13, 2008
Parents: Ana Ayon and Hernan Krymkiewicz
Little sister: Isabella Mia



Happy 2nd Birthday, Lilli!

Dearest Lilli,

I miss you so very much, every day. It will be two years this June since I held you. Time still has not healed the wounds I hold in my heart. I am so proud to be your mommy, and I know that God is taking very good care of you. Emma talks about you all the time and lets all of her friends know about her sister in heaven. Every time she gets a balloon, she always wants to send it to you! She loves you so much! We miss you and long await the day when we can see you again! Hugs and kisses!

All my love,
Mommy

Lillian Minta Brackett
June 23, 2009
Placental abruption
Parents: Charlie and Amy Brackett
Sister: Emma Abigail



Happy 1st Birthday, Paul!

In loving memory of our two little boys, Paul and Javier.

Love,
Mommy and Daddy

Paul Arturo Gomez
May 17, 2010
Anencephaly
Also Remembering:
Javier Gomez
October 6, 2010
Partial molar pregnancy
Parents: Paul and Elizabeth Gomez
Sibling: Lupe



Happy Birthday, Girls!

Happy 11th birthday, Sydney.

Happy 10th birthday, Ashley.

You both are getting so big in heaven. We love and miss you both very much.

Until we meet again.

Sydney Lynne Brown
May 18, 2000
Unknown causes
Ashley Mackenzie Brown
May 18, 2001
Premature due to APL
(antiphospholipid antibody syndrome)
Parents: Brian and Marilyn Brown
Brother: Samuel



Happy 4th Birthday, Adrian!

Another year has gone by so fast, yet not one single moment has passed that Daddy or I haven't thought about or talked about you. Friends and family speak of you often, too, and comfort us. Your twin little brother and sister are two years old now, and we sometimes wonder if you are letting your spiritual presence be known to them as they point at your picture and say, "Bubba?!" I see your face in Julian a lot and like to think Adrina has a personality you might have had. Anyhow, we miss you dearly and love endlessly because of you!

Love you, AJ!
Mom, Dad, Julian and Adrina

Adrian James Hernandez
June 23 - July 14, 2007
Incompetent cervix/necrotizing enterocolitis
Parents: Fito and Jackie Hernandez
Siblings: Julian and Adrina



Happy 3rd Birthday, Henry!

I can't believe 3 years have already passed since you went to Heaven. We miss you and think of you every day. We feel so blessed by your life, even though it was so much shorter than we would have wished. Your life has made us better parents and a much stronger family. We love you Henry!

Henry Ian Ilgenfritz

May 5, 2008

Cord Accident

Also Remembering:

Baby Ilgenfritz, Miscarried August 20th, 2007.

Parents: Jody and Rhonda Ilgenfritz

Little siblings: Kate and Benjamin

**Happy 10th Birthday, Griffin!**

Griffin,

Times have changed

But not your past.

Our memories are solidified on the
Moment you left.

Your tenth birthday has now come
and it too will pass as we celebrate
your short life that did not last.

The imprint of who you are will forever be fresh
But in heaven is where your life will surely impress.

Our thoughts radiate today on you and your
Love for our amazing Savior and glorious King!

Love,

Mommy, Daddy, Mya and Aidan

Griffin

Years have passed.

The year you were born

I wasn't here, but I know you
and remember you

Through all my years.

You were gone before I could see you

But that's ok because I still remember you.

Happy 10th birthday Griffin!

Love your sister,

Mya Quinn (Age 8)



Griffin Caleb McIntosh

Stillborn June 6, 2001

Parents: Matthew and Naomi McIntosh

Siblings: Mya and Aidan

Happy 11th Birthday, Chrissie!

Chrissie, I have been working with 4th graders this year, and I know you and my students would have been friends. I know you would be such a young lady now. Happy 11th birthday!

Chrissie Peyton Steen

May 3, 2000

Ectopic pregnancy

Parents: Lynn and Mary Steen

Siblings: John Morgan, William, and Michael Steen

**Happy 8th Birthday, Matthew!**

Matthew, it's so hard to believe it's been eight years since we last held you or saw you! You are my "widdle baby" and are forever etched in my heart. We love you and miss you SOOO much! You are a big boy now, but we often wonder what you are like. It is so hard to wait this side of heaven to be with you, but we know you are safe in God's hands and that God's ways are always perfect and good, even when we don't understand. So, happy birthday, my son. We celebrate you.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Thomas and Michelle

Matthew Joel Mifflin

June 6, 2003

True knot cord accident

Also remembering:

Little One, miscarried February 6, 2006

Lil' Rosebud, miscarried March 10, 2007

Parents: Dennis and Janet Mifflin

Siblings: Thomas and Michelle

**Happy 8th Birthday, Big Boy Cooper!**

We miss you so much. No matter the number of years that pass my heart still longs to hold you. Paxton is talking about you more and more. He tells me he wishes he could come see you for a little bit. Someday soon we will be reunited. What a happy day! Wishing you a happy Heavenly birthday!

