

# Media Release

July 19, 2010 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jenni Williams

E-Mail: [jlwilliams@havenhospice.org](mailto:jlwilliams@havenhospice.org)

Phone: 352-271-4655

Fax: 352-379-6286



## **Camp Safe Haven in Williston helped children cope with loss**

(Williston)—Haven Hospice’s Healing Hearts program hosted Camp Safe Haven for kids on July 17 at First Baptist Church in Williston. The day camp hosted eight children and was designed for kids ages 6 to 12 who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The camp activities provided an opportunity for them to have a fun time among their peers as well as sharing experiences.

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

The kids who came to the camp engaged in activities on how to deal with grief, as well as participated in a bubble activity. The Williston Fire Department helped the kids cool off by hosing them down with water. To close the day, there was a candle lighting ceremony to remember and honor loved ones.

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.

To learn more about Camp Safe Haven and future camp dates, please contact Vonceil Levine, MSW, at 352-692-5105.



*Lina Roper, 12, gives Candy Mae some hay to eat at Camp Safe Haven this past Saturday.*



*Jacey Osteen, 11, and Sabrina Spearin, 10, learn how to feed Candy Mae some treats at Camp Safe Haven this past Saturday.*



*The Williston Fire Department cooled down the campers at Camp Safe Haven this past Saturday.*

### **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 more than 45,000 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.

###