



For Immediate Release

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Mentor Program Needs Volunteers

Help a grieving child by joining the “I Have a Friend”[®] Program at Hospice of Santa Barbara

August 3, 2009, Santa Barbara, CA--- Hospice of Santa Barbara is seeking volunteers for its “I Have a Friend”[®] Mentor program. Mentor volunteers are adults who experienced the death of a parent or sibling as a child. They are trained and matched with children who have recently experienced a similar loss. Mentors help the children understand that not only are they normal, but also that their lives will be good again, and they can be happy and successful people.

“When your friends don’t really understand and just tell you ‘I’m sorry, I’m sorry,’ your mentor actually understands and can help you through it,” said Chase McFadden, an I Have a Friend[®] program mentee.

The mentor volunteer training session will be held each Tuesday for four weeks beginning September 22nd. Light snacks will be provided. Hospice of Santa Barbara is hoping that good mentor matches from the community will come forward to help these children recover from their painful loss, as well as enrich their own lives.

Registration is required. If you would like to volunteer for the Mentor program, please call Joy Janssen at Hospice of Santa Barbara, 563-8820.

The mission of Hospice of Santa Barbara, Inc. is to provide care to anyone experiencing the impact of a life-threatening illness, or grieving the death of a loved one.

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