All our love,

Daddy, Mommy, Avery, Tate and Paxton

Cooper Graham Dill

May 26, 2003

Cord accident/twin to twin transfusion

Also remembering:

Baby Dill, miscarried May 2002

Parents: Jim and Brandee Dill

Siblings: Avery, Tate and Paxton (identical twin brother)



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Happy 2nd Birthday, Lindsay!

Our sweet Lindsay,

Happy second birthday in heaven! Thank you for blessing our life's garden with your smile, hope, love and strength. You showed your mom and dad how to be strong, especially when we needed a little encouragement. Your story continues to inspire others, and all are amazed by your beauty. We know you are in His loving arms and a beautiful addition to the kingdom of Heaven. Your mom, dad and big sister Haley love you, and we are all so proud that you are in our family. We miss you, sweet one!

Love,
Mommy, Daddy and Haley

*Lindsay Claire Alexander
May 24-27, 2009
VLCAD (Fatty-Acid Oxidation Disorder)
Parents: Lane and Leslie Alexander
Sister: Haley*



Happy 1st Birthday Madelyn Hope!

To our sweet little princess, we love you and miss you more than words can say. You are in our hearts forever. We are so thankful that we were able to hold you in our arms, and we long for the day when we will see you again in heaven. You are a blessing to us, and we think about you every day. We love you, sweet girl.

A moment in our arms, a lifetime in our hearts.

Love,
Daddy, Mommy, Brett, Hailey, Ava and Brayden

*Madelyn Hope Henry
Stillborn May 4, 2010
Placental abruption
Parents: Andy and Kim Henry
Siblings: Brett, Hailey, Ava and Brayden*



Happy 5th Birthday Ava!

It's so hard to believe that you would be 5 years old now! We miss you more than words can express! In the five years that you have been gone, your two brothers were born. Spencer is 3 and includes you in his prayers every night, and Garrett is 5 weeks old, and he, too, will know that you are in heaven! We love and miss you so much! Happy birthday!

Love you,
Mommy, Daddy, Madison, Spencer and Garrett

*Ava Grace Browning
March 7, 2006
Ebsteins Anomoly
Parents: Kevin and Christal Browning
Siblings: Madison, Spencer and Garrett*



Happy 2nd Birthday, Griffin!

It's so hard to believe its been two years since you came into our lives and left us much too soon. We love and miss you every day. Can't wait to hold you again in Heaven, little man.

Love
Mommy and Daddy

*Griffin Lee Wilson
April 11, 2009
Prune Belly Syndrome
Parents: Darren and Jennifer Wilson
Sibling: Baby Kinley, due June 2, 2011*



Happy 2nd Birthday, Lauren!

It's been two years since you drifted away from us on your angel wings, and not a day goes by that we don't think about you and miss you very much. We often wonder what you would look like today and what your personality would be like. You have a new little brother, and we tell him about you all the time and take him to visit your gravesite as often as we can. Mommy and Daddy wish we could have both you and Tanner together for just one moment, but it wasn't God's plan. You may not be with us physically, but you are always with us in our hearts, and as long as we are here on earth your memory lives on with us. Until we meet again in heaven, our baby girl...

We love you always and forever,
Mommy, Daddy and Tanner

*Lauren Ashley Scott
Stillborn June 23, 2009
Trisomy 18
Parents: Troy and Emily Scott
Sibling: Tanner William*



Happy 4th Birthday, Gracie!

It's so hard to believe you are turning 4 years old! We miss you so much each and every day. You are such a precious gift to us, and we wish you were here so we could give you many hugs and kisses. We know that you and Emma were watching over us when your little brother Wyatt was sent to us. Wyatt loves to sit outside at your memory garden and watch the little butterflies fly around. Happy birthday, sweet little Gracie!

We love you more than you know,
with all our hearts, forever and ever.
Daddy, Momma, and Wyatt

*Gracie Renee Dorr
May 15, 2007
Incompetent cervix
Also remembering:
Emma Grace Dorr
October 16, 2008
Incompetent cervix
Parents: Dustin and Janine Dorr
Brother: Wyatt*



Happy 5th Birthday, Ryker Lee!

To our precious baby boy, not a day goes by that we don't think about you. It is so hard to believe you are turning 5 years old. We love and miss you so much and can't wait to be reunited with you someday!

Happy birthday, Monkey!

