

Fetal Burial Program



General Site
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Saying good-bye is an important part of grieving for anyone who has lost a loved one.

Since 1997, the Fetal Burial Program has offered parents who have suffered the loss of a pregnancy (before 20 weeks gestation) the opportunity to say good-bye.

THIS PROGRAM PROVIDES:

- support to parents who have lost a pregnancy
- an opportunity to do something to acknowledge the little life that they were expecting
- a respectful cremation and burial
- a place to return to whenever desired
- an opportunity to do some bereavement healing
- begin to make sense of the void in a family's life
- the chance to see that you are not alone in your grief

Spiritual and Religious Care with other hospital staff formed this program because there was concern that many grieving parents went home without closure.

Parents have found that coming to this service and honouring this little life is helpful to them in the grieving process.

TO PARTICIPATE:

- speak to your nurse, counsellor or Chaplain
- fill out the Fetal Burial Program form
- ask any questions

YOU WILL RECEIVE:

- an invitation to attend the next service (one is held Spring and Fall)
- directions to Highland Memory Gardens in North York

WHO CAN COME:

- parents
- grandparents
- siblings
- family and friends
- whomever you would like to invite
- people of all faith traditions and those with none

WHAT WE WILL DO:

- take time to remember each baby
- share grief
- leave momentos and flowers at the grave
- offer you a memorial gift

What also makes this program special is the tremendous support we get from Kanes Funeral Home and Highland Memory Gardens. Both organizations provide us with their services at no cost and give us input to the program.

Parents, who prefer to make other arrangements can get information from the Chaplains in Spiritual and Religious Care.

Over the past ten years, the program has helped more than 500 families.

To find out more about this program, please speak with your nurse or call Spiritual and Religious Care at 416.756.6311.