

In our society, parents suffering from the loss of a baby are often expected to feel less pain, mourn less time, and “get over” or replace their loss quicker than other grievers. Once the funeral is over and the six-week checkup is complete, life is expected to go on as usual. If grieving persists, some people may suggest that it is abnormal. These assumptions may not be accurate, but parents are often pressured into honoring them.

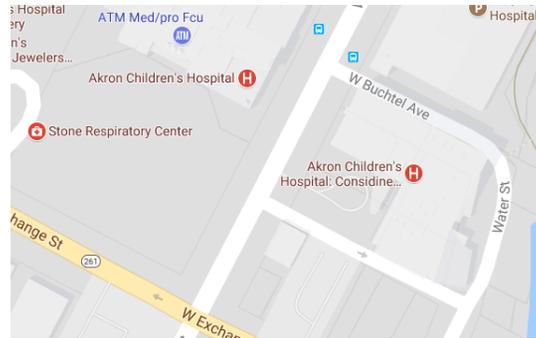
Many parents hold their feelings inside. Some may feel guarded, uncomfortable and fear they may be going “crazy.” We know that time alone does not provide natural healing. Unreleased feelings of anger, guilt, frustration, depression and fear can harm us and can stand in the way of healing, learning to live with the loss and returning to an acceptable level of personal happiness.

Through monthly meetings, parents join together to share their experience, thoughts, and feelings about what has and is happening. Other parents offer emotional and informational support. These are NOT therapy sessions, yet healing is promoted and insights gained in a non-judgmental atmosphere.

Precious Parents is available to parents no matter where they are in their grief and no matter how long it has been since their baby’s death. Families may choose to talk or just to listen; no one is asked to share more than their name, the baby’s name and the date of death - unless they choose to do so.

When and Where are Meetings Held?

Precious Parents meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, in the William H. Considine Professional Building at Akron Children’s Hospital, located at
215 W. Bowery St, Akron, OH, Room 7 & 8.
Park in the Bowery Deck located next to the building.



We invite you to attend with or without your partner. If you are not ready to participate in group, but wish to be contacted by a core group member, Precious Parents can accommodate that need as well. For more information please call one of our core members or email us:
Core Members
(234) 738-0111
or email us at
preciousparentsakron@gmail.com

Precious Parents is a non-profit organization of parents offering support to parents who have experienced a perinatal loss. Programs of support and education are funded solely through personal donation, group fund-raising and community contributions.

1700 W. Market St~PMB #406 ~Akron, OH 44313



A Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group

Precious Parents

Precious Parents came from a group of bereaved and determined parents who experienced the death of a baby in the modern age and in a society where “babies don’t die — but they do.”

In November 1983, these parents joined forces with the Family Care Clinician, Akron Children’s Hospital, NICU, to establish a pilot program that would provide for an umbrella of support for parents learning to cope and to live with a perinatal death.

In addition, Precious Parents recognized the need to develop programs that would educate and sensitize professionals and the community and extend care-giving families experiencing such a death. Many of the ideas and suggestions for support and care-giving were adopted in-part or in-full from The National Organization of Share.

By April 1984, the groundwork was completed and the first open sharing meeting was held. Since that time, the group’s profile has continued to gain recognition in the health care community as a viable resource to promote healthy grieving in parents.

Purpose

The basic philosophy of Precious Parents is to recognize and validate the tragedy and the pain experienced during this difficult time. We want to provide comfort and reassurance that only parents who have experienced such grief can offer to each other.

No parent should have to feel that they are alone in their experience and without some means of support and understanding.

Sharing Meetings

Through monthly meetings, parents can join together to share their experiences, thoughts and feelings about what has and is happening to them since their loss occurred.

Parents learn the intensity and longevity of their feelings. Many often feel empty and alone in their journey. Through interaction with other parents, a sense of wholeness can again be realized. Their problems may not be unique to them alone, but rather problems which many bereaved parents are struggling to cope with. The unique experience of each parent is respected.

Whether a parent chooses to talk or listen, to come once or attend over a period of time is a completely individual decision.

Reaching Out

As the element of support, time, sharing, and caring have gently promoted the healing process of parents, many individuals feel the need or desire to reach out and respond to other newly bereaved parents. Precious Parents can provide the opportunity to do this through a working involvement in the organization.

Who Can Participate?

Any parent who has experienced a perinatal loss, or any other significant support person (such as grandparents, family members, close friends or concerned primary care givers).