Sending love, hugs and kisses your way!

Mommy, Daddy, Mariah, Derrick, and Kellen

Ryker Lee Serrano

May 18, 2006

CMV

Parents: Eduardo and Carrie Serrano

Siblings: Mariah, Derrick, and Kellen



Happy 1st Birthday, Cambron!

We love and miss you so much. You are daily in our thoughts! We will celebrate your precious life forever, and the impact you have made on our life and the lives of others.

Love,

Mom, Dad, and Madison

Cambron Edward Fisk

June 28, 2010

Cord accident

Parents: Darren and Meredith Fisk

Sibling: Madison



In Loving



Colten Benjamin Ballmer

Stillborn May 28, 2000

Umbilical Cord Stenosis—Congenital

Parents: Jamieson and Regan Ballmer

Little brother: Logan

Given by grandparents

Gilbert and Kathie Menough

Jordan Alexander Booker

Stillborn January 11, 2007

Cord accident

Given by mommy Norma Jordan

Sydney Lynne Brown

May 18, 2000

Cord problems and other unknown condition

Ashley MacKenzie Brown

May 18, 2001

Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome

Given by parents Marilyn and Brian Brown and little brother Samuel

Logan James Brewer

December 18 - 22, 2006

Prematurity

Given by parents David and Heather Brewer and little brother Landon

Samuel Adan Contreras

Stillborn November 11, 2010

Cord accident

Parents: Mercedes and Alfredo Contreras

Given by

Dr Delphinium Designs and Events

Abigail Grace Crump

Stillborn July 1, 2003

Trisomy 18

Given by parents Gerald and Jaimie Crump and little sisters Cami and Karli

Riley and Parker Davis

November 14, 2006

Prematurity

Given by parents Robert and Cheryl Davis and little sister Annalise

Kyler Paul English

Stillborn January 20, 2006

Cord accident

Parents: Bob English and Laurie McPike

Gift given by Jon and Laurie McPike

and brothers Kinser, Kelson, and Kayden

Caleb Scott Fann

December 1, 2003

PROM

Baby August Fann

Miscarried August 14, 2004

Parents: Jonathan and Heather Fann

Little sister: Madison Grace

Gifts given by:

Jerry and Christy Gardner

Sara Elliott, via Walmart Foundation

Mackenzie Noelle Frederickson

Stillborn June 17, 2009

Unknown cause

Given by parents

Mike and Ashley Frederickson and little sister Paisley

Janelle Marie Gibson

Stillborn November 17, 2006

Clot in placenta

Gabrielle Gibson

Miscarried October 31, 2007

Ectopic pregnancy

Given by parents Scott and Jodie Gibson and siblings Will, Andrew, and Isaac

Lauren Paige Grimes

Stillborn March 6, 1999

Unknown cause

Baby Angel Grimes

Miscarried January 25, 2001

Given by parents Paula and John Grimes and sister Rileigh

Adrian James Hernandez

June 23 - July 14, 2007

Incompetent Cervix/necrotizing enterocolitis

Given by parents Jackie and Fito Hernandez and twin siblings Julian and Adrina

Hope Johnson

Miscarried October 30, 2009

Luke Johnson

Stillborn July 26, 2010

Unknown cause

Given by parents Merle and James Johnson

Josephine Ann Lee

Stillborn October 9, 2009

PROM

Given by parents John and Patty Lee

Continued on page 11...

M.E.N.D.

gratefully acknowledges these gifts of love given in memory of a baby, relative, friend, or given by someone just wanting to help. These donations help us to continue M.E.N.D.'s mission by providing this newsletter and other services to bereaved parents free of charge. Please refer to page 2 of this newsletter for more information regarding where to send your donations and what information to include.

Thank you so much!

Encuesta del día de la madre y el padre

Cada año nuestro boletín de mayo / junio se concentra alrededor del día de la madre y el día del padre, quizás dos de los días más difíciles del año para padres sintiendo el dolor de la pérdida de su bebe. Cada año durante los meses de abril, mayo y junio, estos dos domingos parecen ser el tema de debate en nuestros grupos de apoyo. Después de unos años de escuchar las historias de padres lastimados, empecé a comprender realmente que difícil e incluso traumáticas estos días pueden ser. Además me di cuenta de que una buena cantidad de padres que han sufrido una pérdida tiende no mantener su práctica normal de domingo de asistir la iglesia en estos días, y algunos incluso se quedan en casa y se aíslan del resto de su familia.

