



RICK'S PLACE, INC.

Providing Support to Grieving Children and Their Families

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Open House at Rick's Place, Inc.

Wilbraham, MA – *Rick's Place* will host an Open House on Tuesday, September 21st from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at its new facility located at Kids Village, 35 Post Office Park, Suite 3514 in Wilbraham, Mass.

Schools, pediatricians, funeral homes and other service providers are invited to come and learn more about the services *Rick's Place* provides for grieving families. The general public is also invited. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet staff, watch the new *Rick's Place* video and pick up informational materials about the program.

With support of Pediatric Services and Glen Garvey, *Rick's Place* moved to a new, dedicated space in June 2010. The facility has private space for family meetings as well as room for office work and storage. Attendees at the Open House will be allowed to tour these areas.

Scheduled two weeks before grand opening day, the Open House will help raise awareness of the work being done by staff and volunteers of *Rick's Place* to aid grieving families. The program's fourth year will open on October 3, 2010 and continue through May 2011.

Established in memory of Rick Thorpe, who died in Tower Two of the World Trade Center on 9/11/2001, *Rick's Place* provides a supportive and secure environment for grieving families. Groups are provided free of charge to any family with children ages 5-18 years which has experienced the loss of a close family member. During the 2009-2010 year *Rick's Place* worked with over 40 families from Greater Springfield, over half of whom will return for another year. One returning family writes, "My daughter has gained so much, she understands she is not alone, that there are other kids who have lost a loved one and that what she is feeling is OK."

For more information, please contact *Rick's Place* at 413-348-3120 or visit the website at www.ricksplacema.org.

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