

Rachel's Retreat News



Retreat site to be cleared for construction

Clearing of the land for the retreat is expected to begin this summer. Once the site plan is complete and the site and roads are cleared we will begin planning for construction of Phase 1. Phase 1 will include 4 guest cabins, 2 staff cabins and a dining and meeting center. If funding is available to begin construction, we expect to have Phase 1 completed by 2010. Our goal is to have the retreat open as soon as construction is complete so that we can open our doors. The retreat will be a safe haven for adults and families who have experienced the death of a loved. We hope to also partner with organizations who support a similar mission.

Issue 1

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Woodville, Maine

Website:
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501(c)(3) non-profit
organization

Recent Fundraising Events

Quilt Raffle

Our successful raffle was held on December 16, 2007. In spite of the cold weather many friends and family attended the reception held at the home of Maria & Hayden Elie.

The quilt was handmade by Pat Elie in memory of her granddaughter Rachel. The raffle raised over \$3500 which will be used for site development.



Pictured: raffle winner Aleida Capdevilla of Miami, Florida and Pat Elie of Ellijay, Georgia

Karaoke Night

Held on April 18, 2008, at The Alamo in Newnan Georgia. This was a fundraising event held by friend of Rachel's Retreat, Rutledge Wood. The funds from this event will help to cover some of the costs of the site development.

Many thanks to Rut for holding this event on his birthday.

Our Mission

To provide a quiet and safe haven for those who have experienced the death of a loved one, to grieve, regroup, and not worry about the everyday pressures of life. The peaceful and relaxed environment provides each individual guest an opportunity to meet others who have experienced a similar loss while offering privacy and time for solitude.

Meet our Board and Staff

Maria Elie - Co-Founder and Executive Director Holds a degree in psychology and is the HR Director for The Marcus Institute in Atlanta. She is also a bereavement volunteer for Share Atlanta and Hospice Atlanta, and is on the board of Lekotek, Georgia.. Hayden and Maria created this organization in memory of their daughter Rachel who was still born in 2001.

Cecilia Jones - Special Events Director Project coordinator for Right Management, and has over 15 years experience in event planning. Cecilia is a past Girl Scouts of America leader. She and her husband Mike, live in Atlanta, Georgia.

Hayden Elie - Co-Founder and Director Business owner and bereavement camp volunteer for Hospice Atlanta. Hayden is experienced in construction and will direct the construction of the retreat.

Gary Craig - Board Chair Business owner and past president of Peachtree City Little League. Gary lives in Peachtree City, Georgia, with his wife Beth, and 2 sons, Richard and Jason.

Mark Harper, Esq. - Director Chief Clerk for the State and Magistrate Courts of Fulton County, Georgia, and practiced poverty law prior to joining the Court. He lives in Decatur with wife Janet, and daughter Sarah.

Brian Souers - Director Business owner and volunteer for Kid Care America. Brian is experienced in forestry management and environmentally friendly site development, and will be responsible for site development and preparation. He and his wife Denise, live in Lincoln, Maine with their daughters, Breanne and Whitney.

Cameron Pach - Director Outdoor enthusiast and expert in white water canoeing. Cameron will be responsible for planning all outdoor activities. Cameron's work with the retreat is in memory of his son Christian who died of SIDS in 2005.

How you can help

Monetary contributions

In-kind gifts including:

building materials & auction items

Hold a fundraiser

Volunteer

A note of thanks to our generous donors:

Rothkopf Foundation
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B&M Auto Repair
D&C Creations
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