En 2002, decidí tomar una encuesta informal de nuestros miembros del grupo de apoyo de Dallas y les pregunte algunas preguntas acerca de estos días festivos y sus sentimientos sobre ellos. Este año al pensar en lo que quería escribir sobre el día de la madre y el día del padre, decidí proponer estas preguntas nuevamente a toda nuestra organización. Esperaba que los resultados mostraran que nuestros esfuerzos de conocimiento de sensibilidad sobre el embarazo y la pérdida de un bebe en nuestras comunidades han cambiado la forma de que nuestra familia, amigos e iglesias responden a estos días con el dolor de los padres afectados en mente. He encontrado los resultados comparativos muy interesantes. Mientras algunas de las respuestas se mantuvieron prácticamente iguales que las de hace nueve años, algunas de las respuestas indican que aparentemente hemos ayudado los que nos rodean realizar que tan doloroso es para los padres que han perdido un hijo celebrar la maternidad y la paternidad. Sin embargo, tenemos todavía trabajo que hacer en algunas áreas de conocimiento.

Como he escrito en 2002, los resultados de estas encuestas no son para influir su decisión de asistir a la iglesia en el día de la madre o el día del padre. En cambio, es para que nosotros,

como padres que hemos perdido un bebé, nos demos cuenta de que hemos hecho avances en la educación de nuestros pastores de un dolor único que llena los santuarios de nuestras iglesias durante estos dos días, pero todavía más conocimiento debe ser creado y realizado. Y como alenté hace varios años, haga una copia de este boletín y envíalo a su pastor. Sugíerale que tal vez podría modificar su sermón o las tradiciones de la iglesia podrían ser reconsideradas. Infórmele la importancia de algunas palabras sensibles y simples en una oración pidiendo paz para los padres con dolor que han perdido a un bebé o incluso para las parejas que desean ser padres algún día serian bien recibidas. O como mi iglesia hizo el año pasado, ofrezca la idea de celebrar la feminidad y la humanidad, en lugar de enfocar y orar específicamente por las madres y padres. Y si se realizan estos cambios, asegúrese de expresar su agradecimiento a su pastor. Pero si el pastor no se siente cómodo con estas ideas, sea paciente y ore que se ablande su corazón para el próximo año. Y siempre recuerde que de hecho son padres merecen celebración, aunque los que los rodean no lo reconocen como tal. Si este es su primer día de la madre y día del padre desde su pérdida, o si, como yo, han sufrido muchos, ruego que al señor nos siga dando su alegría, su paz y su comodidad.

♥ *Rebekah Mitchell, Presidente y Fundadora
mamá de Jonathan Daniel y Mitchell bebé*

	2002	2011
¿Tiene planes de asistir a la iglesia el día de las madres?	Sí: 50% No: 50%	Sí: 77% No: 23%
¿Su iglesia (pastor del púlpito) reconoce a las madres doloridas en el día de la madre? (25% dijeron que era su primer día de la madre después de perder y no lo habían notado en el pasado)	Sí: 35% No: 65%	Sí: 30% No: 70%
¿Si el pastor NO menciona a los padres afligidos, desea usted que lo haga?	Sí: 85% No: 15%	Sí: 99% No: 1%
¿Debe su iglesia mejorar sus servicios en el día de la madre para no aislar a aquellos que han tenido una pérdida?	Sí: 90% No, están haciendo todo lo que pueden: 10%	Sí: 34% No, están haciendo todo lo que pueden: 66%
¿Usted va a mantener su tradición anterior del día de la madre o hará algo diferente/aislarse?	Mantener la tradición: 80% Algo diferente: 20%	Mantener la tradición: 63% Algo diferente: 37%
¿Si esta no es su primer día de la madre, fue reconocida como una madre al bebé que perdió por amigos y familiares?	Sí: 75% No: 25%	Sí: 57% No: 43%
¿Desea usted SIEMPRE ser reconocida como una madre a el/la bebe perdido?	Sí: 100% No: 0% No está seguro: 0%	Sí: 97% No: 0% No está seguro: 3%

"In Loving Memory..."
Continued from page 9...

Griffin Caleb McIntosh

Stillborn June 6, 2001
Given by parents
Naomi and Matthew McIntosh
and siblings Mya and Aidan

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell

Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord accident
Baby Mitchell
Miscarried December 2001
Parents: Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
Big brother: Byron, Jr.
Given by grandparents
Dennis and Sue Brewer

Jacob Theodore Oxendine

April 29, 2001
PROM
Given by parents
Chip and Christine Oxendine
and siblings Emily and Eric

Carter Patrick Outen

Stillborn November 6, 2000

Baby Outen I

Miscarried April 3, 2001

Baby Outen II

Miscarried October 5, 2001
Given by parents Chris and Shannon Outen
and little sisters Erin and Charlie

