



● saving the lives and futures of child abuse victims ●

po box 1237
niceville fl 32588-1237
850.833.9237
850.833.9238

www.eccac.org

Board of Directors

Bill Kleinhelter
President

Barbara Noll
Treasurer

Jan Strunk
Past President

Jerry Brown

Billy Deames

Betty Franey

Tom Haddock

Larry Kunkel

Michelle MacLeod

Robert McEachern

Ray McGovern

Donna Miller

Skip Miller

Wanda Pitts

Gene Speni

Michael Thompson

Jason Walker

Myra Williams

Debbie Wilson

Dear Kelly,

This summer our community suffered a major loss when the Teutenberg family's plane crashed. They were a kind and giving family who will be missed for many years to come. On a more personal note, our children (yours and mine) had known their oldest child, Will, throughout their elementary school years. He was such a sweet child with so much energy. Playing soccer was very important to him and to his family as Fred and Terresa coached many soccer teams. It seemed that they were always donating their time and resources to the church, school, and community. What an inspiration they were and still are even in their passing.

While assisting our children through the loss of their friend, the group of parents felt it important to honor Will and his family in some way. Will's teacher, Mrs. Kay Mason, suggested that the children complete community service hours (10 to be exact for every 10 years Will was here) in his name. One parent, Tiffany Harrelson, had soccer shirts made for the children in Will's class to wear during community service events. The shirts had the phrase, "Always present, never absent" along with Will's class number, 15, printed on the back. Will had not missed a day of school and was very proud of that accomplishment. Will will always be present and never absent in their hearts.

During the Christmas season, the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) hosts our annual Christmas party for our clients and their families. Our center offers free services for children in our area who have been sexually abused, physically abused, or witnessed domestic violence. Our clients have suffered severe trauma. We help the families by offering therapy and other resources while they are healing and moving past the trauma. The Christmas party is a time when they can put their worries away for a few hours and the kids can be kids. We have bags full of toys for the families to carry home as well as tables stacked with Christmas pajamas, board games, and balls, all kinds of balls. Last year, we had around 300 attend which included our clients and their siblings. It hit me the other day that this could be a great, touching way to honor the Teutenbergs. Our children and others who have grieved over the loss could donate soccer balls in honor of the Teutenbergs. Soccer was a way that Fred and Terresa reached out to the community and became role models for many children and parents. What a wonderful way to remember them and keep their spirit of family present.

December 8th at 5 pm will be our designated time to meet for donation of the balls at the Children's Advocacy Center in Niceville. Please share this information with anyone you feel would like to donate in the Teutenbergs name. CAC is a nonprofit organization so we rely heavily on item donations and monetary donations. We can always purchase the balls with monetary donations for someone who wants to give but may not have the time to shop. If you have any questions, please contact me at 850-499-5161 or email at deanna@eccac.org or deannaeddy@cox.net.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Deanna B. Eddy, MS
Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern