



New York Life  
Foundation



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**CAMP ERIN HOLDS BEREAVEMENT CAMP FOR CHILDREN IN DETROIT**

*Camp Is Available To Local Children For The First Time As Part of New York Life Foundation's \$600,000 Grant To The Moyer Foundation*

**Detroit, MI, August 20, 2009** – Camp Erin, one of the largest networks of bereavement camps for children in the nation, held its first camp in Detroit on August 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. A total of 144 children benefitted from the inaugural camp. The Moyer Foundation, founded by Major League Baseball's Philadelphia Phillies All-Star pitcher Jamie Moyer and his wife Karen, established Camp Erin in order to provide a safe and fun environment for children to grieve and heal after the loss of a loved one. Weekend-long camps are held in 28 cities across the country throughout the year.

“We are pleased to bring Camp Erin to children and families in the Detroit area for the first time,” said Gary Pollock, Executive Director of The Moyer Foundation. “Fifty campers were able to participate because of a generous gift from the New York Life Foundation, which, along with other donors, makes it possible for all campers to attend Camp Erin free of charge. Dealing with bereavement is a challenge at any age, but children face unique hurdles and Camp Erin provides the encouraging, supportive environment necessary to help kids heal.”

The \$600,000 grant from the New York Life Foundation supports the expansion of Camp Erin nationwide by funding camps in six new markets including Detroit. The other expansion cities are St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Minneapolis and Anchorage. The grant will also support camps that are already in operation in Philadelphia, Seattle, and Albany.

“Helping children grow and learn is a cornerstone of the New York Life Foundation's *Nurturing the Children* initiative – and Camp Erin accomplishes this goal by providing an environment for children to cope with the loss of a loved one,” said Chris Park, president of the New York Life Foundation. “With local statistics indicating that roughly 11,000 children in the Detroit area have experienced the loss of a loved one, it is a privilege to help as many grieving children as possible by playing a role in the healing process with an organization as effective as Camp Erin.”

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### **About The Moyer Foundation**

The Moyer Foundation, headquartered in Seattle, was founded by World Series champion and MLB All-Star pitcher, Jamie Moyer and his wife, Karen. The Foundation's mission is to provide comfort and support to children enduring a time of profound physical, emotional or financial distress. With the community's support, The Moyer Foundation has raised more than \$17 million to assist over 170 different programs that directly serve the needs of children in severe distress. In addition to supporting organizations through grants, The Moyer Foundation created and funds Camp Mariposa, for children affected by addiction, and Camp Erin, the largest national network of bereavement camps for children and teens. Camp Erin is a grief camp designed for children and teens ages 6-17 who have experienced the death of a someone close to them. It is a weekend-long experience filled with traditional, fun, camp activities combined with grief education and emotional support -- lead by grief professionals and trained volunteers. There are currently 28 camps in 18 states. Through the Foundation's national "Campaign for Kids" the Moyer Foundation hopes to bring Camp Erin to children in more than 50 cities nationwide, including one in every Major League Baseball city.

### **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 more than \$120 million in charitable contributions to national and local nonprofit organizations. Through its focus on "Nurturing the Children," the Foundation supports programs that benefit young people, particularly in the areas of mentoring, the establishment of safe places to learn and grow, educational enhancement opportunities and childhood bereavement. The Foundation also encourages and facilitates the community involvement of employees, agents, and retirees of New York Life through its Volunteers for Life program. To learn more, please visit the Foundation's Web site at [www.newyorklifefoundation.org](http://www.newyorklifefoundation.org).

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