Gabriel Charles and Michael Aaron Smith

Stillborn June 19, 2008
Monoamniotic Twins—Cord accident
Baby Shannon
Miscarried November 28, 2009
Given by parents Lucas and Megan Smith
and little brother Luke

David Atkins Stephens

October 23, 2003
MTHFR Mutation
Baby Stephens I
June 30, 2008
Ectopic pregnancy
Baby Stephens II
January 2009
MTHFR Mutation
Baby Stephens III
February 15, 2010
Ectopic pregnancy
Gifts given by
Parents Rob and Melissa Stephens
and brother C.J.
Grandparents Ron and Vicki McNalley

William Robert Thurlow

January 30, 2007
Unknown cause
Parents: Micah and Rebecca Thurlow
Given by: Brian and Barbara Dunlap

Alivia Elizabeth Grace Walker

Stillborn July 24, 2006
Incompetent cervix
Given by parents Robert and Liz Walker
and little brother Jaxson

Gifts of Support

West Conroe Baptist Church, Conroe, TX
Metropolitan Baptist Church, Houston, TX
Second Baptist Church, Springfield, MO
Project H.O.P.E., Springfield, MO

Legacy Giving

Losing a child has changed each of our lives forever. We appreciate all financial support of the services our organization gives to bereaved parents—no matter the size of the contribution. However, some of you may have the capacity and desire to give a lifelong gift to M.E.N.D.

If you're interested in creating a legacy gift or endowment in honor of your baby, M.E.N.D. would be happy to assist you in gathering the necessary information to remember our organization in your will or trust. For more information about legacy giving, please contact Rebekah Mitchell at rebekah@mend.org.

Remember

My Dearest Parker and Riley,

This day, your second birthday, I have cause to celebrate and to remember the joy and happiness you have brought me.

I *remember* how much joy your mother and I had when we first found out we were pregnant.

I *remember* how it felt like somebody had hit me in the chest and I couldn't breathe when the doctor said "twins."

I *remember* how scared I was at the prospect of being a father.

I *remember* how proud I was at each sonogram we had.

I *remember* the fear I had when the doctors said, "We can't stop the labor. Your sons are coming."

I *remember* the strength of the Lord in us as we made "the decision."

It was the best and the worst decision we've ever had to make.

I *remember* the strength of family and friends during that time.

I *remember* hearing Riley cry for the one and only time. It is the only sound either of you ever made.

I *remember* your baptism in the delivery room.

I *remember* holding you both in my arms when you died.

I could go on forever remembering the joys you have brought me.

Not a day goes by that something doesn't cause me to *remember*.

Always *remember* my deep love for you.

Always *remember* that my life is so much richer because of you.

Love forever,

Dad

Nov. 14, 2008

♥ Rob Davis,
daddy to Parker and Riley,
M.E.N.D.—Dallas



M.E.N.D. Chapter Corner

Chapter Meeting Information

M.E.N.D.—Houston

Meets the 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 HEALTHSOUTH Houston
 Rehabilitation Institute
 17506 Red Oak Drive, Houston, TX 77090
 Director: Jaimie Crump
 jaimie@mend.org, (281) 374-8528
Subsequent pregnancy group meets bi-monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:30 p.m., led by Sarah Winebrenner (swinebrenner2004@yahoo.com).
Daddy's group meets quarterly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:30 p.m., led by Tim Winebrenner (swinebrenner2004@yahoo.com).

M.E.N.D.—Texarkana

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:00 p.m.
 CHRISTUS St. Michael Rehab Hospital
 2400 St. Michael Drive
 Texarkana, TX 75503
 Director: Monica Davis
 monica@mend.org, (903) 490-1210

M.E.N.D.—Tulsa

Meets the 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
 Canyon Crossing
 1651 E Old North Rd.
 Sand Springs, Oklahoma 74063
 Director: Michele Wilson
 michele@mend.org, (918) 694-4325 (HEAL)

M.E.N.D.—SW Missouri

Meets the 1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
 Project H.O.P.E.
 1419 S. Enterprise
 Springfield, Missouri 65804
 Director: Heather Fann
 heather@mend.org, (417) 818-0489

M.E.N.D.—Bryan/College Station

Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.
 Hawthorn Suites
 1010 University Drive East
 College Station, Texas 77840
 Director: Jennie Drude
 jennie@mend.org, (979) 220-7851

M.E.N.D. Chapter Updates

Houston

M.E.N.D.—Houston would like to wish all the parents in the Houston area who have lost a baby a Happy Mother's and Father's Day. Even though our babies are not with us, we will always be moms and dads. While they will always hold a special place in our hearts, we look forward to the day we meet them again in heaven.

