

### MISSION

To provide a respite weekend in the Colorado Rockies for married couples that have experienced the death of a child.

# VISION

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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# FALL 2022 MINISTRY UPDATE

Hope is not a plan. There have been books written about this catch phrase and it is commonly used throughout the business world. We agree that hoping circumstances will somehow magically work out to allow you to achieve a strategic goal is not something that lends itself to consistent success. Any form of hope is only as good as the object of that hope.

By placing our Hope in Christ, we don't have a whimsical hope that "keeps our fingers crossed" believing things work out for our benefit. No, we have a promised Hope in a resurrected Savior. He provides lifegiving encouragement and transformation.

Peter was clear about this when he wrote in 1 Peter 1:3: "According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a

living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Christ's death and resurrection means that hope is indeed a plan when it is placed in our Savior.

We named this ministry Living Hope Mountain Respite to remind us that the object of our hope is indeed the best strategic plan ever offered. God reminded us of this during our September respite retreat. Upon check-in, we discovered that our cabin for the weekend was named Hope. We can dismiss this only as a coincidence, or we can be encouraged by God's provision to give us the only cabin named Hope out of the 80 or so available.

Thank you, Jesus, for being our Living Hope to whom we can safely turn to today and for eternity.



## September 2022 Respite Retreat Highlight

Effectively coming alongside deep grief requires the power of the Holy Spirit. Once again, the immediate connection with our retreat guests was evident on the first evening. No doubt there is also an awareness of our mutual grief journey, the death of a child. This creates its own nonverbal language. It goes against our understanding...to open your deepest wound to people you've just met. Except for the Holy Spirit.

#### Inside Hope Cabin at the YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch

Atmosphere and environment are important aspects of the retreat weekend. The cabin comes furnished, yet our desire is to create a comfortable environment for our retreat guests. We decorate the main area with special touches that communicate our acknowledgement of the intimate place of grief we enter.



### Expanding Marriage Ministry: Fellowship of Christian Athletes Coaches Marriage Retreat, Keystone, CO

We were blessed and challenged to be the keynote speakers for a 3-day marriage event in July in Keystone, CO. This weekend retreat was specific for the encouragement of coaches and their spouses prior to entering the academic year. This was a statewide event and we enjoyed sharing with nearly 30 couples. The LHMR Board of Directors has encouraged us to continue sharing at marriage events that broaden our ministry focus beyond the LHMR mission statement. Certainly, the "bull's eye" of our passion is to host marriage respite retreats for couples that have experienced the death of a child. But there are also other aspects of our marriage relationship that have created experiences from which we can encourage others. A career in coaching and its impact on the marriage is a fitting example.

#### **GIVING TUESDAY IS NOVEMBER 29, 2022**

Giving Tuesday is quickly approaching! This is Facebook's annual fundraising event specifically for nonprofit organizations. Giving Tuesday is a significant annual financial provision for LHMR. We invite you to participate and share our social media posts if comfortable.

#### YEAR END GIVING

Keep Living Hope Mountain Respite in mind as you consider making end-of-year financial gifts. LHMR is a tax-exempt nonprofit ministry under Internal Revenue Code Section 501 (c) (3). Please also keep in mind any employer match programs. Our website provides various giving options.

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Marriages currently battling intense strain due to deep grief become aware of this ministry.
- Opportunities to broaden our passion to encourage marriages.