

Lost & Found **MENDING HEARTS**

Offering help, hope & healing to grieving
individuals & families in the Ozarks



SPRING 2025
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



FINDING HOPE STORIES



Lost & Found grief center

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Run & Remember 2025

At its core, Ray's story describes what we do at Lost & Found Grief Center. Ray lost his wife, Julianne, to cancer in 2022, leaving him to parent their four children alone. Ray and his children all attended grief support groups where they found help, hope, healing, and community.

For 25 years, Lost & Found Grief Center has provided therapeutic grief support groups at no cost to children and adults. This includes families like Ray's and those featured on the cover:

- Caleb lost his mom, Jacquelyn.
- Adam lost his son, Alex.
- Arian lost her dad, Jabe.
- Cierlita lost her husband, George.

Our first therapeutic grief support group for children and their parents was held in 2000 at co-founder Shawn Askinosie's law offices. We continued to grow. In 2005, we moved to a house in northeast Springfield, and in 2015, we opened our current location on South Glenstone. During our quarter century of serving grieving families in the Ozarks, we have been a source of help, hope, and healing for more than 25,000 people.

Thank you for supporting
our healing mission
for the past 25 years.



Scan to hear
Ray's Story



Celebrating 25 years of
help, hope & healing in 2025.

SPRING 2025

NO-COST

BY MARK MILLER, LOST & FOUND GRIEF CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THERAPEUTIC GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS



Therapeutic grief support groups are at the center of Lost & Found Grief Center's forward-moving grief model. Through sharing, listening, mindful art activities, and intentional play for children, participants learn how to process their grief, manage big emotions, and understand that all their feelings are normal.

Last fiscal year, 880 people enrolled in grief support groups at Lost & Found. Additionally, 124 bereaved individuals found support through individual counseling with our grief-trained licensed therapists.



As a non-profit, Lost & Found Grief Center's therapeutic grief support groups are 100% funded through grants and donations.



Thanks to the kindness and generosity of others, we offer our grief groups at no cost to the families we serve.

DID YOU KNOW?



880 enrolled in grief groups
ages 4 through 90 represented

124 individuals received grief counseling
one-on-one support with licensed therapists

OCTOBER 27, 2024

Blue skies, sunshine, and warm temperatures greeted Game Day attendees on October 27 at BigShots Golf in Springfield. This annual fundraiser is hosted by our Junior Board, a group of young professionals, many of whom are former Lost & Found participants. Game Day patrons were treated to great food, beverages, and golf-themed games while they watched the Kansas City Chiefs preserve their undefeated season with a road victory in Las Vegas.

"Planning and hosting Game Day is always a great experience," said Trent Feuerbacher, Junior Board member and Game Day co-chair. "Grief is a heavy topic, but Game Day is about celebrating life, bringing people together, and having fun with friends. The Junior Board is proud to organize this event to support an organization that has a meaningful impact on our community."

Steve and Rhonda Jasinski were the 2024 Game Day title sponsors, bringing the energy and enthusiasm that make the event truly special.



Evening of Hope

Evening of Hope is Lost & Found Grief Center's biggest fundraiser. More than 400 Lost & Found supporters attended this year's dinner gala at White River Conference Center. Evening of Hope features upscale decor, fantastic food, and many sought-after auction items. With 2025 being Lost & Found's 25th anniversary, guests heard from former participants Ben LeMon, Anna Larriu, Cheryl Campbell and her son Tyler, Tara Flynn, and her children Jake and Abby Skaggs during the presentation video.



Anna Larriu was our featured speaker for the evening. She came to Lost & Found in 2009 after her mom succumbed to cancer when she was a senior at Parkview High School. Anna brought tears to everyone's eyes as she told her story of loss and grief.

"I still tell people to this day that I don't know where I'd be without Lost & Found. I owe so much to them."

Today, Anna is married with two children and has a thriving career at Forvis Mazars.