Jaimie Crump

Texarkana

M.E.N.D.—Texarkana continues to minister to hurting families through our monthly meetings, phone calls, and emails. At our annual leadership conference in April we gained fresh ideas of ways to better minister to families in the Texarkana area. Contact me at 903-490-1210 or monica@mend.org if you know of any families in the Texarkana area who could benefit from our support group.

Monica Davis

Tulsa

M.E.N.D.—Tulsa continues to provide groups and support to hurting men and women of Green Country. I'd like to give a special thanks to Lisa Daily for her help in ministering to those in need.

Michele Wilson

SW Missouri

M.E.N.D.—Southwest Missouri continues to grow each month. We're noticing that our reach has expanded through both hospital systems in Springfield and through general word of mouth. This is a HUGE answer to prayer. We're also getting ready to start working on our next Scrapbook Fundraising Night June 17, 2011. Tickets are \$25.00, which includes dinner and lots of fun! To purchase your tickets, email me at heather@mend.org.

Heather Fann

Bryan/College Station

M.E.N.D.—Bryan/College Station has been working hard to spread the news about our chapter. We are growing and making new contacts every day. I want to thank Sandy Huelsebusch for everything she does to help make this chapter run so well. We were excited about our annual leadership conference and the ideas we learned to help grow and serve the Brazos County area better.

Jennie Drude

Amarillo

M.E.N.D.—Amarillo participated in the March for Babies April 30. We are also in full force preparing for our first Bunco for Babies fundraiser in June. We continue to have new families visit our monthly meetings.

Becky Anderson

NW Washington

M.E.N.D.—NW Washington is pleased to congratulate Donna Arnold who was the winner in our 50/50 raffle fundraiser. It was a roaring success with more than 1,100 tickets sold. We consistently have between 12 and 20 attendees at our monthly meetings. Also, we had another fundraiser April 1, 2011. We were very happy to announce our first subsequent birth on March 16, and have an additional four subsequent pregnancies in our group. We look forward to more amazing times within our chapter.

Susan Crow

Hot Springs

M.E.N.D.—Hot Springs is excited to be up and running. Our first support group meeting was held in April, and we are continuing to spread the word about our organization.

Amy Humphries

M.E.N.D.—**Amarillo**
Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
First United Bank of the Colonies
(Lonestar Room)
One First United Bank Parkway
45th and Soney
Amarillo, Texas
Director: Becky Anderson
becky@mend.org, (806) 570-4344

M.E.N.D.—**NW Washington**
Meets the 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Harrison Medical Center
(Iris Room)
1800 Myhre Rd.
Silverdale, Washington
Director: Susan Crow
susan@mend.org, (360) 516-8617

M.E.N.D.—**Hot Springs, Arkansas**
OPENING APRIL 12!
Director: Amy Humphries
amy@mend.org, (501) 620-9930

Looking Ahead

October 1

- Walk To Remember
in Irving, TX

December 6

- Christmas Ceremony
in Irving, TX

December 8

- M.E.N.D.—SW
Missouri
Christmas Ceremony
in Springfield, MO

M.E.N.D. Support Group Meetings in the Dallas Metroplex

Join us for a time of sharing experiences.

M.E.N.D. main chapter meetings

are held the 2nd Thursday of
every month
from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Daddies group

meets the 2nd Thursday of
March, June, Sept. and Dec.,
from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

*A time for dads to meet together and
discuss topics relevant to them as
fathers. Our moms and dads meet
together for introductions before dividing
into two groups for discussion.*

Food and Fellowship

*A time to relax and meet with other
M.E.N.D. parents in a social setting*

Contact Brittney Fish:
brittney@mend.org

Subsequent pregnancy group

meets the 4th Tuesday
from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Led by Liz Walker:
liz@mend.org

*For families who are considering
becoming pregnant or are currently
pregnant after a loss.*

Infertility group

meets the 3rd Monday
at 7:30 p.m. upon request only.

Led by Melissa Stephens:
melissa@mend.org

*For families experiencing
infertility after a loss.*

**Mommies AND daddies are both
welcome at all M.E.N.D. meetings.**

All main chapter support group

meetings are held at:

**Wells Fargo Bank
800 W. Airport Freeway
Irving, TX 75062**

(Located in the Crystals Pizza parking
lot, between MacArthur and O'Connor)
Meetings will be in the bank board room,
located on the first floor.

For more information,
call (972) 506-9000.



Subsequent Births

Brendon and Meredith McNeil

of College Station, Texas,
along with big sister Kloey,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Lauren Elise,
born December 31, 2010,
measuring 8 lb., 1oz.,
and 20 inches long.

The McNeil family lovingly remembers
Baby Girl McNeil,
stillborn December 31, 2009,
unknown cause.

