



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MICHAEL'S PLACE RECEIVES GRIEF REACH GRANT FROM THE NEW YORK LIFE FOUNDATION

TRAVERSE CITY, MI, January, 25, 2018 – Michael's Place announced today a \$50,000 Grief Reach grant from the New York Life Foundation to support their *Restoring Hope Project*. This program will expand Michael's Place grief support services into Wexford and Missaukee counties. Bereaved at-risk children, their families, educators, and supportive community members will be provided opportunities for grief support, education, and resources that are not currently available in the area. These will include in-school support groups and homework help for grieving children, parent grief support and education groups, community workshops, and expressive activities for children, and a mobile library of grief-related resources and materials available through the schools.

“We are grateful for the New York Life Foundation’s investment in this program, which will help us broaden our services to reach underserved youth,” said Mindy Buell, Executive Director. The support will help many grieving children and their families in our community and beyond to begin the healing process.

“Grief Reach applications have grown exponentially since the program began five years ago, which illustrates that awareness and demand for bereavement services is increasing every year,” said Maria Collins, vice president, New York Life Foundation. “We have responded to the demand by broadening the application parameters and increasing the financial support so that even more grief service providers can reach diverse and disadvantaged youth across the country.”

The New York Life Foundation created the Grief Reach program to help providers overcome barriers to bringing grief support services to youth not served by existing bereavement programs. More than 200 Grief Reach grants totaling over \$7 million have been awarded since the program’s inception in 2011. The New York Life Foundation has been one of the leading funders of the childhood bereavement field, investing \$35 million to date in support of grieving children and their families.

About the New York Life Foundation

Inspired by New York Life’s tradition of service and humanity, the New York Life Foundation has, since its founding in 1979, provided \$240 million in charitable contributions to national and local nonprofit organizations. The Foundation supports programs that benefit young people, particularly in the areas of educational enhancement and childhood bereavement. The Foundation also encourages and facilitates the community involvement of employee and agents of New York Life through its Volunteers for Good program. To learn more, please visit www.newyorklifefoundation.org.

About Michael's Place

Michael's Place provides support and advocacy for children, teens, and adults grieving the death of a loved one and educates the community on the impact of grief. Services are provided at no-cost to the individuals and families we serve.

For more information, visit www.MyMichaelsPlace.net or call (231) 947-6453.