Save The Date

Evening of Hope • Jan. 31, 2026

A JOURNEY OF HELP

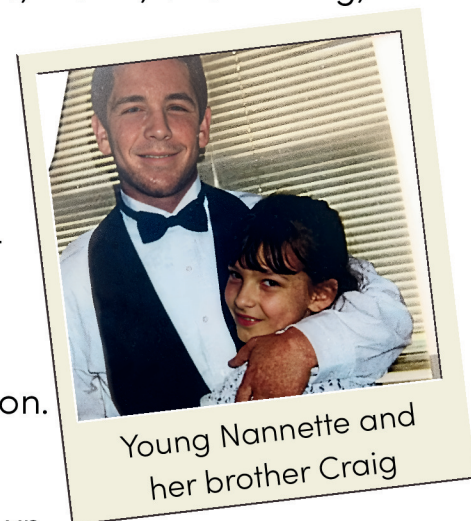
BY NANNETTE THOMAS

STAFF REFLECTION

Hope & Healing



I was thirteen when my oldest brother Craig died unexpectedly in a car accident with two of his friends. Craig was gregarious, warm, and inviting, making everyone feel like his best friend. In an instant, our world was shattered. When he died, there was a gaping hole in our hearts and our family. For years, each member of my family struggled along, trying to make sense of what happened and figure out a way to move forward . . . without Craig. That was three years before Lost & Found held its first groups. I was 17 years old when I learned about Lost & Found and immediately connected deeply to the mission.



Young Nannette and her brother Craig

I've been fortunate enough to be in my role as a program coordinator for 13 years, walking alongside families like my own. It has been a dream to play a small part in providing help, hope, and healing to grieving families and individuals in the Ozarks for more than a decade.



With my own kids growing (so much faster than I'd like!), I've sensed a need to shift more of my focus to my family for this season. It is bittersweet to say goodbye to the families, volunteers, and co-workers at Lost & Found.

I step away with complete confidence in this team, knowing their heart is to support grieving families.

Grief Resources & Support We Provide

– Ongoing Grief Support Groups –

- Little Ones (age 4 – 1st grade)
- Children (2nd – 5th grade)
- Middlers (6th – 8th grade)
- Teens (9th – 12th grade)
- Young Adults (18 – 30)
- Adults (sibling & parent loss)
- Caregivers
- Spouse Loss
- Child Loss
- Individual Counseling
- Child Life Consultations
- Resources for School Counselors
- Grief Education for our Community

SAY THEIR NAMES

At Lost & Found Grief Center's annual Run & Remember 5K and Memory Walk, participants are encouraged to say the names of their loved ones who have died.

Through a garden of memorial signs, pre-race camaraderie, and a post-run ceremony, runners and walkers share pictures and memories with fellow runners and walkers traveling the path of grief.

In 2024, more than 600 people participated in this event, and we expect a similar-sized crowd this year! We hope to see you on Thursday, May 22, at 6:30 p.m., at Jordan Valley Park in Springfield.

Sign up is open through May 22.



LOST & FOUND
25 YEARS
RUN & REMEMBER
5K
MORE THAN A 5K - MAY 22, 2025



SCAN TO
SIGN UP

LOSTANDFOUNDZARKS.COM/REMEMBER

Mending
Hearts
monthly giving



During 2025, all Mending Hearts monthly donors will receive a pair of 25th Anniversary Socks.

Our Mending Hearts monthly-giving program ensures we can provide healing services to grieving families.



A monthly recurring donation is a simple way to support the ongoing programs and services we offer for grieving families. You can start with a gift as simple as \$10 a month.

MISSION VISION

We strive to improve lives in our community by providing help, hope, and healing through professional grief support services.

No One Should Grieve Alone

Guiding Principles:

- Grief is a natural reaction to death for adults, as well as children.
- Within each individual is the natural capacity to heal oneself.
- The duration and intensity of grief are unique for each person.
- Caring and acceptance assist in the healing process.



Lost & Found
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