Norman Ndambakuwa and Zelda Paredes

of Fort Worth, Texas
joyfully announce the arrival of
Nathanael Ndambakuwa,
born February 9, 2011.

The Ndambakuwa family
lovingly remembers
Jeremiah,
stillborn June 13, 2006,
unknown cause.

Jeremy and Ashley Bailey

of Killeen, Texas,
along with M.E.N.D. mom,
grandmother Denise Gradel Wozniak,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Anthony Aaron,
born February 9, 2011,
measuring 7 lb.
and 19 1/2 inches long.

The Bailey family lovingly remembers
Baby Bailey,
miscarried April 22, 2009,
Isabella Lynne,
stillborn December 21, 2009,
cord compression,
and Ashley's siblings in heaven,
Aaron Philip Gradel,
stillborn June 16, 1990,
and Baby Gradel,
miscarried May 14, 1993.

Marshall Levit and Abigail Neiman

of Houston, Texas,
along with big sister Hannah Judith,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Jacob Yale Levit,
born November 30, 2010,
measuring 10 lb., 9 oz.,
and 20 1/2 inches long.

The family lovingly remembers
Rafael Neiman-Levit,
August 3-5, 2009,
preterm birth.

Aaron and Tiffany Cox

of Fort Worth, Texas
joyfully announce the arrival of
Aaryn-Nicole Bailey,
born March 17, 2011,
measuring 7 lb., 4 oz.,
and 19 1/2 inches long.

The Cox family lovingly remembers
Baby Cox,
miscarried October 24, 2007.

Hernan Krymkiewicz and Ana Ayon Lopez

of The Woodlands, Texas
joyfully announce the arrival of
Isabella Mia,
born February 25, 2011,
measuring 9 lb., 8 oz.
The Krymkiewicz family
lovingly remember Baby
Girl Krymkiewicz,
miscarried June 13, 2008,
and Emma,
stillborn May 5, 2009,
Neonatal Hemochromatosis.

Semi and Laura Ratulele

of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii
joyfully announce the arrival of
Noela Esiteri,
born on December 25, 2010,
measuring 10 lb., 3.5 oz.,
and 21 inches long.
The Ratulele family
lovingly remembers
Sereana Joy,
stillborn September 9, 2009,
unknown cause.

Matt and Stacey McGhee

of Bremerton, Washington,
along with big brother Micah,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Scarlett Rose,
born March 16, 2011,
measuring 7 lb., 4.5 oz.,
and 21 1/2 inches long.

The McGhee family
lovingly remembers
Sophia Rose,
stillborn March 29, 2010,
unknown cause.

Jody and Rhonda Ilgenfritz

of Spring, Texas,
along with big sister Kate,
joyfully announce the arrival of
Benjamin Ian,
born March 1, 2011,
measuring 7 lb., 3 oz.,
and 20 inches long.

The Ilgenfritz family
lovingly remembers
Baby Ilgenfritz,
miscarried August 30, 2007,
and
Henry Ian,
stillborn May 5, 2008,
cord accident.

Joe and Marie Stockdale

of Conyers, Georgia,
along with siblings, Caleb, Audrey,
Claire, and Luke,
joyfully announce the arrival of
David Joseph,
born March 29, 2011,
measuring 8 lb., 2 oz.,
and 19 inches long.
The Stockdale family
lovingly remembers
Michelle Grace,
August 22-September 16, 2002,
Ebstein's Anomaly
and
Baby Stockdale,
miscarried February 2003.

Travis and Jennifer Jones
of Arlington, Texas
joyfully announce the arrival of
Presley Kate,
born March 22, 2011,
measuring 7 lb., 6 oz.,
and 20 inches long.
The Jones family lovingly remembers
Hudson Parker,
stillborn January 9, 2010,
lower bladder obstruction.

Joe and Stephanie Fretwell
of Amarillo, Texas
joyfully announce the arrival of
Timothy Ryan,
born March 11, 2011,
measuring 8 lb., 8 oz.,
and 20 1/2 inches long.
The Fretwell family
lovingly remembers
Baby Fretwell,
miscarried January 4, 2010,
possible cord accident.

Micah and Rebecca Thurlow
of Grapevine, Texas
joyfully announce the arrival of
Joel Evan,
born March 7, 2011,
measuring 7 lb., 9 oz.,
and 19 inches long.
The Thurlow family
lovingly remembers
William Robert,
stillborn January 30, 2007,
unknown cause.

