



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**NEW YORK LIFE FOUNDATION AWARDS \$25,000 TO ELE'S PLACE  
TO SUPPORT LOCAL GRIEVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**Ann Arbor, MI, January 4, 2012** – The New York Life Foundation recently announced that Ele's Place is the recipient of a \$25,000 grant. Ele's Place is one of 22 bereavement providers that received the New York Life Foundation funding as part of a national effort to help expand grief support services to diverse and disadvantaged youth in local areas across the country. The grant will be used to launch a pilot program with Ypsilanti and Willow Run Middle Schools to provide school-based bereavement support to children who have experienced the death of a loved one.

"We are pleased to receive the support necessary to broaden our reach and provide bereavement services to underserved children in the Ann Arbor area," said Wendy Brightman, Ele's Place – Ann Arbor, Managing Director. "Receiving this grant will raise awareness about childhood bereavement in our community and enable our organization to provide education and resources to youth who otherwise may not have received the attention they need to cope with the loss of a loved one."

The New York Life Foundation partnered with The National Alliance of Grieving Children to identify deserving bereavement providers.

**About Ele's Place**

Founded in 1991 in Lansing, Ele's Place is a community based nonprofit in Ann Arbor that supports an average of 130 grieving children, teens and their families each week at no cost to participants. Ele's Place also serves as a resource and referral agency for anyone who wants to help a grieving child. For more information, contact Ele's Place at (734) 929.6640, or visit [www.elesplace.org](http://www.elesplace.org).

**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 \$140 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 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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