

# Media Release

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## Camp Safe Haven helped children heal from loss

(JACKSONVILLE) – Teens who have lost a loved one had an opportunity to work through their grief and enjoy themselves at a day camp offered by Haven Hospice. Eight teens attended the February 15 event at Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church and School in Jacksonville. Offered through Haven’s Healing Hearts program, the camp was designed for teens ages 13 to 17.

“Camp Safe Haven is designed to educate, encourage and empower young people to experience their grief in a healthy and safe environment,” said Vonceil Levine, bereavement specialist for Haven Hospice. “Pain is a real, natural emotional response to loss and teens are not immune. The goal is for the teens to have some fun while learning some tools to help them through the pain.”



The teens participated in a variety of activities throughout the day to help them deal with their pain, including counseling sessions and games. They also talked with others about their personal experiences.

Camp Safe Haven for children, ages six to 12, is coming up May 28 in Jacksonville at Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church and School. For more information, please contact Vonceil Levine at 352-692-5105.

Haven Hospice's Healing Hearts program provides individual, family and group counseling to help anyone who is coping with grief, regardless of how the loss occurred. Skilled Haven Hospice social workers also assist in times of community crisis and tragedy, providing debriefing services for emergency personnel and caring for health professionals. We support grieving families in a multitude of ways.

**About Haven Hospice**

Haven Hospice is North Florida's expert in end-of-life and palliative care and is one of three 2008 Circle of Life Award<sup>®</sup> winners nationwide to be recognized as leaders in improving the care of patients near the end of life or with life-threatening conditions. Haven Hospice has also been recognized as a Florida Pacesetter for its leadership in promoting living wills. Haven Hospice has served nearly 50,000 patients and families since 1979 and has been licensed in Florida as a not-for-profit hospice since 1980. For more information, visit [www.havenhospice.org](http://www.havenhospice.org) or call 800-727-1889.

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