Oh Mother, My Mother

I touch your tears,
invisible fingers soothing your skin
I know you think of me so often
in the day, in the night, in your dreams
going into an empty nursery
knowing I'll never be there
but I am...in your heart, in your soul,
I shall always be
for you gave so unselfishly of yourself
Inside of you, you created
such a world for me
a world of laughter, of love
of sadness, of sorrow
every emotion people come to know
you shared with me.
And even though I may never feel your arms around me
I felt your heart beating,
like a lullaby, singing me to sleep.
and your spirit giving me a safe haven
already protecting me, nurturing me
preparing me for things to come
But sometimes the journey of life pulls souls apart
and yes, I had to go on to another place.
I wish I could stay
I wish this was a decision I could make
and I know you do too.
Know this, wherever you are:
I will always remember
that yours was the first love
the first joy, the first soul
I will ever know
you gave me the courage to
go on in my journey
I hope I can do the same for you
Your heartbeat will always call me to you.
Love, your child

Author: Theresa Cochrane
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Oh Father, My Father

Close your eyes and feel me near
keep me inside your heart
let me live in your soul
you see through tears
the things we will never do
running across the fields of my youth
games never played
but it is not gone
those dreams you hold so close
for I live on in every child you see
little ones standing alone... lost
or laughing in a playground
swinging so high
touching the tree tops
that is I
wanting just to love
feel my happiness in the song of a bird
see my sorrow in Mother
hold her close forever
feeling your strength
for there will be one to come behind me
whether through God's grace or
from a different calling
a child chosen through His hand.
For in darkness, a light will appear
even if it is just the dawn
signaling a new beginning
and as you gather my mother to your heart
release your tears
let the healing begin
and discover that I am here
in your dreams
in your tomorrows
Every rainbow is the path home
and if you should stumble
I am the wings that shall lift you
Love, your child

Author: Theresa Cochrane
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M.E.N.D. Mommies Enduring Neonatal Death
 P.O. Box 1007, Coppell, TX 75019
 USA
 (972) 506-9000
Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Coppell, TX 75019
 Permit No. 139

“... that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God” (2 Corinthians 1:4)

M.E.N.D. Fundraisers *As a non-profit organization, M.E.N.D. is funded solely by private donations and fundraisers. Any assistance you can give us by participating in any or all of these fundraisers is greatly appreciated.*

- **Kroger grocery stores** donate a percentage of all purchases of those shoppers in Texas and Louisiana who have their Kroger Plus Card linked to M.E.N.D. To link your card, contact Rebekah (rebekah@mend.org) to obtain the Kroger Customer Letter. You must only present this letter one time to link your card to M.E.N.D.
- **Tom Thumb** also has a program in Texas that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you have a Tom Thumb Reward Card, please contact Rebekah (rebekah@mend.org) to obtain the Customer Letter. You must only present this letter one time to link your card to M.E.N.D. Reward cards can also be used at Randalls and Simon David stores.
- **Glenn Martin** is looking for M.E.N.D. families willing to grant space for small gumball machines in order to raise funds for M.E.N.D. If you have a retail business or connections to a high traffic location in the Grapevine, Southlake, or metroplex area, Glenn will place, stock, and service the equipment and give M.E.N.D. 35 percent of the proceeds. Glenn can be contacted at (817) 874-5366 or glmartin@attg.net.
- M.E.N.D. can now earn funds through **i.think inc.**, an online marketing research firm. You can help by signing up as a survey panel member and designating us as the recipient of your fee. Just go to the Web site at <http://www.ithink.inc.com> and choose “Sign up to become an i.think inc. panel member.” Fill out the sign-up survey. Under the “Funds for Charity” section, select M.E.N.D. from the list of names.
- **Little Beads and Macaroni and Cheese**, owned by M.E.N.D. member Marilyn Brown, offers custom jewelry. Her keepsake angel bracelets are \$20 each, and ten percent of each angel bracelet sale will be donated to M.E.N.D. Marilyn can be reached at (817) 996-1920 or msbrown16@hotmail.com.
- **IBM** employees may now make charitable donations to M.E.N.D. through automatic payroll deductions. Choose Charity Code 0M562 from the *IBM Employee/Retiree Approved Charity List*.
- **GoodSearch.com** is a search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Powered by Yahoo!, it is used like any other search engine. To earn money for M.E.N.D. using Goodsearch.com, go to www.goodsearch.com and designate M.E.N.D. as your charity of choice.
- **Ebay** has a charitable giving program that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you sell items on Ebay and would like to designate a percentage of your revenue to M.E.N.D., visit www.missionfish.org to find out how.
- **Igive.com** will donate a penny a search and a portion of each purchase made through their website to M.E.N.D. Sign up today! M.E.N.D.’s cause number is 52025.
- **Angel Bracelets** creates a variety of remembrance bracelets. Buyers can designate M.E.N.D. and Angel Bracelets will make a donation to from each sale. Visit www.angelbracelets.org.